

# The Critique of the Errant Oneness Pentecostal Theology Citing Gino Jennings and David K. Bernard

(The Aberrant Oneness Pentecostal Beliefs Documented and Scripturally Refuted)

Dan Corner

Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' (Mat 7:22,23)

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## Oneness Pentecostal Teachings from David K. Bernard to Gino Jennings

### David K. Bernard

One of the most authoritative voices, if not the most, among the United Pentecostals is David K. Bernard, the General Superintendent of the United Pentecostal Church International, Professor of Biblical Studies and Apostolic Leadership at Urshan Graduate School of Theology. **Bernard is their theologian and their authority.** It will primarily be from his two volumes that I will quote:

- \* **The Oneness of God, Volume 1**; Word Aflame Press; 2010 ed., all quoted emphasis is my own.
- \* **The New Birth, Volume 2**; Word Aflame Press; 2007 ed., all quoted emphasis is my own.

### Gino Jennings

Popular Oneness Pentecostal Gino Jennings, whom I will address in the latter part of this document, is an African American religious leader, known for establishing "the Fundamentalist and Holiness denomination - the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania."

### The Various Names of Oneness Pentecostalism

Known by different names, the Oneness Pentecostals are also:

- \* Apostolics,
- \* United Pentecostals Church International (UPCI),
- \* United Pentecostals,
- \* Jesus Only, and
- \* Oneness.

They are an *exclusive* religious group that **limits salvation to primarily their own numbers, who subscribe to their unique beliefs, practices and experiences.**

### Their Doctrine of the *Singularity of God* is Fundamental

The UPCI belief about the singularity of God is intrinsic to their name "Jesus Only". It is stated as:

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are **simply three different manifestations of the one God who came in flesh as Jesus.** (The New Birth; Vol. 2; Word Aflame Press; 2007 ed.; p. 179)

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is the incarnation of the fullness of God. In his deity, **Jesus is the manifestation of the Father and the Holy Spirit** (The Oneness of God, p. 295.)

**Jesus is the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.** (The Oneness of God, p. 295)

We will see Jesus Christ in heaven. **He is the One on the throne and the only God we will ever see.** (The Oneness of God, p. 296)

... God is one individual being, and various terms used to describe Him (such as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are designations applied to **different forms of His action or different relationships He has to humans.** (The Oneness of God, 318)

**The Oneness message determines the formula for water baptism - in the name of Jesus** (Acts 2:38). (The Oneness of God, p. 305)

That last quote is very significant and shows how their false doctrine about God (which will be proven soon) has begotten more error and is linked, in part, to their counterfeit view of salvation itself via their water baptism formula.

## **Water Baptism "in the Name of Jesus"**

**Water baptism is correctly administered by saying "in the name of Jesus."** The name of Jesus is usually accompanied with the titles of Lord, Christ, or both. (The Oneness of God, p. 295)

**Jesus is the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for Jesus is the revealed name of God in the New Testament....** Therefore, **we correctly administer water baptism using the name of Jesus** (Acts 2:38). (The Oneness of God, p. 304)

**Christian baptism is to be administered "in the name of Jesus."** This means to invoke the name Jesus orally at water baptism. (The New Birth, p. 156)

All biblical references to the baptismal formula, including Matthew 28:19, describe the name Jesus. To be biblical, a formula must include the name Jesus, not merely reciting the Lord's verbal instructions. **"I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" or "I baptize you in the name of the Lord" or "I baptize you in His name" are all insufficient, because none of them actually use the name Jesus Christ commanded us to use. A correct formula would be, "I baptize you in the name of Jesus."** (The New Birth, pp. 177, 178)

...it is water baptism; not merely the human ceremony, but the work God performs when **He remits sin at water baptism** (The New Birth, p. 87)

...**the birth of water occurs when God remits sins at water baptism** (The New Birth, p. 90)

...Jesus is the only name that remits sin.... (The New Birth, p. 183)

(1) Christian baptism should be performed in the name of Jesus, which means by His power and authority, by faith in Him, and by orally invoking His name; (2) **No other baptismal formula has biblical validity.** (The New Birth, p. 182)

## **"No Other Baptismal Formula Has Biblical Validity"**

Bernard's last quote reveals their view, that is, **their belief about the only "valid" baptism formula.** The following displays the Oneness belief that water baptism occurs when one has his sins washed away and is part of the New

