

Who is God?

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Introduction

If you are seeking true meaning and purpose of life, "Who is God?" may give you a most meaningful insight into your life. For you see, God is the living foundation of the entire universe and He longs for a personal relationship with you, with me, with all of us. So having a true knowledge of God becomes the most important event of our lives.

You may be aware that different concepts of God circulate in Christian churches today. For you see, the question "Who is God?" has been a controversial topic for centuries, shrouded with human invention and fanciful ideas, truth mixed with error. So how do we find the true God? As we compare scripture with scripture and piece together connecting texts, a true picture of God appears, vaporising the falsehoods which cloud Him.

Want to know more? Then read on. One thing is certain, as you read through this book page by page, you can be sure God has a special plan for your life.

After this book, we suggest you read "The Word," as these two books were originally written as one. "The Word" is all about the Bible: What is the Bible? Where did the writings come from? What do those words mean for our lives in the 21st century? If you desire an answer, please read, "The Word." Surprises may be in store.

In the end, what you choose to believe is your choice alone, and lies in the power of your mind. When all is said and done, when each chapter has been closed, when all the anxiety of human imperfection has been laid aside, resting in God and committing all to Him, we humbly pray:

Through His Holy Spirit
May each word you read become a ray of light,
inspiring your life with new hope.
May each page kindle a flame of truth within your soul.
May each chapter blaze upon your mind with
understanding, conviction and acceptance
of all that is truly God's.

May the content, from cover to cover,
become a bright and shining lamp guiding you into greater knowledge of God's Holy Word.

And may the fullness of this writing, enfold you
in the personality and character of God The Father and His Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,
"...the way, the truth and the life." John 14:6.



Who is God?

Welcome aboard, sit back and relax as we blast off on an incredible journey, exploring the knowledge and dimensions of God. Travelling back through time we pass over generations of human life. Six thousand years unwind ...6 ...5 ...4 ...3 ...2 ...1.. to earth's beginnings, "...without form, and void..." Genesis 1:2.

From this lifeless, lonely place, we rocket through outer space and universal times. Navigating our way through teeming galaxies, we watch spectacular planets, brimming with life, simply unwind and disappear before our eyes.

Back, back we journey, through ever-depleting cycles. Until at last the entire universe with all creation, unravels to nothing.

Now we are alone. All is still, quiet, and dark. Suddenly, a glorious light dispels the darkness, and we find ourselves in the very presence of God Almighty, the origin of all life; the one and only true God, ever present before space and time.

Struck with awe, we ask ourselves, "Who is this magnificent God, who is large enough to fill the universe with His mighty power, and yet is small enough to enter our meagre lives?"

To answer these question, let us extend our human eyesight and view God's grandeur, rising through the mists of eternity.

*"The secret things belong to the LORD our God,
but those things which are revealed belong to us
and to our children forever,
that we may do all the words of this law."
Deuteronomy 29:29*

*"For since the beginning of the world
Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear,
Nor has the eye seen any God besides You,
Who acts for the one who waits for Him." Isaiah 64:4*

The One and Only God

God is the one God, the only true God, the one great Power above all powers. And He is your God and mine.

"...there is no other God but one. For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him..." 1 Corinthians 8:4-6

"For there is one God..." 1 Timothy 2:5



"...one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

Ephesians 4:6

"Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us?" Malachi 2:10

"You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!" James 2:19

"...for there is one God, and there is no other but He." Mark 12:32

*" '...And there is no other God besides Me,
A just God and a Savior;*

There is none besides Me.' " Isaiah 45:21

*" '...Therefore you are My witnesses,'
Says the LORD, 'that I am God.*

*Indeed before the day was, I am He;
And there is no one who can deliver out of My hand;
I work, and who will reverse it?' " Isaiah 43:12-13*

God is Eternal

God has always been. In other words, He has no beginning as you and I have a beginning. God, the one God, is self-existent, immortal, having life without beginning or end.

"...without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life..." Hebrews 7:3

*"... the High and Lofty One
Who inhabits eternity,..." Isaiah 57:15*

*"Now to **the King eternal**, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honour and glory forever and ever. Amen." 1 Timothy 1:17*

Although God is invisible to the human eye, we can see His eternal power pulsating through His creations.

"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead."

Romans 1:20

Yet truly, we cannot comprehend the vastness of God's eternal existence.

*"Behold, God is great, and we do not know Him;
Nor can the number of His years be discovered."
Job 36:26*

"...and his greatness is unsearchable." Psalm 145:3

"With God is awesome majesty.

As for the Almighty, we cannot find Him;

He is excellent in power..." Job 37:22-23

"Before the mountains were brought forth,

Or ever You had formed the earth and the world,

Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."

Psalm 90:2

"Known to God from eternity are all His works." Acts 15:18

"For a thousand years in Your sight

Are like yesterday when it is past,

And like a watch in the night." Psalm 90:4

God stands in the stream of eternal time and looks both ways, to shape universal events and lives of destiny, even yours and mine.

"Declaring the end from the beginning,

And from ancient times things that are not yet done,

Saying, "My counsel shall stand,

And I will do all My pleasure..." Isaiah 46:10

God's Residence

God's official residence and throne of government are located in the highest heaven, and yet He longs to reside in our lowly lives.

"For thus says the High and Lofty One

Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:

'I dwell in the high and holy place,

With him who has a contrite and humble spirit,

To revive the spirit of the humble,

And to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah 57:15

Paul, a Bible writer tells how he was, "...caught up to the third heaven...up into Paradise. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter." 2 Corinthians 12:2-4

"Unto You I lift up my eyes,

O You who dwell in the heavens." Psalm 123:1

"The LORD is in His Holy temple,



The LORD's throne is in heaven." Psalm 11:4

*"Look down from heaven,
And see from Your habitation, holy and glorious.." Isaiah 63:15*

*"The LORD looks from heaven;
He sees all the sons of men.
From the place of His dwelling He looks
On all the inhabitants of the earth;
He fashions their hearts individually;
He considers all their works." Psalm 33:13-15*

"I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth..." Genesis 14:22

God Reigns over the Universe

God is the supreme ruler, the King above all kings. His dominion stretches throughout the teeming galaxies, encompassing all creation in the universe, touching our very lives.

*"For the LORD is the great God,
And the great King above all gods."
Psalm 95:3*

*"He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords..."
1 Timothy 6:15*

*"'For I am a great King,'
Says the LORD of hosts,
And My name is to be feared among the nations.'"
Malachi 1:14*

*"...Thus says the LORD:
'Heaven is My throne,
And earth is My footstool.'"
Isaiah 66:1*

*"The LORD has established His throne in heaven,
And His kingdom rules over all."
Psalm 103:19*

*"Your throne is established from of old;
You are from everlasting."
Psalm 93:2*

"Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne." Psalm 97:2

"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!'" Revelation 19:6

God's Being - Mind, Body and Spirit

God has a majestic, glorious body, a mind beyond our human comprehension, and a life essence of Spirit.

To catch a glimpse of God's total being, let us look at the composition of human life, for mankind is made in His likeness.

On the sixth day of creation, God said, *"Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness."* Genesis 1:26.

"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." Genesis 2:7

Like God, humans have three interconnected dimensions which make our being complete:

A **mind** for intellect, communication, reason and choice;

A **body** to give substance and mobility; and,

A **spirit** of energising life - the living essence of who we are in personality and presence.

*"....there is a spirit in man,
And the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding." Job 32:8*

"...the breath of the spirit of life..." Genesis 7:22

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Genesis 1:27

Yes, in mankind we can see a likeness of God - a reflection of His being in mind, body and spirit.

"...the mind of the LORD..." Leviticus 24:12

"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

'For who has known the mind of the LORD?

Or who has become His counselor?

'Or who has first given to Him

And it shall be repaid to him?'



*For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever.
Amen." Romans 11:33-36*

In Old Testament times, the prophet Ezekiel, in a vision, saw God seated upon His throne, and God had the appearance of a man.

*"And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the **appearance of a man** high above it.*

*Also from the **appearance of His waist and upward** I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around*

*Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking."
Ezekiel 1:26-28*

Another time, another place, the prophet Daniel, also of Old Testament times, saw God's form and features in a vision.

*"I watched till thrones were put in place,
And the Ancient of Days **was seated**;
His garment was white as snow,
And the **hair of His head** was like pure wool..." Daniel 7:9*

James, a New Testament writer, states that man is "...made in the similitude of God." James 3:8-9

And our similarities to God embrace the spiritual dimension of our being - our human spirit comes from God.

"...the God of the spirits of all flesh..." Numbers 16:22

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24 KJV

"God is Spirit..." John 4:24

"...the eternal Spirit..." Hebrews 9:14

"...the Spirit of God..." Romans 15:19

"...the Holy Spirit of God..." Ephesians 4:30

So, what is spirit or a spirit? Well to begin with, "...a spirit does not have flesh and bones..." Luke 24:39

In other words, spirit has no physical substance but is an invisible essence.

Spirit is perhaps a little like the wind. We cannot see the wind as a substance, but we do feel the wind's presence and see the wind's motion and effects around us. And we feel the chill or warmth of the wind on our skin, penetrating into our very bones.

"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit." John 3:8

So, as flesh is flesh, and bone is bone, in essence spirit is spirit, And spirit can belong to, and be part of, a physical being.

"... there is a spirit in man..." Job 32:8

"...the breath of the spirit of life..." Genesis 7:22

"...the spirit of the sons of men..." Ecclesiastes 3:21

Yes, in living essence, "God is Spirit..." John 4:24. And through our resemblance to God in mind, body and spirit, we can learn a little of what He is like and who He is. Most incredibly, "...in Him we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:28

God's Spirit is His Supernatural Presence

*"Do not cast me away from **Your presence**,
And do not take **Your Holy Spirit** from me." Psalm 51:11*

*"Where can I go from **Your Spirit**?
Or where can I flee from **Your presence**?" Psalm 139:7*

In the ancient Hebrew language, the correct way to write a poetical verse was to write a thought, then follow immediately with the same thought, written another way.

In the Bible, the word of God, this is especially noticeable in the book of Psalms.

In the two poetic verses above, we can see God's "Spirit" and His "presence" are used interchangeably. Thus we can rightfully use the term His "Spirit presence."

Humans have a spirit presence, in a limited way. Our personalities, entwining intellect, emotion, communication and so on, are spirit-driven.

*"... there is a spirit in man
And the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding." Job 32:8*



"...the spirit of my understanding causes me to answer." Job 20:3

"...and be renewed in the spirit of your mind..." Ephesians 4:23

Consciously and subconsciously, we live through our human spirit, transmitting an aura of power, the essence of who we are to others around us. This phenomenon is simply our spirit presence.

In a similar but much more powerful, majestic and mysterious way, this is also true of God.

Yet unlike our limited human spirit, God's Spirit is supernatural, filling the entire universe with His presence of life. God's Spirit is His omnipresence and power - present everywhere, all of the time:

*"Am I a God near at hand," says the Lord,
"And not a God afar off?
Can anyone hide himself in secret places,
So I shall not see him?" says the Lord;
"Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord."
Jeremiah 23:23-24*

*"Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
If I ascend into heaven, You are there;
If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.
If I take the wings of the morning,
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there Your hand shall lead me,
And Your right hand shall hold me.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me,"
Even the night shall be light about me;
Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You,
But the night shines as the day;
The darkness and the light are both alike to You". Psalm 139:7-12*

Yes, where God's Spirit is, His living presence is also, His whole personage flowing through Spirit.

And God's Spirit carries forth His will and word of power, to create and uphold all universal life.

"By His Spirit He adorned the heavens..." Job 26:13

*"You send forth Your Spirit, they are created;
And You renew the face of the earth." Psalm 104:30
"If He should set His heart on it,*

*If He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath,
All flesh would perish together,
And man would return to dust." Job 34:14-15*

God's Divine Nature and Character

God's nature is divine. "...the divine nature..." 2 Peter 1:4. This means, unlike you and I with our human nature, God possesses all the qualities and characteristics which are the essence of divinity - the state of being God, and He is most Holy.

"There is none holy like the LORD..." 1 Samuel 2:2

His divine nature is the origin of true love, "...for God is love." 1 John 4:8

"His compassions fail not.

They are new every morning."

Great is Your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

*"...You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious,
Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth." Psalm 86:15*

Yet God's love is not like candy floss - sweet in the mouth, but lacking real substance. His love is strong, and consistent with His other characteristics: mercy, faithfulness, truth, righteousness, justice, and judgement.

Yes, His justice and judgement are of equal importance with His love and mercy.

"For I proclaim the name of the LORD:

Ascribe greatness to our God.

