

“The God of the Old Testament” doctrine: Frequently Asked Questions

What does the Pacific Church of God believe regarding the “God of the Old Testament”?

The term “God of the Old Testament” never appears in the Bible. Traditionally, many Church of God organizations have used this phrase to refer to the belief that the One Who later became Jesus Christ was exclusively the ONLY God Being that Israel and the Patriarchs were aware of and had any interaction with. The Pacific Church of God believes that both God the Father and the One Who became Jesus Christ were known and active in both the Old and New Testaments. God the Father and the One Who became Jesus Christ have worked together throughout eternity and continue to do so as They carry out the Father’s plan of salvation for mankind ([John 5:17](#); [1 Corinthians 8:5-6](#)).

Does the Pacific Church of God believe that Jesus Christ was a created being?

No. Before He lived on the earth, Jesus Christ was the Word—a divine, eternal God Being. The Word was with God from the beginning and the Word was God ([John 1:1](#)). Jesus Christ and God the Father are One ([John 10:30](#)). They are identical in nature, character, and divinity, though not equal in authority ([John 14:28](#); [John 17:3](#); [1 Corinthians 11:3](#); [1 Corinthians 15:27-28](#)).

Does the Pacific Church of God believe that Jesus Christ is worthy of worship?

Yes. As an eternal being, Jesus Christ is worthy of worship. Unlike the angels, Jesus Christ permitted both men and angels to worship Him. We worship Him today as one of the two God Beings ([Colossians 2:8-9](#); [Mark 5:6](#); [John 9:38](#)).

Does the Pacific Church of God believe one has to understand and agree with this interpretation of the “God of the Old Testament” doctrine to be saved?

No. We are each individually responsible for how we respond to the truth God reveals. God works with each person He calls individually, and we are all at different stages of growth and understanding in our Christian lives. God judges us based on how we respond to the knowledge He has revealed to us. We all individually have the responsibility to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. To those

whom much is given, much is also required ([Philippians 2:12-13](#); [Romans 14:23](#); [Luke 12:47-48](#); [1 Corinthians 12:1-31](#)).

If I have a different understanding of this doctrine, can I still fellowship with the Pacific Church of God?

Yes. Historically, many members have fellowshiped with the Pacific Church of God who have held differing personal beliefs on a variety of doctrinal points. We welcome all those who are interested in fellowshiping in peace and contributing to mutual edification.

Where should I go if I have further questions about this doctrine?

First and foremost, go to your Bible. We are told to grow in grace and knowledge and to prove all things ([2 Peter 3:18](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:21](#)). We are also admonished to follow the example of the Bereans who “searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” ([Acts 17:1-15](#)). Seek the truth for yourself directly from the word of God.

To aid in further study of this subject, the Pacific Church of God has created the following Study Papers addressing some of the more common questions:

- [The “I AM”](#)
- [Who was the God at Mount Sinai?](#)
- [The Rock That Followed Them](#)
- [Hearing and Seeing God](#)
- [He Who Dwells Between The Cherubim](#)
- [Why Did Christ Have To Reveal God The Father?](#)

Sermons expounding on this topic can be found in the [Sermon Archives](#), and include the following titles:

- “The Unity And Teamwork Of The Father And Son” (Recorded 2/11/17)
- “How Can We Grow In The Grace And Knowledge Of God And Christ?” (Recorded 6/17/17)
- “Look To God” (Recorded 7/22/17)
- “The Tearing of The Veil” (Recorded 8/19/17)
- “Who Is The Most High God, The Almighty God?” (Recorded 9/11/17)
- “Christ Our High Priest” (Recorded 10/28/17)
- “Christ Our Mediator And Intercessor” (Recorded 2/3/18)

This collection of resources will continue to expand, so please revisit the [Sermon Archives](#) and [Study Papers](#) pages in the future for more information.

Finally, if you have specific questions or concerns, please feel free to [reach out to one of our Elders](#).

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