Birth:

**At baptism God washes away sin** by removing the eternal record and penalty of sin. (The New Birth, p. 115)

**Baptism - Part of the New Birth** (The New Birth, p. 131)

Christian water baptism is a ceremony in which one who has repented of his sins is immersed in water in the name of Jesus **for the remission of those sins.** (The New Birth, p. 122)

**Bernard made it clear there: they believe that one is forgiven at water baptism and the water baptism is successful only IF THE CORRECT BAPTISM FORMULA IS USED. However, Bernard then goes on to say that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is an essential part of salvation as well:**

### **Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

Since there is only one Spirit of God, and since the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ, we fully receive Christ into our lives **when we are filled or baptized with the Holy Spirit** (Rom. 8:9)... (The Oneness of God, p.305)

Thus, the baptism of the Spirit is part of salvation and **not an experience subsequent to salvation.** (The New Birth, p. 192)

**The baptism of the Holy Spirit is an essential part of salvation** for the New Testament church age (the new birth) and not a separate experience subsequent to salvation. (The New Birth, pp. 210,211)

**Both water baptism and Spirit baptism are necessary to complete the work that repentance begins** (The New Birth, p.115)

Again, Bernard stated **the baptism of the Holy Spirit is "part of salvation." In fact, below he stated "tongues as the initial sign" of salvation:**

Nevertheless, the relationship between the Spirit baptism and tongues is similar to that of faith and works. We are saved by faith, not works, yet works always accompany genuine faith. Likewise, tongues cannot save us, yet **the Spirit baptism produces tongues as the initial sign.** (The New Birth, pp. 235,236)

A definite problem surfaces for them in the salvation of the Ethiopian eunuch. That eunuch rode off without getting spirit baptized (and Philip was translated away)! See Acts 8:35-40. **Was his salvation incomplete?** Such a concept is inconceivable for Philip's work was done before getting translated away by God, but **Oneness dogma would reject his salvation, based on the aforementioned.** Then, there is also the following issue:

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that **Samaria had accepted the word of God,** they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because **the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus.** (Acts 8:14-16)

They had already accepted the word of God in Samaria (believed and were water baptized), that is, saved - yet not spirit baptized, until Peter and John arrived. **The point is they were already saved before Peter and John arrived.**

### **Jesus Predicted Pentecost, but the 120 in the Upper Room Were Saved before Tongues:**

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." By this

verse, Jesus meant the Spirit, whom **THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN HIM WERE LATER TO RECEIVE**. Up to that time, the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. (John 7:38,39)

NOTE: The apostles and the other 120 already had salvation BEFORE Pentecost. They were NOT coming to regeneration - they already had saving faith in the Son. So, why were they there in the upper room?

But you will receive **POWER** when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and **YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

**Again, the UPCI teaches "tongues" is the initial sign of salvation, thereby stating that all who have never spoken in tongues have never been saved**, regardless of their holy living after repentance and their own personal life, transformed from darkness into light.

## **Those Saved in the Gospels**

If the UPCI beliefs were true, which they are not, then how could the Lord Jesus declare various people throughout the gospels forgiven and saved - people who were not baptized and who didn't speak in tongues? Clearly, those people had repented and believed on Jesus, as he requires, and were, consequently, forgiven:

Whoever **believes in the Son has eternal life**; whoever **does not obey the Son** shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. (Jn. 3:36)

WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM IS NOT CONDEMNED, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. (John 3:18)

## **Examples of People Saved - Those Who Believed on Jesus**

\* Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." THEN JESUS SAID TO HER, "**YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN**." The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (Luke 7:47-50)

\* Jesus said to him, "**TODAY SALVATION HAS COME TO THIS HOUSE**, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." (Luke 19:9,10)

\* Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, **TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE**." (Luke 23:42,43)

\* Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; **your sins are forgiven**." (Mat 9:2)

## **Others Received Salvation by Faith in the Lord Jesus as well**

\* Many of the Samaritans from that town BELIEVED IN HIM because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." (John 4:39)

\* Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So HE AND ALL HIS HOUSEHOLD BELIEVED. (John 4:53)

\* And in that place MANY BELIEVED IN JESUS. (John 10:42)

## The UPCI All-Important Verse - Acts 2:38

IF you think Acts 2:38 is the new teaching on how to be forgiven, then WHAT DO YOU DO WITH ALL THE OTHER VERSES ON SALVATION THAT THE LORD JESUS GAVE US **BEFORE** Acts 2:38? Are you willing to dismiss ALL of them and even to ignore that **Jesus' disciples first started water baptizing at John 4:1,2**, long before Acts 2:38?