He is the Rock, His work is perfect;

For all His ways are justice,

A God of truth and without injustice;

Righteous and upright is He." Deuteronomy 32:3-4

"Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;

"The Lord lives, in truth, in judgement, and in righteousness." Jeremiah 4:2

"Mercy and truth go before Your face." Psalm 89:14

Because God's character is pure and holy, He has no thoughts of evil or wickedness. And He will not sanction evil in the lives of created beings, nor will He bless those who knowingly do evil.

"You love righteousness and hate wickedness..." Psalm 45:7

*"Surely God will never do wickedly,
or will the Almighty pervert justice." Job 34:12*



*"The LORD is righteous in all His ways,
Gracious in all His works." Psalm 145:17*

Yes, God is pure and honest in all things, and His word is His bond of truth throughout eternity.

He cannot lie to Himself or to another, and He will not live in dishonesties or the lies of created beings, *"...it is impossible for God to lie..." Hebrews 6:18*

*"God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent.
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"
Numbers 23:19*

God's Name

Our names are very special to us. Yet have you ever considered the importance of God's name? He is supremely divine, and this makes His name most holy, exalted above all other names in the universe.

*"Holy and awesome is His name." Psalm 111:9
"Blessed be Your glorious name,
which is exalted above all blessing and praise!" Nehemiah 9:5*

" 'You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.' " Exodus 20:7

When we speak or write God's name with reverence and respect, we honour His exalted position in the universe.

*"For who in the heavens can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the LORD?
God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints,
And to be held in reverence by all those around Him."
Psalm 89:6-7*

*"...The LORD of hosts is His name;
And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel;
He is called the God of the whole earth." Isaiah 54:5*

According to the Hebrew people of Old Testament times, the original and sacred Hebrew name for God was "Yah-Weh," but as with all very ancient Hebrew words, "Yah-Weh" was written without vowels (YHWH) and not pronounced the way we might in modern English. In centuries past Bible translators estimated the ancient Hebrew name YHWH might have been pronounced "Je-ho-vah". And that is how

the name "Jehovah" came to be in the Bible! However, in ancient Hebrew times, this name was so sacred, it was never spoken aloud.

Translated into English, Jehovah means, "He that is," and, "self-existent."

By adding other descriptive names to Jehovah, the Hebrews highlighted different aspects of God's character and what He meant to them in their daily lives. For example, "Jehovah Jireh" translated into English means "...*The-LORD-Will-Provide...*" *Genesis 22:14*.

"Jehovah Shalom" means "...The-LORD-is-Peace." Judges 6:24

"Jehovah Shammah" means "...THE LORD IS THERE." Ezekiel 48:35

"Jehovah Tsidkenu" means "...THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS" Jeremiah 23:6

"Jehovah Rophi" means "...The LORD who heals you." Exodus 15:26

Thus there is a wealth of meaning, promise and hope attached to God's Holy name.

*"The name of the LORD is a strong tower;
The righteous run to it and are safe." Proverbs 18:10*

The Beginning of Beginnings

We have now met and embraced the one self-existent God.

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!" Deuteronomy 6:4

"...God is one." Galatians 3:20

And with Him, we continue to stand in the stream of eternity, so far back we see no time zones, no date lines, just endless space.

But now, a most wonderful event is about to occur. The divine God, the all-powerful God, is about to perform a spectacular feat of love, marking the beginning.

For God is overwhelmed with an intense desire for a loving Son; a companion to live in the bosom of His Soul and share His level of life through the dimensions of eternity.

This Son and companion will be a divine spiritual being, born of God's express image, inheriting His Holy character and perfect nature of love.

So in ways we cannot know, the One God becomes the Father of a Son. And now, He is not only God, but also God the Father. And His only begotten Son is indeed, "...*the Son of God.*" *Daniel 3:25*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was



God. He was in the beginning with God. John 1:1-2

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of **the only begotten of the Father**, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

Very soon we shall see that from their spiritual relationship of Father and Son, comes forth the creation of the entire universe, teeming with life, even you and I.

God - the Father

God the Father is the original Father, the beginning of all fathers :

*"...I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, (Son of God) **from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named...**" Ephesians 3:14-15*

*"Have we not all **one Father**? Has not **one God** created us?" Malachi 2:10*

"A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows..." Psalm 68:5

In his fatherly role, God the Father is the loving caregiver; all life comes under his tender regard. And we can rest assured He will faithfully supply our daily needs.

"...casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7

Jesus, the Son of God, said this about His Father, and our Father:

"Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows." Matthew 10:29-31

"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

'Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

'Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

'So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

'Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

'Therefore do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?"

'For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and

all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:25-33

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

'Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!'" Matthew 7:7-11

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." James 1:17

With His compassionate love, God the Father encircles our human weaknesses, and draws us into a spiritual relationship of Father and child.

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1

This spiritual relationship of Father and child is the ultimate experience of life, an experience which comes to us through the Son of God, and His life of sacrifice. For He said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No-one comes to the Father except through Me.**"* John 14:6

The Son's Origins of Life

This is where we encounter our first cloud of turbulence. For some people believe the Son is not the literal divine Son of God, but merely a created being.

Others believe there is a Son of God, but at the same time, He is also God the Father, one person living two roles.

Still others believe God consists of three co-equal, self-existent persons blended as one God: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit - the triune God.

Yet another group of people believe the Son of God has existed only since the birth of Jesus Christ upon planet earth. They believe in the triune God, and that one of the three persons of God was nominated to become Jesus Christ, taking on the role of the Son of God.

Others flatly deny the Son's existence, believing that Jesus Christ was only a good Man teaching His own philosophies and theories about life.

And so the list may well continue.

We now face two questions: Do we want to know the truth about the Son of God? And can we know the truth? Well, the answer to the last question is absolutely, Yes.



From the Holy Bible, God's inspired word, we can piece together the life record of the Son of God, which declares and confirms that His life does indeed originate from God, His Father.

And we also learn, that at a predestined time, the Son of God was begotten again, through a blend of divinity with humanity. Thus He became, "...*Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*" *Mark 1:1*, and, "... *the Son of Man...*" *Luke 9:56*.

This dual life, as Son of God and Son of Man, is the pivoting point of the most important rescue mission ever launched in the universe.

As we continue our quest for true knowledge, we shall see the Son's magnificent life and mission unfold before our eyes.

But now it is our very great privilege to meet the Son of God, and become acquainted with His origins of Life.

The Son's Birth Certificate - Son of God

All lower life forms in the universe have their beginnings by creation. But the Son of God is Unique, He is His Father's natural-birth Son, conceived by His Father's divinity and born through His Father's Spirit of immortal life.

*"Yet I have set My King
On My holy hill of Zion."
"I will declare the decree:
The LORD has said to Me,
'You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.'" Psalm 2:6-7
"For to which of the angels did He ever say:
'You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You'?
And again:
'I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son' "?
Hebrews 1:5-8
"... the Son of God." Daniel 3:25*

*"Jesus said to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love Me, **for I proceeded forth and came from God**; nor have I come of Myself, but **He sent Me.**'" John 8:42*

"As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me." John 6:57

"Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, **the Son of the Father**, in truth and love." 2 John 3

"...**He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son**. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also." 1 John 2:20-23

"Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?
Who has gathered the wind in His fists?
Who has bound the waters in a garment?
Who has established all the ends of the earth?
What is His name, and what is His Son's name,
If you know?" Proverbs 30:4

"And this is **His commandment**: that we should believe on the name of **His Son** Jesus Christ..." 1 John 3:23

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God." 1 John 4:15

"Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that **Jesus is the Son of God**?" 1 John 5:5

Jesus said, "**I came forth from the Father** and have come into the world." John 16:28

"For **I have come down from heaven**, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who **sent Me**." John 6:38

"She (Martha) said to Him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, **the Son of God, who is to come into the world**.'" John 11:27

"And we have seen and testify that **the Father has sent the Son** as Savior of the world." 1 John 4:14

"For this purpose **the Son of God was manifested**, that He might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8

"For God did not **send His Son into the world** to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." John 3:17

"He who did not spare **His own Son, but delivered Him up** for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32

"When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, 'Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?' So they said, 'Some say John the



Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'

Simon Peter answered and said, '**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**'

Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but **My Father who is in heaven.**'" Matthew 16:13-17

"When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, '**This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**'" Matthew 3:16-17

"...I bow my knees to the **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, from whom the **whole family in heaven and earth** is named..." Ephesians 3:14-15

The Only Begotten Son of God

Angels and humans are sometimes called sons of God, but the Son of God is the Father's divine only begotten Son, the one and only Son of His kind.

"No one has seen God at any time. The **only begotten Son**, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." John 1:18

"In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His **only begotten Son** into the world, that we might live through Him..." 1 John 4:9

"For God so loved the world that He gave His **only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life..." John 3:16

The three texts above are all from the New Testament, originally written in the language of ancient Greek. The key word is "*begotten*." And for help we turn to the Strongs Concordance, where we learn the Greek word for "*begotten*," in the three texts above, is the word "*monogenes*:"

3439 **monogenes**, *mon-og-en-ace*; from 3441 and 1096; *only-born*, i.e. *sole*:
- only (begotten, child).

Yes, "*monogenes*" means "only born," "only begotten," and "only child."

Truly, God's only begotten Son is the divine essence of His Father's life.

The Son is the Express Image of His Father

Man was originally created in God's image and likeness, but the Son of God was begotten in God's express image, receiving His Father's *exact* imprint in personage and Spirit.

*"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, **being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person...**" Hebrews 1:1-3*

*"...He is **the image** of the invisible God..." Colossians 1:15*

The Son of His Father's Love

The Son of God is born of His Father's love, a love which flows deep as a river of life throughout the boundless universe.

*"...The only begotten Son, who is **in the bosom of the Father...**" John 1:18*

*" 'Father... You loved Me **before the foundation of the world.** '" John 17:24*

*"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of **the Son of His love...**" Colossians 1:13*

*"For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: '**This is My beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased.' And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain." 2 Peter 1:16-18*

*" 'Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen,
My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!'" Matthew 12:18*

*"**The Father loves the Son**, and has given all things into His hand." John 3:35*

The Firstborn of Life

Born of His Father's divine substance, the Son of God is the firstborn of life. *He is the image of the invisible God, **the firstborn over all creation.*** Colossians 1:13-17

*"For to which of the angels did He (the Father) ever say:
'You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You'?"*



And again:
'I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son'?
But when He again brings **the firstborn** into the world, He says:
'Let all the angels of God worship Him...' Hebrews 1:5-7

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the **firstborn** who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect..." Hebrews 12:22-23

And not only is the Son of God the firstborn, He is the one and only being born in the universe, who has not originated by creation.

Begotten from the Beginning, Before all Creation

We have learned that people have different beliefs about the Son of God and His beginnings. Yet when we search the scriptures, the truth becomes absolutely clear that:

God the Father begot His Son before the creation of time and the universe;
The Son of God is the firstborn over all creation; and,
Through His Son, the Father created the universe, with galaxies, solar systems, planet worlds and life forms.

Shall we examine the evidence, highlighted in the following texts?

"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, **has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds...**" Hebrews 1:1-2

"...God who **created all things through Jesus Christ...**" Ephesians 3:9

"...the **Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father**, in truth and love..." 2 John 3

"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, **the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created** that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.**" Colossians 1:13-17

Yes, God the Father created the universe through His Son, and as co-Creator with His Father, the Son created all things.

Therefore the Son was and is, "...before all things..." "...the firstborn over all creation..."

Now let us turn to the book of Proverbs in the Old Testament of the Bible, to read the Son's own testimony that He was begotten in the beginning, and before all things.

Proverbs, chapter eight is an allegory about "*the excellence of wisdom*." And where does wisdom originate from? God, the Originator of Life. For He is the fountain of wisdom, and thus wisdom flows through His Son's life.

"...Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God..." 1 Corinthians 1:30

"...Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God." 1 Corinthians 1:24

As with all allegories, the words in chapter eight have a deeper meaning than we may understand at the first reading. And in Proverbs 8:22-30, the deeper meaning is about the life of God's Son. For these beautiful poetic words are the Son of God speaking of Himself.

*"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. **I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.***

*When there were no depths, **I was brought forth**; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills **was I brought forth** :While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.*

*When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: **Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him...**" Proverbs 8:22-30 KJV*

"Come near to Me, hear this:

*I have not spoken in secret **from the beginning;**
From the time that it was, I was there...." Isaiah 48:16*

*"**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.**" John 1:1-2*

*"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of **the only begotten of the Father**, full of grace and truth." John 1:14*

*"**That which was from the beginning**, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning*



*the **Word of life—the life was manifested**, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you **that eternal life which was with the Father** and was manifested to us— that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship **is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.**" 1 John 1:1-3*

Truly, the divine relationship of Father and Son existed before the creation of all things. To believe Their relationship has *not* existed from the beginning of time, is to tear away the very heart and soul of their existence as Father and Son, throughout all creation.

