

## QA: If Christians Believe In God, What Difference Does It Make How We Worship? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Being a Christian means we all believe in the same God, what difference does it make how we worship?

ANSWER: Being a "Christian" isn't just a set of rules to make us "good Samaritans," but we should be devoted to the right God in the right way.

We should want God to be "well pleased" (Hebrews 13:16) with our salvation and worship, because:

We know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one. For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live. (**1 Corinthians 8:4-6**)

Remember that:

[Jesus Christ] gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. (Galatians 1:4)

## We must give ourselves to God for our salvation. Let us emphasize the terms for God just in Psalm 91:

(1) "Most High" (Hebrew El Elyon), because there is none equal to Him (Isaiah 45:20-23; 1 Corinthians 8:4-6), therefore "the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands" (Acts 7:48; 17:24-25). The virgin Mary was told her son:

"... Will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David." (Luke 1:32)

(2) "Almighty" (Hebrew, El Shaddai), because He is the source of all blessings, therefore He could deliver on His promise to Abram (Genesis 12:1-3; 17:1-6). To the church of Christ in Corinth, God promised,

"I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters," Says the LORD Almighty. (2 Corinthians 6:18)

[The LORD] has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. (**Ephesians 1:3**)

- (3) "LORD" (Hebrew Jehovah), the name God revealed to Moses that neither Abraham, Isaac, nor Jacob knew (Exodus 6:2-8). This name is associated with the covenant God made with Israelites only, that brought us to Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:13-29)
- (4) "God" (Hebrew Elohim), means "Strength, Power," and "In the beginning" would be the only "power" present who could create and organize "the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6-9). There is only one God of Heaven and Earth.

—— jtpllm July 23, 2023