The Pharisees heard that Jesus was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John, **ALTHOUGH IN FACT IT WAS NOT JESUS WHO BAPTIZED, BUT HIS DISCIPLES.** (Jn. 4:1-2)

## Jesus and His Apostles Taught the Same

NOTE the same teaching in different words (AFTER the cross by Paul and John and BEFORE the cross by the Lord Jesus). Here are Paul and John respectively:

...in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for **those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.** (1 Tim 1:16)

I write these things to you who **believe in the name of the Son of God** so that you may know that you have **eternal life.** (1 John 5:13)

## Jesus in the Gospels:

&that **everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:15-16)

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. **He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.** Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

...whoever does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:16b)

The UPCI downplays Jesus' teachings for salvation, as recorded in the four gospels, to focus on Acts 2:38, which mentions baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit, **but does not mention faith in Jesus.**

Elsewhere, Peter also gave us this teaching about forgiveness of sins (with repentance understood as a prerequisite):

All the prophets testify about him [Jesus] that **EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM RECEIVES FORGIVENESS OF SINS THROUGH HIS NAME.** (Acts 10:43)

All the foregoing scriptural truths, taken together, render the following warning, about the Oneness misuse of scripture, relevant:

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. (Col. 2:8)

**Dear reader, don't make the mistake of focusing solely on 1 scripture (Acts 2:38), which does not even mention FAITH IN JESUS for salvation. What about all of these other verses, which also came after Pentecost, verses written and declared by Paul, Peter and the Lord Jesus himself?**

You are all sons of God through **faith in Christ Jesus,** (Gal. 3:26)

He made no distinction between us and them, for he **purified their hearts by faith.** (Acts 15:9)

...I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are **sanctified by faith in me.** (Acts 26:17-18)

Bernard further wrote:

The Holy Spirit was not given, and **the New Testament church did not exist until the Day of Pentecost.** (The New Birth, p. 211)

## **"The Church Began at Pentecost" ERROR**

"The church began at Pentecost" teaching is much too commonly taught. All who make such a claim declare such without scriptural backing, while ignoring that **the "church" already existed in Mt. 18:**

If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, **TELL IT TO THE CHURCH; and if he REFUSES TO LISTEN EVEN TO THE CHURCH,** treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector. (Mat. 18:15-17)

Since the church already existed, then so did saved people, as already proven. Though baptism-for-forgiveness proponents stress Acts 2:38, read through the book of Acts and notice the various salvation teachings in whole or in part (Acts 10:34-48; 13:38-41; 16:30,31; etc.). **No one re-taught Acts 2:38, nor used it as the basis of the plan of salvation. In fact, Peter himself also gave us Acts 3:19 and 10:43 with no mention of water baptism for forgiveness:**

**Repent, then, and turn to God,** so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, (Acts 3:19)

All the prophets testify about him that **everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.** (Acts 10:43)

Again, consider the various people who were saved in the gospels without water baptism (and without tongues). **WHY exclude Jesus' teachings?** He is the highest source and the ultimate authority - the "one TEACHER" (Mt. 23:10); he alone has the words of ETERNAL LIFE (Jn. 6:68). Consider also the following passage that also occurred after the cross:

He then brought them out and asked, "**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**" They replied, "**Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household.**" (Acts 16:30-31)

The above verse parallels Jesus' teachings (Jn. 6:47; Jn. 3:36) and concisely sums up Paul's gospel, who endorsed and reinforced all of Christ's teachings.