For in reality, it is *because of* the Father and Son relationship, and *through* the Father and Son relationship that the universe was created and continues to exist.

*"Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: 'Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, **I have glorified You on the earth.** I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You **before the world was.**'" John 17:1-5*

*"...**He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.** Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also."*
1 John 2:20-23

The Father gave us His Son before Creation of Earth

Now at this point in our journey, we shall explore the wonder that from the beginning of the Father and Son relationship, God the Father gave us His Son, to save us from sin and everlasting death.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

"God so loved the world..." that is, God the Father loved each and every one of us so much, that "...He gave His only begotten Son..."

"He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all..." Romans 8:32

This giving from the Father did not commence with His Son's earthly birth in the stable at Bethlehem as some people believe, nor even at His Son's earthly conception in Mary's womb.

The Bible clearly states, God the Father gave His only begotten Son, as a Saviour to mankind, *before* time began and thus before planet earth was even created.

"Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner,

*but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus **before time began**, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel..."* 2 Timothy 1:8-10

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as **He (The Father) chose us in Him (the Son) before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before Him (The Father) in love, **having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself**, (The Father) according to the good pleasure of His will..."* Ephesians 1:3-5

Yes, even "**before time began**" and "**...before the foundation of the world...**" God the Father chose us, to become His adopted earthly children, through the redeeming life of His Son. For the Father knew all things then, as now. He knew human life on planet earth would be separated from God by committing wrong.

Thus, even before the beginning of time and the creation of our world, the Son of God was foreordained to become the sacrificial, "*...Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*" John 1:29

*"... as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was **foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you."* Peter 1:19-20

Existence of the Son of God declared in Old Testament

King Nebuchadnezzar ruled the empire of Babylon in Old Testament times, many hundreds of years before the birth of Jesus Christ on planet earth. Eventually, Nebuchadnezzar came to believe in the one and only true God. And he also acknowledged the Father and Son relationship existed way back then. For we read:

"And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, 'Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?' They answered and said to the king, 'True, O king.'

*'Look!' he answered, 'I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, **and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.**'"* Daniel 3:23-25

In the Old Testament, there are more references to the Son of God's existence.



*"Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?
Who has gathered the wind in His fists?
Who has bound the waters in a garment?
Who has established all the ends of the earth?
What is His name, and what is His Son's name,
If you know?" Proverbs 30:4*

Once more we hear the Son's declaration of His spiritual relationship with His Father:

"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

*When there were no depths, **I was brought forth**; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth :While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.*

*When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: **Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him...**" Proverbs 8:22-30 KJV*

*"Come near to Me, hear this:
I have not spoken in secret from the beginning;
From the time that it was, I was there..." Isaiah 48:16*

And two New Testament writers talk about the Son of God's omnipresent power being active on earth throughout Old Testament times.

The apostle Paul tells us that Christ was the Spiritual power who guided and sustained the Israelite nation through their 40 years of wilderness wandering.

*"Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. **For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.**" 1 Corinthians 10:1-4*

***"...Jesus Christ, the Son of God."** Mark 1:1*

And the apostle Peter states, *"...the Spirit of Christ..."* inspired Old Testament prophets to give the message of God's salvation to humanity.

*"Of this salvation **the prophets** have inquired and searched carefully, who proph-*

esied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, **the Spirit of Christ who was in them** was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow." 1 Peter 1:10-11

"...Jesus Christ, the Son of God." Mark 1:1

The Son, Born the Second Time

And now in the inspired words of an Old Testament prophet, we hear the Father's voice speaking of His Son's future life on earth.

*"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among the thousands of Judah,
**Yet out of you shall come forth to Me
The One to be Ruler in Israel,
Whose goings forth are from of old,
From everlasting.**"* Micah 5:2

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

And so at the appointed time *"...the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.*

And having come in, the angel said to her, 'Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!'

But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.

Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

'And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.

'He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

'And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.'

Then Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I do not know a man?'

And the angel answered and said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.'" Luke. 1:26-35



Yes, in His human life the Son would still be the Son of God. Thus the angel instructed Mary, " *'...**that Holy One** who is to be born will be called **the Son of God.**'*"

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

'And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.'

*So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, '**God with us.**'"* Matthew 1:18-23

*" '**God with us.**'" in the life of the "...**Son of God...**" Mark 1:1, and "...**Son of Man...**" Mark 2:28, divinity blended with humanity.*

Close Bond between Father and Son

The close bond between Father and Son, spans space and time, connecting heaven to earth, revealing God to man.

"No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." John 1:18

The Son of God said " 'All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.'" Matthew 11:27

"Jesus said...'He who has seen Me has seen the Father..." John 14:9

"I and My Father are one." John 10:30

Yes, Father and Son are two individual persons, yet together They blend in one essence and purpose of life.

" 'As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father..." John 10:15

The Son's Life is Immortal, Eternal, Everlasting

God the Father is *the* living essence of immortality, *the* source of endless life.

"...He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen." Timothy 6:15-16

The Son of God inherited His Father's immortality and so, in living essence the Son is eternal, just as His Father is eternal.

"For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself." John 5:26

But what of created life? Did we humans, for example, ever have endless life, like God the Father and His Son? Yes. But with a difference. God is the living essence of immortality, He generates immortality from within Himself. Therefore He is not subject to death at all.

On the other hand, humans and other beings, were given immortality as a gift when they were created.

As long as created beings chose to live within the boundaries of God's laws, those laws which promote life, they would keep the gift of immortality. But if they chose to step over the boundary and break their Creator's laws, then they would lose immortality and become subject to the process of death.

Why were these limitations necessary? Because if created beings chose to do wrong, yet remained immortal, then evil itself would be immortalised, corrupting the universe.

So we clearly see, choosing to do right brings good consequences, and choosing to do wrong brings bad consequences.

Thus for their own safety, and the safety of the entire universe, God explained to His created beings that the gift of endless life would be lost if they chose to turn away from Him and commit wrong. Choosing to do wrong would bring evil and death.

" 'See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil...' " Deuteronomy 30:15

" '... if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.' " Matthew 19:17

"Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life..." Revelation 22:14

Yes, the gift of eternal life bound created beings to God's immortality. If they chose to step over the boundary and do wrong, then they would be separated from God's immortality, and the natural consequence would be the loss of their own eternal life. Thus, the destiny of created beings lay in their own choices for life.



We do know that some of God's created beings, including the first humans, decided to turn away from Him and commit wrong. And so, with great sadness, God let the gift of eternal life slip away from the beings who had sinned. In the place of eternal life, those beings received a limited life span, a life which ends in everlasting death.

This is where we see God's greatest love for His created beings on planet earth. For by giving up His one and only precious begotten Son, there was an opportunity for humanity to once again receive the gift of eternal life.

And joining his Father in selfless love for us, the Son gave up His immortality. Incredible! He chose to subject Himself to the process of man's eternal death.

"Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father." John 10:17-18

Dying in our place, the Son of God paid the death penalty for our sins.

"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies **we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.**" Romans 5:6-10*

Yes, dying our death, the Son of God won back our lost immortality, that we might have an opportunity to live forever.

"And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life." John 5:20

"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." John 17:1-3

"And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son." 1 John 5:11

"Jesus spoke these words, lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said: 'Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.'" John 17:1-2

In His Divine Life, the Son is God

As human children, you and I inherited our parents' genes of humanity. So the Son of God inherited His Father's divinity, which makes Him God, as in the Son of God.

*"In the beginning was the Word, (the Son of God) and the Word was with God, **and the Word was God.** He was in the beginning with God." John 1:1*

Similar to a human relationship between father and son, God the Father is first, before the Son. And the Son is second, after the Father.

By birthright, a human child inherits his or her father's surname or family name. In the same way, the Son inherited His Father's divine title, so He is called the Son of God.

*"...who, **being in the form of God,** did not consider it robbery to be **equal with God...**" Philippians 2:6*

*"For it pleased the Father that **in Him all the fullness should dwell...**" Colossians 1:19*

God the Father shares all with His Son. And with that equality and sharing, comes authority and great responsibility.

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.'" Matthew 28:18

"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne." Revelation 3:21

Yes, in union with His Father, the Son holds the scepter of power and authority.

"But to the Son He (the Father) says:

'Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;

A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.'" Hebrews 1:8

God the Father is His Son's God

To the Son of God, His Father is God - first and foremost.

"You (the Son) have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;

Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You

With the oil of gladness more than Your companions (angels)." Hebrews 1:9

"And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?'" Matthew 27:46



*"Jesus said to her, 'Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, "I am ascending to **My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.**" ' "*John 20:17

*" 'He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of **My God**, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name." Revelation 3:12*

*"...and has made us kings and priests to **His God and Father...**" Revelation 1:6*

*"Now when all things are made subject to Him, **then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him** who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all." 1 Corinthians 15:28*

*"But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and **the head of Christ is God.**" 1 Corinthians 11:3*

The Son of God said, "...My Father is greater than I..." John 14:28

"...there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things..." 1 Corinthians 8:6

"...one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:6

*"...glorify **the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**" Romans 15:6*

"The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever..." 2 Corinthians 11:31

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort..." 2 Corinthians 1:33

"We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..." Colossians 1:3

Father and Son's Divinity make up the Godhead

God the Father and His Son are the only divine Personalities in the universe, and Their personalities blend through the, "...divine nature..." 2 Peter 1:4.

Through Their spiritual relationship, They form the "...Godhead..." Romans 1:20, the governing body of the universe.

*"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, **even His eternal power and Godhead...**" Romans 1:20*

*"Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. **For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily**; and you are complete in Him, **who is the head of all principality and power.**" Colossians 2:8-10*

*"Yours, O LORD, is the greatness,
The power and the glory,
The victory and the majesty;
For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours;
Yours is the kingdom, O LORD,
And You are exalted as head over all."
1 Chronicles 29:11*

Father and Son share One Spirit of Life

On our journey for true knowledge, we have discovered that God the Father is the original Spirit Being, for, *"God is a Spirit..." John 4:24 KJV*

"...the God of the spirits of all flesh..." Numbers 16:22

"...the Father of spirits..." Hebrews 12:9

And, *"'God is Spirit..." John 4:24*

The essence of His total life is Spirit.

His conscious being functions through Spirit.

His entire personality is Spiritual.

God's Spirit is the living essence of who He is.

".. if He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath..." Job 34:14-15

When God's mouth speaks, His Spirit speaks.

When His Spirit listens, God's ears listen.

When God's heart wells with emotion, His Spirit reaches out in spiritual touch.

Yes, God's Spirit is His extended life in presence, power and influence.

Thus, when the Son was begotten by God the Father, He inherited His Father's Spirit of life.

"...the breath of life from God..." Revelation 11:11

"...the Spirit of God..." Romans 15:19

"...the eternal Spirit..." Hebrews 9:14



"...the Holy Spirit of God..." Ephesians 4:30

"...the Spirit of your Father ..." Matthew 10:20

And like His Father, the Son in living essence is the Spirit.

*"...the Lord **is the Spirit**..." 2 Corinthians 3:17*

*"...God has sent forth **the Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Galatians 4:6*

*"...the Spirit of life **in** Christ Jesus..." Romans 8:2*

"...the Spirit of Christ..." 1 Peter 1:11

Yes Father and Son retain their two distinct personalities, yet share one and the same Spirit of life.

"...one and the same Spirit ..." 1 Corinthians 12:11

*"For through Him (the Son) we... have access by **one Spirit** to the Father." Ephesians 2:18*

Just as the oceans of our world are joined together by one vast source of water, so the Father and Son are joined together by one vast source of Spirit.

And so, the Son of God said, " *I and My Father are one.*" John 10:30

One in mind and thought, one in purpose of life, one through one Spirit, *"...the Spirit of God..." Romans 15:19, "...the Spirit of His Son..." Galatians 4:6*

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:4-6

Thus in spiritual essence, Father and Son live through One Spirit of life, and this One Spirit permeates the universe, giving life to all creation.

"...God who gives life to all things..." 1 Timothy 6:13

*"If He should set His heart on it,
If He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath,
All flesh would perish together,
And man would return to dust." Job 34:14-15
"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD!" Psalm 150:6*

Father's & Son's Spiritual Presence & Spiritual Power upon Earth

From the beginning of our world and throughout the generations of human life, even to our day, God the Father and Son have manifested or given Their Spirit presence in various ways.

