

# WHEN “ONE” MEANS “MANY”

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## INTRODUCTION

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### A. THE NUMBER “1” RECEIVES VERY LITTLE ATTENTION.

1. In ancient time the study and use of “numerology” was much used, even among the Jews.
2. Three was a significant number - and became associated with the Godhead.
3. Four, because it represented the directions. (N.S.E.W.)
4. Seven, was the complete.
5. Twelve was perfect.....144 was 12 squared. Etc.
6. But the number “1” was not that popular.

### B. BY DEFINITION:

1. The dictionary almost ignores it.
2. While much is said about the other numbers.
3. One is defined as “single in number”. That’s it.
4. Maybe the thought was - that since one is so much used, and simple, that surely everyone understands what “1” means!
5. But is this so.....Let us notice!

### C. ONE IS A CONFUSING NUMBER:

1. Man has great difficulty understanding its meaning.
  2. There are time and things when all know that one, “1”, means **one.. Single, no more!**
  3. Yet other times and things when one, “1”, means...**many, several... Multiplicity!**
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## When One Means One

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### A. TO THE BELIEVER OF THE BIBLE....One, “1”, God means One God!

1. Text. (Eph. 4:4).
2. From Exodus 20:3 - to close of Revelation...There is One God!

### B. JEWISH SHEMA —“Our God Is One God”.

1. I don’t know of any Bible believers who teach that one God, means many.
2. Acts 17, Gives us the world’s view of God...And Paul’s explanation.

### C. THE LIST OF USES OF ONE...That Really Mean One, Single, is very short in the religious teaching of today.

1. The number one, “1”, has fallen on ‘hard times.’
2. Not many now what it means today.

### D. We want to look at a few of the Bible uses of the number one “1”.

1. We shall see that one, “1”, is a very confusing number.

Maybe we will better understand why mans has such a hard time with this little number.

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## ONE MEDIATOR

### A. MEDIATOR - By Definition...

1. “The function of a mediator is to intervene between two parties in order to promote relations between them.”
2. Jesus is the MEDIATOR of the New Covenant. (Heb. 9:15; 12:24).

### B. CHRIST IS THE ONE MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MAN. *“For there is one God, one mediator, also between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus,”* (I Tim. 2:5).

1. What does one “1” mean?
2. How many mediator’s are there?

### C. IN MUCH OF RELIGIONS WORLD...One Mediator Really Means Many!

1. The “Priest” stand between man and God.
2. The “Saints” mediate for man. “Mary” is yet another.
3. So the statement in I Tim. 2:5 - One Mediator - One Really Means Many.

## ONE FAITH

### A. OUR TEXT - (Eph. 4:4) = ONE FAITH.

1. “Jude 3” Contend earnestly for the Faith...
2. Now, What does One mean?

### B. IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY:

1. One obviously means “Many”.
2. You hear them ‘thank God’ for the many faiths.
3. Everyone can believe the one he wants.
4. Your faith...my faith, one faith is as good as another...

### C. THUS ONE MEANS MANY!

1. As many as man chooses...
2. If carried to its logical conclusion “One Faith” could mean as many as there are people to choose.

## ONE CHURCH

### A. JESUS SAID:

1. “I will build my church” (Matt. 16:24).
2. Mark 9:1; the kingdom of God (church) would come in their lifetime.

### B. OUR TEXT: (Eph. 4:4) ONE BODY! (See also I Cor. 12:12ff).

1. Eph. 1:22,23; “head over all things to the church, which is his body”
2. Col. 1:18; “He is the head of the body, the church:”

### C. NOW, WHAT DOES ONE BODY - ONE CHURCH MEAN?

1. One church is as good as another...It doesn’t make any difference!
2. Choose the one YOU like, that pleases and suits you.
3. Anyone can see that **ONE REALLY MEANS MANY!!**

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## ONE WAY

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### A. JESUS SAID:

1. John 14:1ff; “I am the way” How many Jesus’ are there. What does one mean?
2. Matt. 7:13,14. ... “the way that leadeth unto life” BUT...

### B. WE KNOW THAT ONE WAY or THE WAY, means many because of the logic of man.

1. We are all going to or headed for the same place, and it doesn’t make any difference how you go.
2. It is like following a map - many roads, take anyone you want to – They all lead to the same place. (Is that logic or not).
3. Sound good?
4. Did you ever try to put that theory into practice?????
5. Leave our building, turn left on 281 and you will go to Stephenville??????
6. Who decided that going to heaven was like following a road map?
  - a. Man.
  - b. Because this eliminates any personal responsibility for study.
  - c. Would not have to conform to or OBEY GOD!

### C. A COUPLE OF BIBLE VERSES:

1. Proverbs 12:15; “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes”
  2. Proverbs 14:12; “There is a way that seems right unto man but the end thereof is the **ways** of death”.
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## Why Men Change One To Many?

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### A. WHY HAS MAN CHANGED ONE TO MANY?

1. We have seen several examples of man changing one to many.
2. How do they attempt to justify this.

### B. BECAUSE THEY HAVE little or no Respect For What The Bible Teaches!

1. It is either ignored.
2. Or it is denied.
3. And so many times it comes from this little word “ONE”

### C. “ONE IS THE LAW GIVER” (James 4:12; Isa. 33:22).

1. What is a “lawgiver”?
  2. How is God such a “Lawgiver”?
  3. Every time man changes God’s Law - he sets himself up as ‘lawgiver’.
  4. When man changes God’s “One” to “Many” he is trying to take from God the authority of **LAWGIVER**.
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## ONE IS THE JUDGE

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### A. James 4:12!

1. There is ONE who makes the determination of right - wrong. That “one” is God.
2. What is Sin? I John 3:4; Sin is lawlessness...that is transgression of the law...God’s Law.

### B. WHEN MAN SETS ASIDE GOD’S LAW AND JUDGMENT AS TO WHAT IS SIN.....

1. He makes himself a ‘lawgiver’.
2. He makes himself a ‘judge’.
3. And so now the term “one lawgiver, and one judge” really means many.

### C. ONE STANDARD OF JUDGMENT:

1. In John 12:48, we are told that we will be Judged by the Words of Christ...that is His teachings.
2. Paul reminds us in Romans 2:16, that we are going to be judged by the gospel of Christ.

### D. MAN WOULD LIKE TO ELIMINATE THE ONE LAWGIVER; ONE JUDGE, AND ONE STANDARD.....

1. So that he could be judged to suit, please himself.
2. This way he could live as he pleases, worship as he pleases, conduct his life as it pleases him, and then by his judgment be all right it the last day.

**WHEN WILL WE LEARN THAT ONE REALLY MEANS ONE!!**

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