How Many Is One?
1 Cor. 8:5, 6

Introduction:
A. Should not be a hard question.
   1. Seems hard for many religious people.
B. Paul had to give the answer to the gentile world.
   1. At Athens (Acts 17:16, 22, 23).
   2. At Thessalonica (1 Thess. 1:9).
C. We must give the answer to our world today.
D. Let’s consider the one’s of the Bible versus the many’s in the world.

Discussion:
I. When One Was One.
   A. Paul’s List of Ones (Eph. 4:4-6).
      2. Lord, Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Cor. 8:5, 6).
      4. Hope, of heaven.
      5. Faith, the gospel (cf. Phil. 1:27; Gal. 1:23; Jude 3).
   B. For each one, there can be no less, no more, no other.

II. How One Became Many.
   A. The evolution from one God to many. (Rom. 1:18-32).
      1. Depreciation of the importance of the one God (v. 21).
      2. Reshaping of God as it pleased them (vv. 22-23).
         a. One more like them (v. 23).
         b. One more accommodative to them (v. 28).
      3. Eventually a god for every man’s taste — god of his choice.
      4. Perpetuated by ignorance, prejudice and tradition.
   B. The evolution from one faith, baptism, and church to many.
      1. Depreciation of their importance.
      2. Reshaping them as it pleases them (cf. Gal. 8, 9).
      3. Eventually one to each man’s taste.
      4. Perpetuated to succeeding generations by tradition.

Conclusion:
A. How many is one?
B. What must be done in a world of many?
   1. The Thessalonians turned from many god to serve the one original God.
   2. We must turn from many faiths, baptisms, churches to accept the original ones.