Upon earth's creation, God's Spirit was present in power:

*"The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And **the Spirit of God was hovering** over the face of the waters." Genesis 1:2*

When humanity began to multiply on the earth and the majority turned away from God, *"...the LORD said, '**My Spirit shall not strive** with man forever..."* Genesis 6:3

To the Israelites living in the wilderness for 40 years, *"...You also gave **Your good Spirit to instruct them...**"* Nehemiah 9:20

By His Spirit, God sent His prophets to give His messages to mankind. *"'And now the Lord GOD and **His Spirit Have sent Me.**'"* Isaiah 48:16

*"Then the **Spirit of the LORD** fell upon me, and said to me, '**Speak!**'"* *"Thus says the LORD.""* Ezekiel 11:5

God the Father and Son pour out their Spirit upon humanity.

*"For I will pour water on him who is thirsty,
And floods on the dry ground;
I will pour My Spirit on your descendants,
And My blessing on your offspring..."* Isaiah 44:3

*"And it shall come to pass afterward
That **I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh**"* Joel 2:28

"Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear." Acts 2:33

God puts His Spirit within us. *"Where is He who **put His Holy Spirit within them...**"* Isaiah 63:11

*"**I will put My Spirit within you** and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them." Ezekiel 36:27*

And God puts His Spirit upon us. *"'As for Me,' says the LORD, 'this is My covenant with them: **My Spirit who is upon you...**'"* Isaiah 59:21

To Samson, the strongest man who has ever lived, *"...the Spirit of the LORD **came mightily upon him...**"* Judges 14:6

The Spirit is God's power, *"...in mighty signs and wonders, by **the power of the***



Spirit of God... "Romans 15:19

*"But truly **I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD...**" Micah 3:8*

God's Spirit demonstrates His power; the apostle Paul said,

*"...my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but **in demonstration of the Spirit and of power...**" 1 Corinthians 2:4*

Father and Son baptise with their Spirit power." *'And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, "John indeed baptized with water, **but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit...**"' Acts 11:15-16*

God's Spirit is His gift to humanity.. *"Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; **and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**"' Acts 2:38*

The Father's and Son's divine Spirit connects with our human spirit. *"But he who is joined to the Lord **is one spirit with Him.**" 1 Corinthians 6:17*

Through their Spirit, Father and Son speak to our minds, *"...and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, Was returning, and sitting in his chariot reading Esaias the prophet. **Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.**" Acts 8:27-29 KJV*

God leads us by His Spirit. *"For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.**" Romans 8:14*

And so we see that God the Father and Son distribute Their Spirit far and wide, in us and around us, for the benefit of all, *"...**the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all...**" 1 Corinthians 12:7*

Symbols of God's Spirit

If God appeared to us in the fullness of His divine Person, we would instantly die. His glory would be too overwhelming and intense for our fragile human minds, bodies and spirits.

In the Bible, we read how Moses once asked to see the Lord's glory, during a meeting upon Mount Sinai.

"And he said, 'Please, show me Your glory.' Then He said, 'I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have

compassion.' But He said, 'You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.' And the LORD said, 'Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.'" Exodus 33:18-23

And so, on rare occasions God clothes His Spirit presence with a supernatural symbol, that humans might see a representation of Him, and still live.

In one of the most famous examples of this symbolism, the Father's Spirit presence descended upon His Son in the shape of a dove.

*"When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw **the Spirit of God descending like a dove** and alighting upon Him.*

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'" Matthew 3:16-17

At another special time, after Jesus' returned to heaven, God's Spirit presence was manifested through the symbols of wind and tongues of fire. Let us read what happened, when 120 people were gathered in the upper room of a house, earnestly praying in expectation of a great communication from God.

"And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:3-4

And again, we read about a famous occasion in the Old Testament when God revealed His presence, "...in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush."

"Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.' So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.'" Exodus 3:1-4



A Question of Personalities

Warning: We are approaching another bout of turbulence.

For some people believe the Holy Spirit of God has a personality, or is a Spirit person similar to God the Father and His Son.

In other words, some people believe the Holy Spirit is a third person of God. They believe God consists of three persons blended as one God, called the "trinity."

However, God's inspired word soundly demonstrates that God the Father and His Son, are **the only two divine Spirit persons** in the universe.

And They are the divine Spirit in totality.

"God is a Spirit..." John 4:24 KJV " 'God is Spirit...' John 4:24

"...God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!'" Galatians 4:6

"...Now the Lord is that Spirit..." 2 Corinthians 3:17 KJV

"...the Lord is the Spirit..." 2 Corinthians 3:17

The Spirit of Father and Son carries Their personalities in vital living force, in presence, power and influence, and bearing the spiritual fruits of love, goodness, righteousness, faithfulness and Holiness.

"...for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth..." Ephesians 5:9

"...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness..." Galatians 5:22

And the Spirit of Father and Son enfolds and unfolds Their personalities in intellect, understanding, knowledge, wisdom, counsel and holy works.

*"The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD." Isaiah 11:2*

" 'And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship...' Exodus 31:3

So we see the Holy Spirit is the very essence of Father and Son.

Let us now look at a series of texts which clearly state the Holy Spirit is of the Father and Son, and in Them and from Them. In truth, God the Father and His Son *are* the Spirit in life and name.

"God is a Spirit..." John 4:24 KJV " 'God is Spirit...' " John 4:24

" the God of the spirits of all flesh..." Numbers 16:22

"...the **Father** of spirits..." Hebrews 12:9

" '...for it is not you who speak, but the **Spirit of your Father** who speaks in you.' "
Matthew 10:20

"When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, 'Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.' And when He had said this, **He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'**" John 20:20-22

"Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where **the Spirit of the Lord** is, there is liberty."
2 Corinthians 3:17

"And so it is written, 'The first man Adam became a living being.' The last Adam became **a life-giving spirit**....The first man was of the earth, made of dust; **the second Man is the Lord from heaven.**" 1 Corinthians 15:45-47

"And because you are sons, **God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Galatians 4:6

"For through **Him** we both have access by **one Spirit** to the Father." Ephesians 2:18

"For the law of the **Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** has made me free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:2

"...that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through **His Spirit** in the inner man, that **Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**..." Ephesians 3:16-17

Jesus said " 'It is the **Spirit who gives life**; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are **spirit, and they are life**.'" John 6:63

"Now **the Lord is that Spirit**: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."
2 Corinthians 3:17 KJV

And again "**...the Lord is the Spirit**..." 2 Corinthians 3:17

"So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but **in the Spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he is not His.

And if **Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the **Spirit is life** because of righteousness. But if the **Spirit of Him** who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies



through **His Spirit** who dwells in you." Romans 8:8-11

"By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of **His Spirit**." 1 John 4:13

"There is one body and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:4-6

Now, the texts above, Ephesians 4:4-6, bring us to an obvious conclusion: As there is only, "**one Spirit**," and only, "**one God and Father of all**," and, "**God is a Spirit**.." John 4:24 KJV, the "**...Father of spirits**..." Hebrews 12:9, then surely the Spirit can only originate from God the Father.

And because the Father is His Son's origin of life, like His Father, "**...the Lord is the Spirit**..." 2 Corinthians 3:17

"**...God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!'" Galatians 4:6

"**...the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus....**" Romans 8:2

"**...the Spirit of Christ who was in them...**" 1 Peter 1:11

Therefore, the biblical evidence clearly states, the Holy Spirit is the Father's and Son's Spiritual Personality, the Spirit essence of Their Total Being.

The Holy Spirit is not, and cannot be, a fragmented Spirit person, living a separate life from God the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ. And certainly, the Holy Spirit is not a fragmented Spirit person, living in the Father and His Son.

Whom do we Worship?

You may well ask the question, does it really make a difference how we view God?

Well yes, if you want to know whom you worship.

If you accept the view that the Holy Spirit is the Father's and Son's spiritual Personalities, Life Force and Power, then you worship God the Father and His Son.

But if you believe the Holy Spirit is a third person of God, in a "trinity," then you worship not only the Father and Son, but also the Holy Spirit as an individual person.

On another journey, in another book, "*The King and His Son - Book 1 The Beginnings*", we will meet the evil angel Satan, who long ago declared war against God and God's rulership in the universe.

*"For you have said in your heart:
'I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
I will be like the Most High.'" Isaiah 14:13-14*

In cunning ways, Satan has infiltrated our world and even Christianity. By mingling error with some truth, he has spread false teachings to deceive the innocent.

We now confront three vital questions.

Has Satan, by false teachings, tried to make the Spirit of God appear as a person, thus setting up a phantom object of worship in the Godhead?

Is Satan trying to draw our minds away from the unique relationship of the Father and Son, by personifying the Holy Spirit and manifesting his own spirit?

Thus are we unwittingly worshipping Satan as a false god, within a false trinity?

In the first and second commandments of God's law, God commands us: *"You shall have no other gods before Me."* Exodus 20:3

"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them..." Exodus 20:4-5

This is how Jesus Christ, the Son of God, explained the first commandment when a scribe questioned him:

"Then Jesus answered him, 'The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment.'" Mark 12:29-32

Yes, God the Father is to be the focal point of our worship.

*" ' Stand up and bless the LORD your God
Forever and ever!
Blessed be Your glorious name,
Which is exalted above all blessing and praise!
You alone are the LORD;
You have made heaven,
The heaven of heavens, with all their host,
The earth and everything on it,
The seas and all that is in them,
And You preserve them all.
The host of heaven worships You.'" Nehemiah 9:5-6*



*"Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!
Tremble before Him, all the earth." Psalm 96:9*

Yet at the same time, the Father commands us to worship His Son also, for the Son of God is the divine essence of God, His Father.

*"For to which of the angels did He ever say:
'You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You'?
And again:
'I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son'?
But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says:
'Let all the angels of God worship Him.'" Hebrews 1:5-6*

*"Then those who were in the boat (disciples) **came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God.'**" Matthew 14:33*

*"And He led them (disciples) out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. **And they worshiped Him**, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen." Luke 24:50-53*

*"Therefore God has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, **that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth**, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:9-11*

Therefore, we must conclude, in all the universe, there are only two Persons we are commanded to worship - God, the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Nowhere in the Bible are we commanded to worship a person called the Holy Spirit.

If we follow Jesus' example when He was tempted by the devil in the wilderness, we shall be kept from Satan's illusions.

"Jesus said to him, 'It is written again, "You shall not tempt the LORD your God."'"

*Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, '**All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.**'*

*Then Jesus said to him, '**Away with you, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve."**' " Matthew 4:7-10*

Not a Being but the Spirit of a Being

As we investigate the word "spirit" in the Bible, a fascinating truth begins to form.

For throughout the Bible, text after text clearly states that a spirit *belongs* to a being. A spirit is *not* an entity in its own right, as a person. Let us continue our investigation.

You may be aware the Bible was originally written in two languages, the Old Testament in ancient Hebrew/Aramaic and the New Testament in ancient Greek.

With this in mind, let us turn to the Greek word "pneuma" used throughout the New Testament, which we read in English as the word, "spirit."

The Greek word "pneuma" comes from the primary word, "pneo" meaning to breathe hard, as a breeze blows.

"Pneuma," illustrates the likeness of a breeze, to the spirit of a being. In other words, the spirit of a being is like a breeze and has no physical substance, and yet this "breeze" belongs to a being.

Thus, "pneuma" means the breath of a being, the spirit of a being. "Pneuma" does not mean a being.

4151 **pneuma**, pnyoo'-mah; from 4154; a current of air, i.e. *breath* (blast) or a *breeze*; by analogy or figuratively a *spirit* i.e. (human) the rational soul, (by implication) *vital principle*, mental disposition, etc, or (superhuman) an angel, demon, or (divine) God, Christ's *spirit*, the Holy Spirit: - ghost, life, spirit (-ual, -ually), mind. Comp 5590 (*Reference: The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible by James Strong, LLD, STD. Published by Thomas Nelson Publishers 1995-1996 edition.*)

Now let's dig deeper into the Bible, and discover something even more surprising about the word "pneuma."

The word "pneuma" is used throughout the New Testament to describe all kinds of spirits, or spirit essences of different beings, such as the Spirit of God the Father and His Son, the spirits of human beings, the spirits of angels, even evil spirits and demons.

Table One (next page) shows a sample of texts using the word "pneuma" from the New Testament.