I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must **turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.** (Acts 20:21)

First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should **repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.** (Acts 26:20)

Water baptism and tongues are not listed there in those verses. In fact, note the de-emphasis on water baptism in the next passage:

I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, so no one can say that you were baptized into my name. (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) **For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel** - not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. (1 Cor. 1:14-17)

## **The "UPCI Gospel": Repentance + Water Baptism + Tongues = Regeneration (Salvation)**

To be initially saved or regenerated, Bernard mentions the following three conditions with more details:

Repentance does not earn salvation, but it qualifies one for, and **begins the work of salvation**. (The New Birth, p. 111)

Thus repentance qualifies a person for water baptism and the infilling of the Holy Spirit. (The New Birth, p. 114)

**Both water baptism and Spirit baptism are necessary to complete the work that repentance begins.** (The New Birth, p. 115)

**Regeneration, then, occurs at the time we repent, are baptized in the name of Jesus, and receive the Holy Spirit.** (The New Birth, pp. 329,330)

The last reference is how the Oneness Pentecostals understand salvation. I will refer to it as the "UPCI gospel": repentance + water baptism + tongues = regeneration (salvation). Hence, if you get everything the way they say it must be, then they would say you have been regenerated or born again.

In contrast, the Lord definitely taught much differently:

&yet **you refuse to come to me to have life**. (John 5:40) [NOTE: the repentant thief did go to Jesus and went to Paradise without water or spirit baptism - Lk. 23:42-43.]

I tell you, no! But **unless you repent, you too will all perish**. (Luke 13:3)

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Mat 11:28-29)

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. **He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die**. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

**To go to Jesus repentfully is to find rest for your soul. A *submissive faith in Jesus* (that includes repentance) occurs when we receive instant forgiveness** - not at one's baptism and charismatic (glossolalia) experience, if such does indeed occur. We enter saving grace by our faith (Rom. 5:2), and the veil is taken away when we turn to the Lord (2 Cor. 3:16). The gospel preached and summarized by the apostle, who wrote half of the NT books, is different. Again:

I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must **turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus**. (Acts 20:21)

...I preached that they should **repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds**. (Acts 26:20)

In reality, after getting "born again" (initial salvation), one must endure hatred to the end as Jesus' follower in order to enter God's kingdom (final salvation when our spirit departs our body), that is, "to be saved" (Mt. 10:22; Heb. 3:14;

etc.). Hence:

The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit **WILL REAP ETERNAL LIFE**. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest **IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP**. (Gal. 6:8-9)

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. **BE FAITHFUL, EVEN TO THE POINT OF DEATH**, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death**. (Rev. 2:10-11)

### **Bernard *Opposes* Bernard:**

Compare the following two statements:

From our discussion in this chapter we conclude that **to be born again means to be baptized with water and with the Holy Spirit**. (The New Birth, pp. 100,101)

**Repentance and water baptism together complete the full work of forgiveness**. (The New Birth, p. 115)

The second statement omitted the baptism of the Holy Spirit; its vital need is repeated another time by Bernard in this next quote:

Repentance is also insufficient without the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Repentance alone brings temporary, limited power over sin; **permanent, unlimited power comes only after the baptism of the Spirit** (Acts 1:8). (The New Birth, pp. 115,116)

### **Bernard's Permanence and No Possibility of Backsliding Implied**

From the following, Bernard denies backsliding ever occurs once a person is Spirit baptized:

Repentance alone is not the complete work of salvation. Water baptism makes the turn from sin permanent by burying the old man, and the Spirit baptism makes **the turn to God permanent by imparting a new nature with power to overcome sin daily**. (The New Birth, p. 120)

**By that, Bernard clashes with scripture once again**. Why? Because some widows younger than 60 had a "dedication to Christ" (1 Tim. 5:11) and later turned away to "follow Satan" (1 Tim. 5:15). They died spiritually (1 Tim. 5:6). Their initial "turn to God" was not permanent and neither was their "turn from sin".

### **Oneness gospel**

Many warnings were given to the Saints because of REAL dangers. The Christian CAN tragically do the following, resulting in their loss of salvation. [On a side note, they can be renewed again to repentance and saved again (Rom. 11:23, James 5:20, Lk. 15:24), but such is a different issue.]

