

They say that when you get to P you have monotheism. P has God as creator of the universe. That is monotheism. They say that the viewpoint of J is not monotheism but henotheism, that they should worship only one God. It does not say whether there are other gods or not.

A graduate of an American Presbyterian seminary was in Berlin when I was there. We would take turns preaching in the American Church there. I remember that one day he preached on Jacob's concept of a tribal god. He said that when Jacob was at home in Beersheba or Hebron he was in Yahweh's territory, but when he went across the Jordan he was in the territory of a different god and there he had the vision in which his god promised to go with him and protect him, even in the territory of the other god. That was what was taught in one of the Presbyterian seminaries twenty five years ago. I can only imagine what they are teaching there now.

The word Elohim is plural. Is it a remnant of polytheism or is it an implication of the Trinity? There are various possibilities. God says, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." He uses the plural. Why does he use the plural? Does it suggest the Trinity? And if He uses the plural of Himself to suggest the Trinity, are you then denying the Trinity if instead of addressing Him by the plural pronoun "you" that you use, even to talk to other human beings, you should insist on addressing Him by the singular pronoun "thou"? Would it imply that you do not believe in the Trinity? I do not think it necessarily would, but monotheism cannot be proven simply by the words. It is a matter of the teaching. There is clear monotheism in Amos and in the so-called Second Isaiah. The claim is made that it is the result of an evolutionary process, up to that point. Yet, there is no *denial* of monotheism anywhere in the Bible. When you write you do not need to say on every page that you believe in one God and do not believe that any others exist. Other spiritual beings are referred to, but only as beings that are greatly inferior to the great Creator.

I would like all of you to know what this theory is. It is a complex theory. It is all very well for someone to say, "It is just a lot of foolishness." Then the man who has learned it in school can say,