Table One			
Text Reference New Testament	Example of Texts using the word "spirit"	Greek word	Ref No*
John 4:24 KJV	"God is a Spirit..."	pneuma	4151
John 4:24	"God is Spirit..."	pneuma	4151
Romans 8:14	"...the Spirit of God..."	pneuma	4151
1 Thessalonians 4:8	"...His Holy Spirit."	pneuma	4151
Romans 8:9	"...the Spirit of Christ..."	pneuma	4151
Romans 1:4	"...spirit of holiness..."	pneuma	4151
John 15:26	"...the Spirit of truth..."	pneuma	4151
Romans 8:16	"...with our spirit..."	pneuma	4151
Hebrews 1:7	"...makes His angels spir- its..."	pneuma	4151
Revelation 16:14	"...spirits of demons..."	pneuma	4151
Luke 11:24	"...an unclean spirit..."	pneuma	4151
Acts 19:16	"the evil spirit."	pneuma	4151
*The number reference as given in the Greek Dictionary of "The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible" by James Strong, LLD, STD. Published by Thomas Nelson Publishers 1995-1996 edition.			

And what about the word "spirit" in the Old Testament? The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew and a little Aramaic. So let's see what surprises are in store for us in this ancient language.

"Rûwach," the Hebraic word for "spirit," is used throughout the Old Testament. As with the Greek word "pneuma," "rûwach" is used to describe the "breath," or the spirit of a wide variety of different beings. In fact, the Hebrew word "rûwach," describes the functions of "spirit" even better than the Greek word "pneuma." But of course, Hebraic was the original and only language with words to fully describe the mysteries, power and majesty of God.

7307 **rûwach**, roo'-akh; from 7306; wind; by resemblance *breath*, i.e. a sensible (or even violent) exhalation; figuratively *life, anger, unsubstantiality*; by extension a *region* of the sky; by resemblance *spirit*, but only of a rational being (including its expression and functions): -air, anger, blast, breath... (Ref. *ibid*)

Table Two (next page) shows examples of Old Testament texts, using the word "rûwach."

Table Two			
Text Reference Old Testament	Example of Texts using the word "spirit"	Greek word	Ref No*
Genesis 1:2	"...the Spirit of God..."	rûwach	7307
Psalms 143:10	"...You are my God; Your Spirit is good."	rûwach	7307
Job 27:3 KJV	"...the spirit of God is in my nos- trils..."	rûwach	7307
Proverbs 18:14	"...The spirit of a man..."	rûwach	7307
Ecclesiastes 3:21	"...the spirit of the sons of men..."	rûwach	7307
Ecclesiastes 3:21	"...the spirit of the animal..."	rûwach	7307
Ezekiel 1:20	"...the spirit of the living crea- tures..."	rûwach	7307
Numbers 16:22	"...spirits of all flesh..."	rûwach	7307
*The reference number as given in the Greek Dictionary of "The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible" by James Strong, LLD, STD. Published by Thomas Nelson Publishers 1995- 1996 edition.			

So we have learned the original Bible manuscript words, "pneuma" (Greek) and "rûwach" (Hebrew), translated into the English word "spirit," refer to the *spirit* of a being, not *a* being. And we have also learned the words "pneuma," and "rûwach," are used to describe the spirits belonging to all kinds of beings.

But nowhere in the Bible, either in Greek or Hebrew, is there a specific or special word for a separate being called the Holy Spirit.

Thus we can rightly conclude that the Holy Spirit, as written in the Bible, refers to the Father's and Son's Divine Spirit, and not to a being or person called the Holy Spirit.

"He" and "Him" the Spirit of the Father and Son

In the New Testament book of John, chapters 14, 15 and 16, we find a small number of texts referring to the Holy Spirit as, "He" and "Him."

Now interestingly, these texts and chapters unfold a conversation between Jesus and His disciples. In fact, Jesus was doing most of the talking.

Jesus knew that soon He was going to be crucified and afterward rise from the dead. After returning to heaven briefly, He would come back to earth and spend 40 precious days with His disciples. Then He must leave them and return to heaven again.



In three short years, a close bond of companionship had formed between Jesus and His disciples, and so He sought to prepare them for the coming ordeal. Jesus explained that soon He must return to heaven, yet this would not be an end to their spiritual relationship. For Jesus promised to come back to them in His Spirit presence.

"...the Lord is the Spirit..." 2 Corinthians 3:17

And so, in His conversation, Jesus referred to His Spirit presence as Himself. Comforting His disciples, Jesus said to them, " '...I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, (Comforter KJV) that **He** may abide with you forever—**the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees **Him** nor knows Him; but you know Him, for **He dwells with you** and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; **I (in Spirit) will come to you.**' " John 14:16-18

Yes, Jesus said " I am going away but, " "**...I will come to you...**"

And how would He come to them?

In His Spirit presence, as the Spirit of truth. For Jesus is the living essence of truth, and He is the Spirit in life.

Jesus said, " '...I am the way, **the truth**, and the life...' " John 14:6

And it is written, "**...the Lord is the Spirit...**" 2 Corinthians 3:17

Did you notice how Jesus said, "**...the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees **Him** nor knows Him; but you know Him, for **He dwells with you and will be in you.**"?

Yes, Jesus was referring to Himself when He said, "**...but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.**"

Quite simply, Jesus was saying to His disciples, "I am the Spirit of truth and you know me for I have been with you and I am with you now. Soon I must go away. But I will return to you in my Spirit presence, and abide in your lives."

"...the Spirit of Christ who was in them..." 1 Peter 1:11

Now some time after Jesus spoke with His disciples, one of His disciples, John, recorded the conversation in the book bearing his name, "The Gospel According to John."

To capture the profound truth that Jesus Himself would return to them in His Spirit presence, the writer (whether John himself or an employed scribe) used the Greek word, "autos."

The Collins English dictionary (1987 edition) tells us the Greek word "autos," means "self." When we study the Strong's Concordance, Greek Dictionary of the New

Testament, number 846, we find a broader, fuller meaning.

For the word "autos" can also mean "it," "itself," "him," "himself," "her," "herself," "oneself," "my own" "self-same," "myself," "yourselves," "theirs," "themselves."

Thus the word "autos," was used to indicate that Jesus Himself would be returning in His Spirit presence.

*"...for **He dwells with you** and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; **I will come to you.**" John 14:18*

Centuries later, when the Greek manuscripts were translated into English, the translators faced the difficult task of transcribing the broad meaning of "autos," into English words. And so to capture the Father's and Son's Spirit presence, it appears the translators chose the pronouns, "He," and "Him."

Jesus' promise to return to earth in His Spirit presence, heralded the dawning of a new era.

For when Jesus returned to earth in His Spirit presence, He would have already died and risen to release us from sin and everlasting death. With salvation guaranteed and delivered to us, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, the living presence of Jesus in Spirit, would be the transforming power in our lives. For,

*"... **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the **Spirit of the Lord.**" 2 Corinthians 3:17-18*

Yes, in His Spirit presence, "He," "autos," "Himself," "self same," "myself," Jesus, would abide in our lives as our risen, living Saviour. But this was not all, for Jesus went on to say,

*"...If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.**" John 14:23*

*"...the Helper, (Comforter KJV) the **Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in **My name**, **He** (Their Spirit) will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." John 14:26*

Through Their one combined Spirit presence, both Father and Son were coming to make Their home with us. This is a supernatural joining of Their divine Spirit with our human spirit.

"But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him." 1 Corinthians 6:17

Jesus said, *"At that day you will know that **I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.**" John 14:20*



And Jesus prayed to His Father: "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; **that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: **I in them, and You in Me**; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." John 17:20-23

"By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, **because He has given us of His Spirit.**" ¹ John 4:13

As Jesus continued His conversation, He spoke again of His nearing departure.

"You have heard Me say to you, **"I am going away and coming back to you.** If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, "I am going to the Father," for My Father is greater than I." John 14:28

"But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, "Where are You going?" But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to **your advantage that I go away**; for if I do not go away, the Helper (Comforter KJV) will not come to you; but if I depart, **I will send Him (My Spirit)** to you." John 16:5-7

Yes, Jesus told His sorrowing disciples that His return to heaven would actually be an advantage.

For if Jesus stayed on earth in His limited body presence, He could not be everywhere, with everyone. But if He went away to His Father, this would open the way for Him to return in His Spirit presence, and not only be with His disciples, but with every living person in the world. He could actually abide in every person's life as a spiritual Helper and Comforter, should they choose Him.

"But when the Helper (Comforter KJV) comes, whom I shall send to you **from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father**, He will testify of Me." John 15:26

So Jesus would send the *Spirit of truth* from the Father - the combined Spirit of Father and Son, certainly not a third spirit person called the Holy Spirit.

"...when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but **whatever He hears He will speak**; and He will tell you things to come.

'He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that **He will take of Mine** and declare it to you." John 16:13-15

*"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and **manifest Myself to him.**" John 14:21*

Supernaturally, through His Spirit presence, Jesus would manifest Himself to us, in truth and love. And through this miracle we become spiritually connected to Him and God the Father.

And so Jesus' prediction about His coming death came to pass: At an opportune time, His enemies seized Him, falsely accused Him, and nailed Him to a Roman cross. The blood of murder was upon their own hands.

"But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses." Acts 3: 14-15

Triumphant over His enemies, Jesus rose from the dead and returned to heaven to reunite with His Father. In heaven, He was glorified again. Then in body, He came back to earth to be with His disciples for 40 precious days.

As the 40 days drew to a close, the time arrived for Jesus to return to heaven. With parting assurance, Jesus said to His disciples,

*"...lo, I am with you **always.**" Matthew 28:20.* How? By His Spirit presence.

"...the Spirit of Christ who was in them..." 1 Peter 1:11

*"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, **I am there in the midst of them.**" Matthew 18:20.* How? Through His Spirit presence.

"...the Lord is the Spirit..." 2 Corinthians 3:17

"He" and "Him," Father's and Son's Essence and Presence

And now through the perspective of "He" and "Him," we shall look at a selection of Bible texts, gathered from the New Testament.

We have already viewed most of these texts in the section called, "A Question of Personalities." So why look at them again? Because these are the texts which clearly state that the Spirit is the living essence of the Father and Son. At the same time the texts show the words "He," and "Him," refer to Their Spirit presence.

"God is a Spirit..." John 4:24 KJV

"'God is Spirit..." John 4:24

*"...for it is not you who speak, but the **Spirit of your Father** who speaks in you." Matthew 10:20*



*"...The first man Adam became a living being. The last Adam became a **life-giving spirit**...The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the **second Man is the Lord from heaven.**" 1 Corinthians 15:45-47*

*"Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the **Spirit of the Lord.**" 2 Corinthians 3:17-18*

*"Now the **Lord is that Spirit**: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." 2 Corinthians 3:17 KJV*

*And Jesus said, "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. **The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.**" John 6:63*

Now we visit the rocky, desolate Isle of Patmos, and meet John, one of Jesus' close disciples. John, now an older man, was exiled to Patmos because of his belief in the Son of God.

There on that rocky outcrop of an island, the Son of God revealed future times and events to John. In turn, John wrote down the revelations, and this is the book in the Bible called, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ."

On that day, John was *"...in the Spirit..."* and was given seven special messages, *"...to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."* Revelation 1:11

Look who is giving the message to the church in Thyatira: "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, **"These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass."** Revelation 2:18

Each message to the remaining six churches are also given by the Son of God. And at the close of each message, the Son of God says, "He who has an ear, **let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**" Revelation 2:29

Notice how the names, "the Son of God," and "Spirit," are used interchangeably, as one entity.

*"Now **the Lord is the Spirit...**" 2 Corinthians 3:16*

*"...**the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus...**" Romans 8:2*

*"...And because you are sons, God has sent forth the **Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!'" Galatians 4:6*

*"For **through Him** we both have access by **one Spirit** to the Father." Ephesians 2:18*

"...one Spirit...one Lord...one God and Father of all, who is above all, and **through all, and in you all.**" Ephesians 4:4-6

"For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might **through His Spirit** in the inner man, **that Christ may dwell** in your hearts through faith..." Ephesians 3:14-17

"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that **the Spirit of God** dwells in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16

"...the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ..." Philippians 1:19

"...the Spirit of Christ who was in them..." 1 Peter 1:11

"So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the **Spirit of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he is not His.

And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

But if the **Spirit of Him** who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies **through His Spirit** who dwells in you." Romans 8:8-11

Once more, we see the Father's Spirit and the Son's Spirit are interchangeable, because they share the one and same Spirit of life.

"...one and the same Spirit works all these things..." 1 Corinthians 12:11

"...the Spirit of God..." Romans 15:19

"Then **the Spirit** said to Philip, 'Go near and overtake this chariot.' So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, 'Do you understand what you are reading?'

And he said, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him....Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, 'See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?' Then Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' And he answered and said, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.'