- drift away (Heb. 2:1);
- wander away (Mt. 18:12,13);
- wander away from the faith (1 Tim. 6:10,21);
- wander away from the truth and destroy the faith of others by false teachings (2 Tim. 2:18);
- lose their saltiness (Lk. 14:34,35);
- fall away (Mt. 11:6; Mk. 14:27,29);



- fall from grace (Gal. 5:4);
- stop believing and fall away in time of testing (Lk. 8:13);
- turn to evil and die spiritually (Ezek. 33:18);
- turn away from the faith (Mt. 24:10);
- wander away from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith and turn to meaningless talk (1 Tim. 1:5,6);
- be (a branch) broken off because of unbelief (Rom. 11:19-21);
- turn back and no longer follow Jesus (Jn. 6:66);
- have their faith shipwrecked (1 Tim. 1:19);
- leave the straight way and follow the way of Balaam (2 Pet. 2:15);
- get cut off from Christ and become like a branch that is thrown away and withers (Jn. 15:6);
- go astray (Jn. 16:1);
- insult the Spirit of grace after being sanctified by Jesus' blood to become God's enemy and go to raging fire (Heb. 10:26-29); [This particular sin is unique and excludes the possibility of repentance as it is referring to eternal sin.]
- turn away from Christ to follow Satan (1 Tim. 5:11-15);
- depart from the faith (1 Tim. 4:1);
- turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths (2 Tim. 4:4);
- acquire a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God (Heb. 3:12);
- fall away to the point where they cannot be renewed to repentance (Heb. 6:6);
- turn away from him who warns us from heaven (Heb. 12:25);
- become lukewarm and get spat out of the body of Christ (Rev. 3:15,16);
- not remain faithful and be hurt by the second death (Rev. 2:10,11);
- have God take away their share in the tree of life and in the holy city (Rev. 22:19);
- wander from the truth and become a sinner in need of having their soul saved again (James 5:19-20);
- return to sin after knowing the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pet. 2:20-22);
- be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from their secure position (2 Pet. 3:17);
- be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings (Heb. 13:9).

## **Jesus Can Not Be the Father or the Holy Spirit**

**The UPCI believes Jesus is the Father, the Son AND the Holy Spirit - three manifestations of Jesus.** Do not be confused - their belief is not Trinitarianism, but *Modalism* - an anti-trinity dogma. The Trinity doctrine is a belief in the ONE true God (who alone is deity) in three separate and distinct persons who share the same divine nature - not one person, but three.

*The Trinity* is hated and mocked by the Oneness Pentecostals, and their modalistic view of God is the basis of their exalted water baptism formula needed for salvation, IF one also speaks in tongues.

FYI: Cornelius, his relatives and close friends were all filled with the Spirit of God (the baptism of the Spirit) BEFORE they were water baptized (Acts 10:43-48). That fact refutes the Oneness interpretation of Acts 2:38. They were surely cleansed from their sins because God would never fill a child of the devil with his Holy Spirit.

[NOTE: Some Mormons and Charismatic Catholics also claim to have spoken in tongues. Does that mean they are true Christians too? God forbid anyone would think so. We must consider other factors in order to identify true Christians.]

## **Scripture Proves Jesus is not the Father or the Holy Spirit**

Ponder these truths carefully:

1. The resurrected Jesus has a tangible body, which could be handled - **a physical body of flesh and bones:**

See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. **For a spirit does not have flesh and bones**

**as you see that I have.** (Luke 24:39)

The second part of Luke 24:39 states a ghost (or spirit) does NOT have what Jesus has. Those truths prove that **Jesus is different, and can NOT possibly be, the Father or the Holy Spirit, because the latter two are both spirit** (Jn. 4:23-24). **They do not have physical bodies of *flesh and bones*, as Jesus does.**

2. Jesus prayed to the Father on various occasions (Mt. 26:39-44; Jn. 17:1; etc.). If Jesus is the Father, then that means he was praying to himself, which is irrational.

3. The Father sent Jesus into the world (Jn. 3:16; 8:16; 1 Jn. 4:14). Did Jesus send himself and did Jesus later return to himself? (Jn. 16:10; etc.)?

4. The people Jesus spoke to certainly heard and saw him, yet Jesus said:

And the **Father** who sent me has himself testified concerning me. **YOU HAVE NEVER HEARD HIS VOICE NOR SEEN HIS FORM,** (John 5:37)

**NO ONE HAS SEEN THE FATHER** except the one who is from God; **ONLY HE HAS SEEN THE FATHER.** (John 6:46)

Therefore, Jesus can NOT be the Father.

5. Jesus is "the Father's Son" - the Son of God:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from **JESUS CHRIST, THE FATHER'S SON,** will be with us in truth and love. (2 John 1:3)

Could Jesus be his own son?

