

Is Yeshua God? Does it matter?

An examination of the Shema, the invisible God, Yeshua's identity, worship, and Israel's redemption

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iCkq1pHxTA0>

The central question

- The speaker's answer: Yeshua is God, the visible expression of the one Yahovah.
- Why it matters: the Teaching connects His identity with salvation, worship, and Israel's redemption.
- Method: read the whole Scriptural witness together; do not force one passage to cancel another.

The Shema and Scripture as one witness

Deuteronomy 6:4

Yahovah our Elohim, Yahovah is one.

The interpretive question

Does divine oneness exclude what other passages ascribe to Yeshua?

The speaker's principle

Allow Scripture to explain Scripture in a unified reading.

Framing: these are the arguments advanced in the Teaching.

Objections the Teaching addresses

- Yeshua calls the Father greater and prays to Him.
- Yeshua is a man, experiences limitations, and is tempted.
- “Firstborn” may seem to imply creation.
- A sent agent can act with the authority of the sender.
- Greetings and blessings distinguish the Father from Yeshua.

The meaning of echad

Genesis 42:11

“One man”: an example of a single individual.

Genesis 2:24

“One flesh”: a husband and wife become united.

Deuteronomy 6:4

The speaker says this verse affirms oneness but does not itself define an internal plurality.

Caution

The Teaching rejects using echad alone to prove a compound unity.

Implicit claims of Yeshua

- John 8:58 - "Before Abraham was, I AM."
- John 10:30, 38 - oneness and mutual indwelling.
- John 14:9 - seeing Yeshua and seeing the Father.
- John 17:5 - glory shared before the world existed.
- Mark 2:28; John 11:25 - Lord of the Sabbath; resurrection and life.

Works associated with Yahovah alone

The sea

Job 9:8 / Yeshua walking on the water

Storms

Psalm 107:29 / Mark 4:39

Forgiveness

Isaiah 43:25 / Mark 2:5

Other attributes

Sight, knowledge of hearts, and divine light

The speaker interprets these comparisons as evidence of divine identity.

The invisible God - how was He seen?

- Exodus 33:20 says no one can see God's face and live.
- 1 Timothy 1:17 describes God as invisible.
- Exodus 24:9-11 reports Moses and the elders seeing the God of Israel.
- The speaker explains these accounts as visible expressions of Yahovah's presence.

Manifestations in the Hebrew Scriptures

Fire

Burning bush and Mount Sinai

Cloud

Wilderness presence and tabernacle

Humanlike form

Scenes involving Moses, Abraham, and Jacob

Visions

Throne scenes, including Isaiah's vision

These examples are enumerated in the Teaching; the speaker calls Yeshua the definitive manifestation.

Colossians 1: The image of God

- Yeshua is the image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15).
- By Him, through Him, and for Him all things were created.
- He is before all things; in Him all things hold together.
- The speaker says Yeshua is the full embodied revelation, not a merely similar being.

Hebrews 1: The express image

- The Son is the brightness of God's glory.
- He is the express image of His person.
- The Teaching contrasts earlier partial manifestations with this definitive expression.
- The speaker treats this as central to how Yahovah makes Himself known.

Does firstborn mean first created?

Colossians 1:15

Firstborn over all creation

Psalms 89:27

David is appointed firstborn: language of rank and priority

The speaker's conclusion

Firstborn describes Yeshua's preeminence, not the first act of creation

The image and its source



The speaker uses a mirror-image analogy: the image acts in relation to its source while revealing that source.

Submission is not a second god

- Why does Yeshua pray and obey? The speaker says the image is subordinate to the source.
- The Father remains the source and ultimate authority.
- Yeshua became human and submitted to human limitations.
- The speaker maintains that this does not remove Yeshua from divine identity.

Creator, Savior, First and Last

Creator

Nehemiah 9:6 and Colossians 1:15-17

Savior

Isaiah 43:10-11 and Luke 2:11

First and Last

Isaiah 48:12 and Revelation 22:13; Revelation 1:17-18

Every knee

Isaiah 45:23 and Philippians 2:10-11

How can God die?

- The speaker answers: Yahovah in His eternal essence does not die.
- Yeshua, the embodied image, died and rose again.
- Revelation 1:17-18 describes the First and Last who was dead and is alive.
- This distinction is part of the speaker's interpretation, not a fully explained mechanism.

The covenant-Husband and Israel

- The speaker identifies Yahovah as the covenant Husband of Israel.
- He links Deuteronomy 24 and Romans 7 to the question of remarriage after divorce.
- In his argument, the Husband's death releases the divorced house of Israel.
- Yeshua's death therefore matters to the identity of the one who redeems Israel.

Zechariah 12:10: “me” and “him”

The declaration

Yahovah speaks of the one whom people have pierced.

The shift

The passage speaks of looking upon “me” and mourning for “him.”

The speaker's inference

He interprets this as Yahovah being revealed in the pierced Yeshua.

Apostolic testimony about Yeshua

- Matthew 1:23 - Emmanuel, "God with us."
- John 20:28 - Thomas: "My Lord and my God."
- Romans 9:5 - Christ and the eternally blessed God.
- Hebrews 1:8 - "Your throne, O God."
- 2 Peter 1:1 - "our God and Savior."

Scriptural examples of worship

Matthew 28:9, 17

Followers worship the risen Yeshua.

Hebrews 1:6

Angels are directed to worship the Son.

Revelation 5

The Lamb receives homage in the throne scene.

Scriptural examples of prayer

Acts 7:59

Stephen calls upon Lord Yeshua to receive his spirit.

1 Corinthians 1:2

Believers call on the name of Yeshua.

Revelation 22:20

“Come, Lord Yeshua.”

What the group discussion raised

- If Yeshua died, what sustained the universe?
- Does “at the right hand” indicate separate beings?
- Is Yeshua the Father, or a distinct agent with the Father's authority?
- How should 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 be understood?
- Was Yeshua's exaltation a restoration or a new position?

Distinguish the voices in the Q&A

The speaker

Explicitly affirms that Yeshua is God and the Father's visible image.

Some participants

Argue the Father and the Son remain distinct in person or identity.

Important distinction

The presentation reproduces the speaker's case without treating audience comments as his position.

The speaker's concluding emphasis

- Yahovah is one: no rival or lesser deity may stand beside Him.
- The Scriptural testimony presents Yeshua speaking, acting, and receiving what belongs to Yahovah.
- The Teaching rejects the speaker's understanding of divided or layered godhead formulations.
- The speaker welcomes respectful disagreement and encourages careful reading of Scripture.

Study and reflection

- Read Deuteronomy 6:4 in its full context.
- Compare Colossians 1:15-17 with Hebrews 1:1-3.
- Review Romans 7:1-6 and the Teaching's covenant-Husband argument.
- Compare Zechariah 12:10 with the New Testament witness.
- Distinguish the speaker's conclusions from unanswered questions or alternative views.

Continue studying the Scriptures

Teaching: Is Yeshua God? Does it matter?

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Companion resources: transcript • study guide • Bible Questions