So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water,



the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing." Acts 8:29-39

We have now seen an extensive overview of the Father's and Son's Spirit presence.

Yet with all humility we must conclude, we humans do not have the capabilities to understand all the mysteries of God's Holy Spirit. And perhaps God does not intend us to understand all, in our limited lifetime here on planet earth.

However, God does intend us to gain a true understanding of the Holy Spirit, based on the knowledge He has provided in the Bible. Surely, we must go with the strongest evidence of truth.

Now in our quest for true knowledge, it is time to move on, and discover the real truth hidden behind the trinity. We can turn off the pathway and rest in tradition and error, or we can travel on and explore the deception of the trinity. Which will you choose?

The "trinity"

As we mentioned earlier, some people believe God is a trinity, consisting of three divine persons - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. "Three God's in one," the triune God.

But search as you may, you will **not** find the word "trinity" anywhere in the Bible.

Yet people say the form of the trinity is illustrated in the Bible, and often quote three biblical texts to give weight to their belief.

In the Name of the Holy Spirit

One of these three texts used to substantiate a belief in the trinity is found in Matthew chapter 28, when Jesus said to His disciples,

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

Some people say, "...in the name of...the Holy Spirit," identifies the Holy Spirit as a personage, in the same way we humans have an identifying name.

But names are not only used to identify people. For example, we give names, and sometimes names of people, to cities, towns, streets, houses, ships, cars, hurricanes, even plant varieties. Yet none of these are living personages or persons.

To continue the analogy, we have power which lights our homes, cooks our food and gives us warmth. We humans have given it a name, "electricity." In much the

same way, the name, "Holy Spirit" is the given name for the Father's and Son's Spirit presence; the power of Their lives.

And so baptizing "*...in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*" applies to their persons in heaven, and their Spirit power and presence upon earth.

Now we can take this a little further, for the command to, " *'Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'*" *Matthew 28:19*, was spoken by Jesus himself.

Forty days before He gave this command, an interesting encounter took place between Jesus and His disciples. Let us travel to the time after Jesus had risen from the dead.

Jesus appeared to Mary and, "*Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to Him, 'Rabboni!' (which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'*"

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her." *John 20:16-18*

Yes, that day Jesus ascended to heaven, and was glorified with the glory He shared with His Father, before he came to earth in human life. After His inauguration, Jesus descended to earth again.

"Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

*So Jesus said to them again, 'Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.'***

*And when He had said this, **He breathed on them**, and said to them, '**Receive the Holy Spirit.**'"* *John 20:19-22*

Do you see the connection between Jesus breathing on His disciples and them receiving the Holy Spirit? Yes, as Jesus breathed on His disciples they received His Spirit, the Holy Spirit. "*...the Spirit of God...*" **Romans 15:19**, and "*...the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus...*" *Romans 8:21*

*"Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the **Spirit of the Lord.**"* *2 Corinthians 3:17-18*



Surely, this is the, "**one and the same Spirit...**" which Jesus was referring to when He said, "**...in the name of... the Holy Spirit,**" 1 Corinthians 12:11, Matthew 28:19. In other words, in the name of His own Spirit and His Father's Spirit; Their combined Spirit.

And so 40 days after Jesus breathed His Spirit upon the disciples, dedicating them to the gospel ministry, it was time for Him to return to heaven.

Before He departed, Jesus gave His disciples their great commission:

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

'Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen." Matthew 28:16-20

Three Agree as One?

Now the remaining two texts quoted by some people to support the trinity belief are found in 1 John, chapter 5.

Verse 7: "For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, (Son of God) and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one." 1 John 5:7

Verse 8: And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one." 1 John 5:8

Believe it or not, most Bible scholars agree that verse seven does not appear in the early Greek manuscripts. Some Bible commentators even recommend the words of 1 John 5:7 should be discarded.

In other words, the writer called John, living in the first century AD *never wrote* verse seven into the manuscripts at all, only verse eight, which simply reads:

"For there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one." 1 John 5:8

The words of verse seven were added into 1 John, chapter 5 by translators at a later date.

You may wish to check this out. If so, here is a quote to begin your search:

"The word Trinity nowhere occurs in the Scriptures. The principal text supposed to teach it is 1 John v, 7 which is an interpolation. Clarke says, 'Out of

one hundred and thirteen manuscripts, the text is wanting in one hundred and twelve. It occurs in no MS (manuscript) before the tenth century. And the first place the text occurs in Greek, is in the Greek translation of the acts of the Council of Lateran, held A.D. 1215.' - Com. on John i, and remarks at close of chap." Loughborough, J.N., (November 5, 1861). Questions for Bro. Loughborough. *Review & Herald*. In Stump, A. (publication date not stated). *The Foundation of Our Faith: Over 150 years of Seventh-day Adventist Christology* (pp 212-213) Welch, West Virginia, USA: Smyrna Gospel Ministries.

The quote above is not included in this writing to make controversy, or to discredit the work of Bible translators.

Without doubt, almost all of the King James Version (KJV) translation is accurate to the original Greek and Hebrew manuscripts. And in turn, the New King James Version (NKJV) is most accurate to the KJV.

Yet from all we have learned so far, one fact stands out. The Father and Son with Their Spirit presence, certainly *do not* form a trinity of three Persons. But They *do* form the Godhead of two Persons, and through Their one Spirit source, They do live as one divine entity.

The Holy Spirit shows Characteristics of Personality

Some people present a further series of texts to further substantiate their belief in the trinity. They believe these texts prove the Holy Spirit has characteristics of a person, all the ingredients which combine to make a person.

Well, yes indeed, the Holy Spirit does have characteristics of a person, for the Holy Spirit is the Spirit personality of God the Father and the Son of God. In other words, They *are* the Holy Spirit in Person.

We shall now take a close look at those texts used to declare the Holy Spirit is an individual person:



They say the Holy Spirit must be a person, for the Spirit possesses an intellectual mind.

*"Now He who searches the heart knows what the **mind of the Spirit is...**" Romans 8:27*

Absolutely true, for the Mind of the Spirit is the Mind of the Father and Son. **"God is Spirit..."** *John 4:24* The Father and Son are the Spirit in life, and Their Minds are interwoven with Their supernatural Spirit, having qualities and dimensions beyond our comprehension.





The Spirit has the emotion of love, "...*through the love of the Spirit...*" Romans 15:30

Yes indeed, for "**God is Spirit...**" John 4:24, and "...**God is love.**" 1 John 4:8. God's love flows through His Spirit Personality.



The Spirit has the skills and ability to commune and fellowship, "...*the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*" 2 Corinthians 13:14

Through Their Spirit personality or Spirit presence, the Father and Son dwell in us and commune with us, as much as a human family living in the same home commune with each other.

"Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.**'"
John 14:23



The Spirit is endowed with wisdom to instruct, "You also gave Your good Spirit to instruct them..." Jeremiah 9:20

When God instructs us, does He not speak to our minds by His Spirit? King David recognised this to be true:

*"Now these are the last words of David.
 Thus says David the son of Jesse;
 Thus says the man raised up on high,
 The anointed of the God of Jacob,
 And the sweet psalmist of Israel:
'The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me,
 And **His word** was on my tongue.
 The **God of Israel said,**
The Rock of Israel spoke to me:
 "He who rules over men must be just,
 Ruling in the fear of God." ' "* 2 Samuel 23:1-3



The Spirit comforts and nurtures the needy, " '...he shall give you another Comforter...Even the Spirit of truth...' " John 14:16, 17 KJV

Looking at the complete text, we see the Spirit Comforter is Jesus Himself, who is the Spirit of truth in life.

" 'And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another **Comforter**, that he

may abide with you for ever; Even the **Spirit of truth**; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: **but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you**, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: **I will come to you.**"
John 14:16-18 KJV



With authority, the Spirit speaks and directs, "...the Holy Spirit said, 'Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'" Acts 13:2

This was Jesus speaking and directing through His Spirit personality, for it was He who spoke to Saul and called him from his former life to be an apostle:

"Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.

Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'

*And he said, 'Who are You, Lord?' **Then the Lord said, 'I am Jesus**, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads."* Acts 9:1-5



The Spirit has a threshold of feeling and grief, "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God..." Ephesians 4:30

When we grieve the Holy Spirit of God, we grieve God's heart of love. Speaking about God's compassion for the Israelites in the wilderness we read:

*"But He, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity,
And did not destroy them.*

*Yes, many a time He turned His anger away,
And did not stir up all His wrath;*

*For He remembered that they were but flesh,
A breath that passes away and does not come again.*

***How often they provoked Him in the wilderness,
And grieved Him in the desert!***

*Yes, again and again they tempted God,
And limited the Holy One of Israel."*

Psalm 78:38-41



The Spirit can be brought to righteous indignation:

*"But they rebelled and **vexed His Holy Spirit...**"*

Isaiah 63:10 KJV

Let us see whose Spirit is vexed, in the full text:

"I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD

And the praises of the LORD,

According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us,

And the great goodness toward the house of Israel,

Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies,

According to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses.

For He said, 'Surely they are My people,

Children who will not lie.'

So He became their Savior.

In all their affliction He was afflicted,

And the Angel of His Presence saved them;

In His love and in His pity He redeemed them;

And He bore them and carried them

All the days of old.

But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit;

So He turned Himself against them as an enemy,

And He fought against them."

Isaiah 63:7-10 KJV

Yes, through the Israelites' rebellion, it was God who was vexed in Spirit, for it was His Spirit which He put in them.

"...You also gave Your good Spirit to instruct them..." Nehemiah 9:20



And so, we see all the life ingredients of the Holy Spirit certainly do show characteristics which belong to a person. But these characteristics do not belong to a third person of God. They rightly belong to the Spirit personality of God the Father and the Son of God.

Did the New Testament writers Believe in a “trinity”?

This is a good question, worthy of an answer. Well to start with, the apostle Paul begins His books with a greeting, and acknowledges God the Father and the Son only.

"To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 1:7

If Paul believed the Holy Spirit was the third person in a trinity with the Father

and Son, surely with all respect he would have included the Spirit in His greetings and opening address.

James also begins His book with the greeting:

*"James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings." James 1:1*
No mention here of the Holy Spirit.

Peter also,

"Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord..." 2 Peter 1:2

And John,

"...that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ." 1 John 1:3

Jude,

"Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you." Jude 1-2

Not one of these inspired writers mentions the Holy Spirit in their opening address, simply because they did not believe in the trinity, three persons in one God.

Where is the Holy Spirit's throne in the Bible?

Now another intriguing point of truth opens before us. Through the pages of the Bible, here and there we see and hear of thrones on earth and in heaven.

"...the throne of kingdoms..." Haggai 2:22

Thrones for Jesus' disciples:

*" 'But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.'"
Luke 22:28-30*

The throne of grace:

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16



The throne of heaven:

" 'But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool...' " Matthew 5:34-35

And in heaven, the throne of God the Father:

*" The LORD is in His holy temple,
The LORD's throne is in heaven..." Psalm 11:4*

"...Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" Revelation 7:10

And the throne of the Son of God:

*" But to the Son He says:
'Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;
A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.'" Hebrews 1:8*

" 'When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.'" Matthew 25:31

And finally, the sharing of thrones between the Father and Son, and even with you and I:

Jesus said " 'To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.'" Revelation 3:21

But nowhere in the Bible do we see or hear of a throne for the Holy Spirit.

If the Holy Spirit of God is a Spirit person in His own right, and He, together with the Father and Son are a trinity of three Divine persons, would not Revelation 3:21 at least include the Holy Spirit as being seated on the throne with the Father and Son?

And how about Revelation 7:9-12. Who do you see? I see a Godhead of two divine Persons, not a trinity of three:

*"After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, **"Salvation belongs to our God (the Father) who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Son of God)** All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:*

*'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom,
Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever.
Amen.' "Revelation 7:9-12*

Where has the "trinity" Come From?

Now we are propelled towards a searching question: Where has the trinity come from? If we can find the answer to this question, we just might find the missing key which unlocks the mystery behind the trinity. So let us begin our search by reading the following quote, written by JN Loughborough in 1861.