6. Jesus' words were not his own, but the Father's:

For I did not speak of my own accord, **but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.** (John 12:49)

He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. **These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.** (John 14:24)

So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am the one I claim to be and that **I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.** (John 8:28)

That distinction shows Jesus and the Father are separate 2 persons.

7. Jesus is sitting (or standing) at the Father's right hand:

God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. (Acts 5:31)

But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." (Acts 7:55-56)

Could Jesus be sitting (or standing) at his own right side?

8. The Father placed his seal of approval on the Son:

Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval. (John 6:27)

Did Jesus give himself the seal of approval?

9. Jesus did what the Father commanded him:

but the world must learn that I love the Father and that **I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.**  
"Come now; let us leave. (John 14:31)

Did Jesus do what he commanded himself?

10. Is Jesus his own other witness who sent him?

I am one who testifies for myself; **my other witness is the Father, who sent me.** (John 8:18)

Could Jesus be his own other witness too?

11. Does Jesus speak to himself in our defense?

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who **speaks to the Father** in our defense - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. (1 John 2:1)

12. Did Jesus appoint himself heir?

but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed** heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. (Heb. 1:2)

13. Did Jesus appoint himself high priest?

No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father." (Heb. 5:4-5)

14. Did Jesus (while in the water of his own baptism) speak from heaven, as the Father, about himself and further have the Spirit of God appear as a dove lighting on himself?

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Mat. 3:16-17)

15. Did Jesus also act as a ventriloquist to have his voice speak, as from the cloud, while he was talking with Moses and Elijah, or is the Father a different person from the Son?

Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" (Mat. 17:3-5)

16. The Father responds to Jesus with the following declaration:

"Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I HAVE GLORIFIED IT, AND WILL GLORIFY IT AGAIN." The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine." (John 12:28-30)

**Did Jesus answer himself, as though he were another person, to mislead people or did a different person (the Father) answer the Son?**

## **The Misused UPCI Proof Texts of Isa. 9:6, John 10:30 and John 14:9**

### **Isaiah 9:6**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, **Everlasting Father**, Prince of Peace. (Isa 9:6)

Jesus is "called" everlasting Father though he is NOT the person of the Father, as already proven. Likewise, Jesus is also called "the son of God" (Acts 9:20) **as is also Adam (Lk. 3:38), yet Adam is not Jesus just because he is also called the son of God.**

### **John 10:30**

John 10:30 teaches Jesus is *one* with the Father regarding their purpose, goals, nature, etc.:

I and the Father are ONE. (John 10:30)

Question: "One" what? **Husband and wife are "ONE flesh"** (Gen. 2:24), **yet 2 separate persons.** Jesus is "one" in purpose with the Father, though a different person. Deut. 6:4 declares:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, **the LORD is ONE.** (Deut. 6:4)

**The Hebrew term there translated "one" refers to compound unity, and it is also used in Gen. 2:24:**

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become ONE flesh.

### **John 14:9**

John 14:9 teaches that Jesus **spoke and behaved the same way the Father would have:**

Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? **Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" (John 14:9)

So, why did Jesus say, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father"? Remember, **Jesus spoke only the words the Father gave him to speak, and he only did the will of the Father, but here is an additional detail:**

For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me **WHAT TO SAY AND HOW TO SAY IT.** (John 12:49)

Hence, Jesus acted as the Father would have, though he wasn't the person of the Father. In other words, **Jesus is the image of the invisible God** (Col. 1:15) [in a physical body].

Clearly, none of those UPCI proof texts establishes their doctrine, but we must consider yet another important

scripture.

## Colossians 2:9

**For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,** (Col. 2:9)

That is a wonderful scripture substantiating the full deity of Christ (though Jesus is also true man). It is terrible that, without any scriptural basis, the Oneness Pentecostals read into the Col. 2:9 truth - that Jesus is God in the flesh - as proof for their false doctrine of Jesus is: the Son, the Father and the Holy Spirit without that verse actually saying such. Read Col. 2:9 again, and note all that it says and does not say. Bernard wrote:

Jesus is the incarnation of the fullness of God. **He is the incarnation of the Father (the Word, the Spirit, Jehovah), not just the incarnation of a person called "God the Son."** (The Oneness of God, p. 304)

## Gino Jennings

### Gino Jennings' Father, Son and Brother Argument Based on Human Tradition (Col. 2:8)

To a man in his congregation, Gino Jennings stated:

You're a son, is that right?  
You're a father, is that right?  
Do you have a brother? Then you are a brother.

