

# The Personality of God

"I saw a throne, and on it sat the Father and the Son. I gazed on Jesus' countenance and admired His lovely person. The Father's person I could not behold, for a cloud of glorious light covered Him. I asked Jesus if *His Father had a form like Himself*. He said **He had**, but I could not behold it, for said He, "If you should once behold the glory of His person, you would cease to exist." EW 54 pr.002

This says that the Father HAS a form like Jesus, and we know that Jesus has a literal body.

For Lack of space I have taken excerpts from this article by S. N. Haskell on the Personality of God.

## #The Personality of God

*By S. N. Haskell*

RH 10/8/1903

"Of late the question has repeatedly come to me, Does it make any real difference whether we believe in the **personality** of God, as long as we believe in God? My answer invariably is, It depends altogether upon the standpoint from which we view it. If from the Spiritualist's, the Christian Scientist's, the Universalist's, or if from the standpoint of any other "ist" or "ism," it makes but little or no difference. But the standpoint of Seventh-day Adventists it makes all the difference in the world.

No man who is a Seventh-day Adventist can understandingly take that position; neither can a Seventh-day Adventist hold that position for a moment. In it is involved a denial of the "Father and the Son," the law of Moses, the prophets, the psalms, the holy angels, the **personality** of the devil, and all that is according to sound doctrine....

## Man Created in God's Image

**Second:** At the creation God said to Christ, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. . . . So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Gen. 1: 26, 27. Man bore the image of God both morally and physically; for after man sinned, we read that Adam "begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth." Gen. 5: 3. Here is an explanation of the words "image" and "likeness." As Seth bore both the physical and the moral nature of Adam, so Adam bore the physical and the moral likeness of God.

Neither was this image of God which man bore a mere concept; for the Bible declares that the Lord has parts, the same as the human **body**. For instance, the prophet says his "*garment* was white as snow, and the *hair* of his *head* like the pure wool." Dan. 7:9. The psalmist declares, "*His eyes* behold, his *eyelids* try, the children of men." Ps. 11: 4; 2 Chron. 16: 9....

As surely as fallen humanity has borne the physical image of the first pair which God created, so surely do God and Christ have a **form**, hence a **personality**. When Christ came to this earth, and took sinful nature upon him, although sinless himself, he bore the physical image of all mankind; and of him God said, "In him **dwelleth** all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Col. 2:9. And again we read, "God . . . hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son. . . . who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his **person**." Heb. 1 : 1-3. I do not know what language could make this thought more plain. See also I *Cor.* 15: 45-49; Luke 24: 13-40. Are these scriptures meaningless? Are they intended to deceive? Daniel taught Nebuchadnezzar that Christ had a **form** before he came to this earth, or how could the king have said, "Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? . . . Lo, I see four *men* loose, walking in the midst of

the fire, and they have no hurt; and the *form* of the fourth is like the Son of God"? Dan 3:24,25. He recognized him as having as having a *form* like *men*.

Daniel also taught the ministrations of angels, or how could the king have said, "Who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him"? Dan.3:25-28. Are the wise philosophers of the twentieth century filled with greater wisdom than were those pious men who taught the *personality* of God, Christ, and angels? Angels ate and drank with Abraham, and in the *person* of travelers they have appeared to mankind many times since. For a further description of the *personality* of Christ, see Daniel 10 and Revelation 1.

### God's Habitation, or *Dwelling* Place

*Third.* God said to Moses, "Let them make me a sanctuary; that I may *dwell* among them." Ex. 25: 8. He could not *dwell* among Israel unless they built him a sanctuary. They had been in Egypt, where, in common with the Hindus, the belief was entertained that God was in cats and dogs, in cattle, in the Nile that flowed, and in everything that had life. It was the old mystic and pantheistic notion. They reasoned that God the author of life, and as his life was in all these things, so all the God there was pervaded all nature, both animate and inanimate; that there was no *personal* God in the heavens, but that God was *everywhere*, and nowhere in particular. Now to impress the minds of his people that he was a *person*, and had a *dwelling* place, and that this *dwelling* place was in heaven, and that their salvation depended upon their believing this, God said, "Let them make me a sanctuary; that I may *dwell* among them." So about one year was occupied in building the sanctuary in the wilderness, with special instruction that it should be made according to the pattern shown in the mount. By this they learned that God has a sanctuary in the heavens, and in it there is a *personal* being. The sanctuary on the earth was the pattern, or figure, of the heavenly. Every ceremony in the law of Moses contained salvation, or prefigured some essential truth fulfilled in the gospel....

Therefore we repeat what we previously said, to deny the *personality* of God, is to deny the existence of the sanctuary in the heavens; for there God *dwells*. It is to deny the existence of the angels; for they are his throne. It is to deny the law of God; for it is the foundation of his throne. It is to deny the existence of Satan; for he is a fallen angel. It makes the light and life which God created, and which proceeds from him, whether it be in the grass or in cats or dogs or in man kind, to be the god. Since man, however, is the highest *form* of light and life, he necessarily becomes the supreme deity. It leads men to worship\_ the creature more than the Creator. We lift a warning voice against any such doctrine, from whatever source it comes. We say the Bible, and the Bible only, shall be our creed. In it is salvation....

Have courage, my brethren, have courage in the Lord. Hold fast to the main pillars of truth, and we shall soon meet around the throne of God, where we shall all see him face *to face*."