"Its (the trinity's) origin is pagan and fabulous. Instead of pointing us to scripture for proof of the trinity, we are pointed to the *trident* of the Persians, with the assertion that 'by this they designed to teach the idea of a trinity, and if they had the doctrine of the trinity, they must have received it by tradition from the people of God.' But this is all assumed, for it is certain that the Jewish church held to no such doctrine. Says Mr Summerbell, 'A friend of mine who was present in a New York synagogue, asked the Rabbi for an explanation of the word "elohim." A Trinitarian clergyman who stood by, replied, "Why, that has reference to the three persons in the Trinity," when a Jew stepped forward and said he must not mention that word again, or they would have to compel him to leave the house; for it was not permitted to mention the name of any strange god in the synagogue.'* Milman says the idea of the Trident is fabulous.#

This doctrine of the trinity was brought into the church about the same time with image worship, and keeping the day of the sun, and is but Persian doctrine remodelled. It occupied about three hundred years from its introduction to bring the doctrine to what it is now. It was commenced about 325 A.D., and was not completed till 681. See Milman's Gibbon's Rome, vol. iv, p.422. It was adopted in Spain in 589, in England in 596, in Africa in 534. - Gib.vol. iv, pp.114,345; Milner, vol. i, p519.

*Discussion between Summerbell and Flood on Trinity, p.38.

#Hist. Christianity, p.34."

Loughborough, J.N., (November 5, 1861). Questions for Bro. Loughborough. *Review & Herald*. In Stump, A. (publication date not stated). *The Foundation of Our Faith: Over 150 years of Seventh-day Adventist Christology* (pp 212-213) Welch, West Virginia, USA: Smyrna Gospel Ministries.

Could this possibly be true? Could the "Trinity," three Gods in one, have come out of paganism? The quote above plainly tells us the trinity belief has not come from the Jews, God's people of Old Testament times.

Nor has the trinity come from the Jewish teachings of recent times.

Instead, we are pointed to the "*trident* of the Persians," a pagan people who pre-date the Christian era.

The majority of Christians today would strongly dispute that the Trinity is a pagan concept. But have the *majority* always been correct?



In earth's first era, the *majority* perished with their wickedness, in the Great Flood.

And in earth's second era in which we live today, the *majority* will perish in their unbelief, at Jesus' second coming.

Please, do not be mistaken. We live in serious times, the most decisive time of earth's entire history. The roots of the trinity run deep, from a time long before planet earth and humans were created. In fact the seeds of the trinity were sown in heaven by the fallen angel Lucifer, now known as Satan, "*your adversary*". 1 Peter 5:8

Seeds of the "trinity" sown in Heaven

Isaiah chapter 14 and Ezekiel chapter 28, tell us that long ago, Lucifer was the leading angel in God's heavenly government. Highly exalted from his creation, Lucifer served in the very presence of God the Father and the Son.

But this was not enough for Lucifer. He wanted to enter into the sanctum of the Godhead and be involved in the divine council of the Father and Son.

Yes, above all else Lucifer wanted to be like God, a divine being in his own right, coequal with the Father and Son, making one God in three, and three in one, a trinity.

This of course could never become a living reality, for Lucifer is not divine. God the Father and His Son are the divine Creators, Lucifer merely the created.

Yet, Lucifer has sought to accomplish the impossible. How? He has created an illusion of a trinity - firstly, in pagan form, then in Christian form. And implanting himself in a false trinity, Satan seeks to exalt himself as being God.

This is not heresy. Look at Lucifer's evil intent when he first waged war against God in heaven.

*" 'For you have said in your heart:
"I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
I will be like the Most High.'"" Isaiah 14:13-14*

Thus began Satan's war against God, a war which was to descend through the history of the universe, and enter the newly created world, planet earth.

Satan Wages War on Planet Earth

Here on planet earth, Lucifer now named Satan, "*the adversary*," continued his war against God by causing Eve, then Adam to sin in the garden of Eden.

Alas, Adam's and Eve's disobedience to God's law opened the way for Satan and demon spirits to enter the new world, and as the people multiplied on the earth, Satan began to dominate their world.

Of course, some people remained loyal to God.

But the Bible tells us the vast majority were overtaken by Satan's deception and evil. Sadly, the people served Satan, the false god of this evil world, and rejected the one and only true God, the Creator of heaven and earth.

"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5 KJV

God gave the people 120 years to change their ways, to turn towards Him again, and live in a loving Godly way. But they chose to remain in their selfish lifestyles. They left God no choice but to destroy the world, the technologies and achievements, and the population of approximately five billion people.

But thankfully, in Noah and his family, God found eight people who were worthy to keep alive, preserving His line of true people upon planet earth. Yes incredibly, the righteous life of faithful Noah and his holy example protected his family and blocked Satan's evil aim to completely overpower the human race. If Satan had succeeded then God's divine plan to save mankind from sin and everlasting death would have been destroyed.

Thus entering a massive ship called the Ark, Noah, aged 600 years, his wife, sons and daughters-in-law were saved from the greatest deluge known to mankind.

After the rain had stopped the great ark finally settled on the mountains of Ararat. God told Noah and his family to leave the Ark and take with them the animals and creatures on board.

"Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you: birds and cattle and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." Genesis 8:16-17

The world they stepped into was unrecognisable.

Jagged rocks jutted above seas of drying mud, while chilling air circulated from overcast skies. As Noah's family searched the broken world, not a living thing greeted them, only deathly silence.

But by God's grace, life went on. In time, Noah's three sons and their wives had children, who in turn, grew up, married, and had children of their own.



And one of these great grandchildren of Noah's is known in the Bible as Nimrod. This boy child was destined for fame and fortune upon the earth.

"Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth." Genesis 10:8

"He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, 'Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.'" Genesis 10:9

From historians, we can learn of Nimrod's adventures as a great and mighty hunter.

After leaving the ark, the animals had reproduced, and much faster than humans. Some animals had become fierce predators, roaming populated lands. Hunters were valued for their ability to protect families and communities, and the hunters provided food. Yes, the hunters were the new era's providers and protectors.

Now Nimrod was also a charismatic leader. Some historians say Nimrod gathered the people together to build walled cities to keep the wild animals out. So Nimrod the mighty hunter became exalted as protector and leader of the people. But alas, Nimrod's self-importance opened the way for Satan to find a foothold.

Very soon, Satan would uplift Nimrod as a god before the people.

Satan Conceals himself in false gods

You see, Satan is highly successful at drawing the human mind away from the one and only true God, and into worship of false gods.

One of these false gods of Satan's making was *"the god of Ekron"* called *"Baal-Zebub."*

*"Now Ahaziah fell through the lattice of his upper room in Samaria, and was injured; so he sent messengers and said to them, 'Go, inquire of **Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron**, whether I shall recover from this injury.'" 2 Kings 1:2*

In the new testament of the bible we discover the name *Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron*, links up to *"Beelzebub, the ruler of demons."*

*"Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, 'This fellow does not cast out demons except by **Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons**.'" But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: 'Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. **If Satan casts out Satan**, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?'" Matthew 12:24-26*

Yes Satan, *Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons* conceals himself in false gods and secretly gains worship, in the place of God.

Thus by implanting false pagan god's in the human mind, Satan enthrones himself in the place of God.

Alas through deception and trickery, Satan is able to twist people's minds just a degree. Then one small step in the wrong direction leads far away from all that is true in God.

And so in earth's second era, through the life of Nimrod Satan once again began to exalt himself above God in the minds of the people. Deceived by Satan's lying spirit the majority turned away from God and began to worship Nimrod, the mighty hunter and protector.

All the while, Satan was planting the seeds of paganism and the mysteries of the occult in Nimrod's mind, and these seeds were to flourish in the world.

And it was on the plains of Shinar, that these seeds of paganism took root and began to spread.

Nimrod became an empire builder. First came the cities of Babel, Erech, Accad and Calneh in the land of Shinar.

From there, Nimrod travelled east to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah and Resen.

But the city of most interest to us, was built on the plains of Shinar and named Babel, the small beginnings of the fabulous city Babylon.

Nimrod led the people to believe in a One World Government, over which he would reside as supreme leader. So Nimrod planned a great capital city of the world, and in this city, a tall tower would be built, reaching high into the heavens, standing as a monument to his power and authority, above all that is God's in the earth.

Remembering the stories of the great flood the high tower would be a refuge and a defence against any judgement God should send upon them for their wicked deeds.

The Jewish historian Flovius Josephus who lived in the first century AD, wrote about Nimrod and how he lead the people in self- exaltation against God.

" ... Now it was Nimrod who excited them to such an affront and contempt of God. He was the grandson of Ham, the son of Noah, a bold man, and of great strength of hand. He persuaded them not to ascribe it to God, as if it was through his means they were happy, but to believe that it was their own courage which produced that happiness. He also gradually changed the government into tyranny, seeing no other way of turning men from fear of God, but to bring them into a constant dependence on his own power. He also said he would be revenged on God, if he would have a mind to drown the world again, for that he would build a tower too high for the waters to be able to reach! And that he would avenge himself on God for destroying their forefathers!



"Now the multitude were very ready to follow the determination of Nimrod, and to esteem it a piece of cowardice to submit to God; and they built a tower, neither sparing any pains, nor being in any degree negligent about the work. And by reason of the multitude of hands employed in it, it grew very high, sooner than any one could expect; but the thickness of it was so great, and it was so strongly built, that thereby its great height seemed, upon the view, to be less than it really was." Josephus, F. (1960, 1978). Translated by Whiston, T. *The Complete Works of Flavius Josephus* (p 30). Grand Rapids, MI, USA: Kregel Publications. Retrieved December 29, 2011, from Illuminati-1b, Link to index of The Illuminati Book: http://www.benabraham.com/html/illuminati_-_1a.html

Thus, inspiring Nimrod and the people of Shinar with evil intent, once again Satan tried to dominate the world.

But God's authority cannot be overthrown.

To quell the misled rebellion, God performed a very ingenuous miracle.

At this time in earth's history, all the people spoke one language - but not for much longer.

"And the Lord said, 'Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.' So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth." Genesis 11:6-9

There at the building site, as the tower was reaching modern skyscraper proportions, God divided the people of Babel into nations; with one stroke of His power, the common language of the human race was changed into a variety of languages.

What confusion for the builders! As one opened his mouth to speak, the words were a mystery to most. When others tried to reply, they too found their words could not be understood. It seemed that everyone was babbling! Thus the tower and city was named Babel, meaning confusion.

Not surprisingly, the building stopped. Gradually, people speaking the same language grouped together, and made their way to new parts of the world. But the nation of Nimrod remained at Babel and from Babel, grew the city of Babylon.

Historians tell us that Nimrod married Semiramis. Some say Semiramis was his mother. Together they reigned as king and queen over Nimrod's empire. They led the people to indulge in selfish lives filled with sensuality and self-seeking pleasure.

Nimrod was more than an exalted king, for the people now looked to Nimrod as their god. And now our trinity trail is becoming red hot:

Satan's Pagan "trinity" Takes Root

During his reign, King Nimrod died a violent death. One historian tells us Nimrod was killed by a wild animal, while another says Noah's son, Shem, killed Nimrod because he had led the people to worship Satan.

With Nimrod's untimely death, Queen Semiramis schemed to retain her power over the people, and in this she was inspired by Satan's trickery. She told the people Nimrod was indeed a god, the sun god, and his spirit now dwelled in the sun.

In a clever move to protect her queenly position, she told the people she was the spirit of the moon, and when she died she would dwell in the moon, as Nimrod dwelled in the sun.

And so the people believed that Nimrod was the sun god - powerful life giver, protector. Temples were built to the sun god, and immoral rituals and festivals were begun.

A weekly worship day was pronounced, and called Sun Day. In line with the hedonistic, pleasure loving society of Babylon, the rituals involved raucous behaviour, lewd dancing, orgies, drunkenness and drugs. Thus Satan established Sunday as his pagan day for worship: The venerable day of the Sun.

Over the years, people noticed their sun god left them at the beginning of the cold season of the year. And they noticed their sun god began to return on the day we now call December 25. So on this day they held a festival to celebrate the birth of the sun.

Don't be tempted to think the people sat around a nicely decorated fir tree, exchanging gifts. Yes, there was a tree which was displayed outside the temple of the sun god, and it was decorated, but in a most horrific fashion, the result of a drugged Satanic ritual.

Now, Semiramis did not marry again. But ancient tradition says she led a promiscuous life and indulged in immoral temple rites.

Some years later, she gave birth to an illegitimate son, and on what day? She claimed this baby was born on December 25, the birthday of the sun.

The queen, self-proclaimed spirit of the moon, said this baby was Nimrod reborn as his own son, and that she herself had conceived the baby supernaturally. In one foul blow, the false belief of reincarnation was born, and exaltation of the "Virgin Mother" began.

The people of the empire went wild with joy! This baby was named Tammuz, the Son of the Sun.

Over time, the first letter of his name became the symbol of the sun god, and human sacrifices were made on wooden crosses shaped in a "†".

And did they honour their goddess-queen Semiramis? Certainly. To worship Sem-



iramis, a special Sunday was set aside, calculated by the first full moon following the vernal equinox (spring).