Jennings then concluded, "You are a father, you are a son and you are a brother."

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDeyDfkHt6w>] That reasoning from the natural is his argument for Jesus being the Father and Holy Spirit too.

Rather than adhering to the scriptures, Jennings departs therefrom to argue for the singularity of God with a human example, yet he overlooks the aforementioned scriptures proving that Jesus cannot be the Father or the Holy Spirit.

NOTE: that same person Jennings refers to who is "a father, a son and a brother" **is not sent by himself, nor does he return to himself, nor is he his own son, etc. He also does not project his voice as coming from the sky to refer to himself, etc.**

### More Proof: Jesus is Not the Holy Spirit

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another [allos is the Greek term] Counselor to be with you forever-- (John 14:16)

W. E Vine writes:

*Allos* expresses **a numerical difference and denotes another of the same sort...** Christ promised to send "another Comforter" (allos, another like Himself, not hetros), John 14:16. [An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words; Fleming H. Revell Company, Old Tappan, New Jersey; 1966 ed.; p. 60.]

Hence, the Greek language further proves that **the Holy Spirit is not Jesus**, though they are in perfect agreement with each other and with the Father too.

Remember, the Holy Spirit does not have a body of flesh and bones, as the resurrected Jesus does; so, he cannot be Jesus on that basis alone. It is impossible. Moreover, we have the following verse:

But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. **Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.** (John 16:7)

**Hence, when Jesus was here, the Counselor (the Holy Spirit) was NOT here too, and he would not be coming until Jesus would leave and send him. IF Jesus were the Holy Spirit (which he is not), then the Holy Spirit would be on earth where Jesus was, but he wasn't.**

When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. (John 15:26)

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26)

Both Jesus and the Father send the Holy Spirit. Can one send himself? **The Holy Spirit is neither Jesus nor the Father, but he is sent by them.**

## **UPCI Wrongly Denies One Is Saved at Repentance**

They want us to believe:

**Repentance does not earn salvation**, but it qualifies one for, and begins the work of salvation. (The New Birth, p. 111)

Will you believe those claims or will you believe the Scriptures?

When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, **God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life.**" (Acts 11:18)

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.** (2 Pet. 3:9)

**Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out**, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, (Acts 3:19)

so that, "they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise **they might turn and be forgiven!**" (Mark 4:12)

**Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret**, but worldly sorrow brings death. (2 Cor. 7:10)

**If one repents placing a submissive faith in the Lord Jesus, he will be born again and set free from sin's addictions.** Ponder this truth carefully:

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin - because **anyone who has died has been freed from sin.** (Rom. 6:6,7)

To crucify the old self sets one free from sin's addictions, which means he contacts Jesus' blood (Rev. 1:5). That fact means **salvation comes at sincere, humble repentance (faith in the Lord Jesus).**

**Pastor Gino Jennings**

Just like Bernard, Gino Jennings exalts Acts 2:38 as the gospel message, and, apparently, he wants to dismiss the numerous examples of salvation in the four Gospels as well as the related scriptures before the day of Pentecost. He also flatly rejects Jn. 3:16-18; 3:36 as the salvation message consistent with the Oneness teachings.

All of the aforementioned about David Bernard also applies because Gino Jennings is a Oneness Pentecostal too. Hence, his theology is the same, and it is lethally flawed, but there is even more. Jennings said:

Everybody that was baptized Father, Son and Holy Ghost - you gotta be baptized over. The preacher lied to you. He didn't understand the scriptures. [Pastor Gino Jennings - Water Baptism In The Right Way; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySZ8EQC9dCc> ; 4:38 - 4:48 // Click here to listen to Gino's baptism statement.]

Though Jennings isn't quick to tell you this, **note the variance in how the people were baptized in the book of Acts:**

- \* in the name of the Lord Jesus. (Acts 8:16; 19:5);
- \* in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 10:48);
- \* in the name of the Lord (Acts 22:16, KJV).

## Jennings' Teaching on the Beast and False Prophet

Gino Jennings taught his congregation:

Hell (that's right that's right) - where your pastor's going (ha ha, that's right). You know the bible said with the beast and false prophet are - that's your pastor (that's right). [Pastor Gino Jennings - Do sinners Go to Hell after Death <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y3r5vJG2RI> ; 7:29 - 7:38 // Click here to listen to Gino's beast false prophet statement]

**His statement implies that all others are lost.** He also made the mistake of saying the beast and false prophet are going to Hell, when *technically* their destination is the fiery lake of burning sulfur. Moreover, the beast is the anti-Christ of the end times, and the false prophet is his close co-worker and spokesman - not one's pastor:

But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. (Rev. 19:20)

## The Women's Head Rag

To see Jennings' congregation is to see the women with what they would call a "head covering," but that dogma too is wrong. The true women's head covering is her **LONG HAIR:**

Does not the very nature of things teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him, but that if a woman has **LONG HAIR**, it is her glory? For **LONG HAIR IS GIVEN TO HER AS A COVERING**. If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice--nor do the churches of God. (1 Cor. 11:14-16)

The rags (or hats) on the women's heads in Jennings church is only a rag or hat, misnamed a "head covering".

## True Salvation - When God Purifies the Heart

He made no distinction between us and them, for **HE PURIFIED THEIR HEARTS BY FAITH.** (Acts

15:9)

**The New Testament shows salvation comes *instantly* upon a trusting, submitting and repentant faith in the Lord Jesus. Such happened to Cornelius and his household upon hearing, as we see in Acts 10:43:**

All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days. (Acts 10:43-48)

Please remember, there is but ONE WAY to get saved (Jn. 14:6). THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS. This means that YOU and I are saved the SAME EXACT WAY that Cornelius and his household were saved (Acts 15:9-11). **That salvation also includes repentance (Acts 11:18).**

To get the full impact of how they got saved and at what point God purified their hearts, we must consider these related Scriptures: Acts 10:1-48; 11:1-18 and 15:7-11. If YOU study those verses, you will see that the reason the angel came to Cornelius was to tell him where to find Simon Peter so that he and his entire household could be saved through a message from Peter's lips (Acts 11:13,14; 15:7).

At Jerusalem, the Apostle Peter reports that his sermon to Cornelius (Acts 10:34-43) is the "Gospel," [plan of salvation] (Acts 15:7). Peter then stated that God, who knows man's heart, including Cornelius' and his household's, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them. Again, this bestowal of the Holy Spirit to these new believers happened BEFORE they were water baptized. This fact demonstrates that those Gentiles' hearts WERE PURIFIED BY FAITH (Acts 15:9) prior to their water baptism, and God further gave a sign (tongues) to the Jewish Christians gathered as verification of His acceptance of them! Then, in verse 11, Peter explicitly affirms the truth that ALL (Jews and Gentiles) are saved as Cornelius and his household were - when they placed ALL (100%) OF THEIR FAITH IN JESUS FOR THEIR SALVATION.

**To summarize, we just learned: (1) That the "Gospel" does NOT include water baptism (or speaking in tongues); (2) Forgiveness of sins, everlasting life and a purified heart occur at the moment one places ALL (100%) of his/her FAITH IN JESUS ALONE FOR SALVATION; (3) Jews and Gentiles are saved the same way. Also, God gave an outward sign that Cornelius and his household's hearts were purified by faith BEFORE water baptism! Therefore, we know that water baptism is EXCLUDED from the message of FAITH IN JESUS FOR SALVATION! Peter afterwards baptized these new adult Christians. [The Bible does NOT teach infant baptism!]**

Finally, according to Acts 2:38, one receives forgiveness of sins BEFORE the "gift of the Holy Ghost." Since Cornelius received the "gift" BEFORE water baptism, we, therefore, know his sins were forgiven BEFORE water baptism! In other words, if A comes before B, and B comes before C, then A comes before C. Before YOU move on, please reread these points as YOU verify them FOR YOURSELF IN YOUR OWN BIBLE. (These Scriptures clearly refute the theory that the blood of Christ is contacted in the waters of baptism.)

Forgiveness of sins COMES BEFORE the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38).  
The gift of the Holy Ghost COMES BEFORE water baptism (Acts 10:43-48).  
Therefore, forgiveness of sins COMES BEFORE water baptism.

**We are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1) - a faith that *obeys* Jesus (Heb. 5:9).**