In this spring festival were the ancient seeds of the "Christian" festival called Easter. Over the centuries, the original festival has altered, but the Easter traditions we hold so dear, are none other than symbols of immoral and sometimes horrific pagan rituals.

Coloured eggs, and the easter hare (the easter rabbit is a modern variation) were used in ancient fertility rituals; and small cakes decorated with crosses, were offerings to the sun god and the goddess of heaven.

The very name "Easter" comes from a goddess known by various names through the ages of time. In the Bible she is known as Ashtoroth. In other ancient languages she was called Ishtar and Eostre. Taken back through the antiquity of time, Eostre, queen of heaven, spring and dawn is none other than self-proclaimed goddess of Babylon, Semiramis.

And here is Satan's very first pagan trinity: The sun god Baal, the queen of heaven Ishtar, and their son Tammuz who is a reincarnation of the father.

"The number 3 is a sacred number identified with the pagan godhead of Baal, Ishtar and Tammuz. Sometimes the number 3 represented a triple aspect of the Sun-god as the ruler of Heaven." *Illuminati 1b, Link to the index of The Illuminati Book*. Retrieved December 29, 2011, from TASK Ministry website: http://www.benabraham.com/html/illuminati_-_1b.html

Pagan by desire and pagan by action, the people of Babylon had forsaken the one true God for a false fabrication, wrought of Satan's desire to rule the world and be worshipped in place of God.

During all these festivals, including Sunday, the pagans practised Satanic rituals, at times sacrificing humans, even their first born babies on wooden crosses, to appease the ever present anger of the false gods or gain favour for the coming year.

"Thou shalt not do so unto the LORD thy God: for every abomination to the LORD, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods." Deuteronomy 12:31 KJV

Make no mistake, paganism, pagan rituals and traditions have their foundation in devil worship.

This pagan base, laid in Babel by King Nimrod and Queen Semiramis, infiltrated almost every culture in the world.

As nation battled with nation, conquerors imposed their pagan culture upon the losing nation, and the names and natures of the false gods altered.

Pagan Sumeria was conquered by the Assyrians, who in turn were overthrown by Babylon, centuries after Nimrod. But the pagan gods lived on through each cultural revolution, even in the form of trinities.

"The historian S. H. Hooke tells in detail of the ancient Sumerian trinity: Anu was the primary god of heaven, the 'Father', and the 'King of the Gods'; Enlil, the 'wind-god' was the god of the earth, and a creator god; and Enki was the god of waters and the 'lord of wisdom' (15-18). The historian, H. W. F. Saggs, explains that the Babylonian triad consisted of 'three gods of roughly equal rank... whose inter-relationship is of the essence of their natures' (316)" Hagensick, Cher-El L. *The Origin of the Trinity: From Paganism to Constantine*. Retrieved December 29 2011, from <http://www.heraldmag.org/olb/Contents/doctrine/The%20Origin%20of%20the%20Trinity.htm>

True, there were many false gods in each pagan culture, but in almost every culture you will surely find a triad or trinity, three gods in one.

Babylon even used the equilateral triangle to portray the triad, a familiar symbol used to this day in a worldwide Christian church.

In the powerful pagan empire of Egypt a god called Amun, was three gods in one. Amun was said to be above all creation, transcendental. Re was his face, Ptah his body, and Amun his hidden identity.

And the mysterious Etruscans, they too had a trinity. They ruled Rome for a time, just before the historic revolution which ousted their monarchy, the same revolution which sowed the seeds of the Roman Empire. But the Etruscan legacy was left - for it was the Etruscans who introduced the idea of a trinity to the people of Rome.

Rome and her people grasped onto the trinity concept and held tight; in the names of the Romish trinity - Jupiter, Juno and Minerva - we can see the Etruscan trinity - Tinia, Uni and Menerva.

And so, the overwhelming legacy of paganism was passed on from culture to culture, down through the centuries of conquering warriors and found its fullness in the great Roman Empire.

By strategy and design, the Roman Empire became the throne of Satan's power. The world was aflood with paganism!

And somewhere, alongside the false gods and festivals such as Halloween, Easter, Sun Days, Birthdays of the Sun, and Valentines Day, was one small nation which had managed to escape the clutches of paganism.

This nation was of course the Hebrews, God's people. Although the Hebrew people had often ventured into paganism, they had been brought back from the brink of disaster by God's intervening mercy and discipline.

When the Roman Empire was at the pinnacle of success, the Hebrew nation was



under the harsh rule of pagan Rome. True, the people were allowed to worship God in their own way, but the priests were chosen by the provincial Roman ruler to suit his political interests, and the people were made to pay large taxes to the Empire.

And into this vastly pagan culture, was born God's One and Only precious begotten Son.

No, God's Son was not born on December 25th. Would God have allowed his dear Son to be born on the same day as a Satanic pagan festival celebrating the birth of the sun?

Jesus' life is written of elsewhere in this writing. But right now, we can pause for just a second to grasp the beauty of Jesus' perfect and lovely example. Adults and children alike can learn valuable lessons about the loveliness of Jesus' character and the goodness of His life.

His perfect life, and wonderful healing ministry, came to an abrupt end on the pagan cross of Rome.

The Son Crucified on a Pagan Cross

And the Bible tells us there was not one cross but three. For on that dreadful day, two robbers were crucified with Jesus.. Yes indeed, Satan saw to it that the Son of God was crucified on the pagan cross, even in the midst of a trinity.

"Sometimes the number 3 represented a triple aspect of the Sun-god as the ruler of Heaven." *Illuminati 1b*, *Link to the index of The Illuminati Book*. Retrieved December 29, 2011, from TASK Ministry website: http://www.ben-abraham.com/html/illuminati_-_1b.html

Thus as Jesus was nailed to wooden slabs crossed as a “†” Satan offered up the Son of God as a sacrifice to Tammuz, the Son of the Sun.

But God the Father, the true Ruler of heaven, intervened for His Son and blacked out the sun.

"Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, 'Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.' Having said this, He breathed His last. So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, 'Certainly this was a righteous Man!'"
Luke 23:44-47

Thus Jesus was offered before God as the true sacrifice. *"The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29*

And on that day Jesus took upon himself our guilt and our shame. With his outstretched body hanging painfully on the cross, He took our place and died that we

might be released from Satan's grasp of everlasting death. This is the beauty, the wonder that streams from the pagan cross of sin. Through His act of heroism, Jesus the Son of God defeated Satan, on Satan's ground of pagan rule.

Christianity begins to Flourish

And so from Jesus' victory, "Christianity" was born. As the apostles took Jesus' message of love and forgiveness to the world, the early Christian church began to flourish. In the first century AD, multitudes of people embraced the truth about the one and only true God.

Pagan Rome's jealousy was stirred, and fearing the empire might lose power over the people, Rome retaliated by persecuting and killing Christians, in the millions. When calamities befell the empire, Christians were persecuted yet again, to appease the angry pagan gods.

Thus through pagan Rome, Satan sought to annihilate God's church. But this ferocity against the Christians only increased converts from paganism to Christianity, drawing in those who watched and wondered at the torture and slaughter of innocent men, women and children.

Tertullian was one of those who turned to Christianity after being struck by the noble behaviour of Christians being fed alive to the lions. Tertullian was born about 150AD, the son of a high ranking Roman soldier. Trained as a lawyer, Tertullian was 40 when he converted to Christianity.

He was a powerful speaker, and an eloquent writer. His writing was inspired by his spiritual experiences of life, and the events he watched taking place around him. Yet, Tertullian is most remembered for being the first writer to use the term "triune." (Our modern term is "trinity.") We do not know if Tertullian believed in a trinity of three gods in one, or if he was simply using the term, "triune" to express God the Father, His Son and their one Spirit Presence.

Clearly Tertullian's writings must have been very close to the non-trinity view, because much of his writing was condemned by the Papacy some 300 years later and consequently was lost or destroyed. In the following quote one thing is certain: Tertullian believed there is one God, the Father, and His only begotten Son, the Son of God.

Tertullian wrote,

"We do indeed believe that there is only one God, but we believe that under this dispensation, or, as we say, oikonomia, **there is also a Son of this one only God**, his Word, who proceeded from him and through whom all things were made and without whom nothing was made." (*Against Praxeas* 2, A.D.



216). *The Formulation of the Trinity Doctrine*. Retrieved December 29, 2011, from The Smyrna Gospel Ministries website: http://www.smyrna.org/Books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The_Formulation_of_the_Trinity.htm

Until the early part of the fourth century, most early Christians rightly believed that there was one God, the Father, who has no beginning; and one Son, begotten by His Father, and therefore had His beginnings in His Father.

Early writings confirm this. Let us see what some early writers have to say:

Irenaeus of Lyons wrote,

“For the Church, although dispersed throughout the whole world even to the ends of the earth, has received from the apostles and from their disciples the faith **in one God, Father Almighty**, the creator of heaven and earth and sea and all that is in them; and in one Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” (*Against Heresies 1:10:1, A.D. 189*) *Formulation of the Trinity*. Retrieved December 19, 2011, from Smyrna Gospel Ministries website: http://www.smyrna.org/Books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The_Formulation_of_the_Trinity.htm

Origen wrote,

“The specific points which are clearly handed down through the apostolic preaching are these: First, that there is one God who created and arranged all things, and who, when nothing existed, called all things into existence, and that in the final period this God, just as he had promised beforehand through the prophets, sent the Lord Jesus Christ. Secondly, that Jesus Christ himself, who came, was born of the Father before all creatures; and after he had ministered to the Father in the creation of all things, for through him all things were made.” (*The Fundamental Doctrines 1:0:4, A.D. 225*) *Formulation of the Trinity*. Retrieved December 19, 2011, from Smyrna Gospel Ministries website: http://www.smyrna.org/Books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The_Formulation_of_the_Trinity.htm

Novatian wrote,

“**God the Father**, founder and creator of all things, **who alone knows no beginning**, who is invisible, immeasurable, immortal, and eternal, is one God. Neither his greatness nor his majesty nor his power can possibly be - I should not say exceeded, for they cannot even be equaled. **From him the Word was born, his Son**. And the latter, since he was born of the Father, is always in the Father. And I indeed say always. He that exists before all time must be said to have been in the Father always, for he that exists before all time cannot be spoken of in relation to time.. Assuredly, he [the Son] is God, proceeding from God, causing, as Son, a second person after the Father, but not taking away from the Father the fact that God is one.” (*Treatise on the*

Trinity 31, A.D. 235) Formulation of the Trinity. Retrieved December 19, 2011, from Smyrna Gospel Ministries website: http://www.smyrna.org/Books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The_Formulation_of_the_Trinity.htm

Epiphanius of Salamis wrote,

"We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of all things, both visible and invisible; **and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of God the Father,** only-begotten, that is, of the substance of the Father; God of God, light of light, true God of true God; begotten, not made;" (*The Man Well-Anchored* 120, **A.D. 374) Formulation of the Trinity. Retrieved December 19, 2011, from Smyrna Gospel Ministries website: http://www.smyrna.org/Books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The_Formulation_of_the_Trinity.htm**

As converts to early Christianity increased, Rome called a halt to the bloodletting. With cunning strategy Satan put into action a new master plan: "If you can't beat them then join them." And so the persecution stopped.

Now Christianity faced its biggest test as paganism flirted with the Christian church.

Paganism enters the Christian Church

Persecution had stopped, and slowly but surely spiritual complacency set in. Early Christian principles were lowered and truth was compromised.

"During the lives of the apostles the church remained comparatively pure. But 'toward the latter end of the second century most of the churches assumed a new form; the first simplicity disappeared, and insensibly, as the old disciples retired to their graves, their children, along with new converts... came forward and new-modelled the cause.' - Robert Robinson, *Ecclesiastical Researches*, ch 6, par 17, p 51. To secure converts, the exalted standard of the Christian faith was lowered, and as the result 'a pagan flood, flowing into the church, carried with it its customs, practices, and idols.' Gavazzi, *Lectures*, page 278." White, E.G. (1950). *The Great Controversy, Conflict of the Ages series, Volume 5.* (Chapter 21 pp 384-385). Mountain View, California, USA: Pacific Press Publishing Association.

"As the Christian religion secured the favor and support of secular rulers, it was nominally accepted by multitudes; but while in appearance Christians, many 'remained in substance pagans, especially worshipping in secret their idols.'" Gavazzi, *Lectures*, p 278. White, E.G. *The Great Controversy, Conflict of the Ages series, Volume 5.* (Chapter 21 p 385). Mountain View, California, USA: Pacific Press Publishing Association.



Thus gradually, paganism and the early Christian church blended as one, giving birth to apostate Christianity, professing to be the church of God. This apostate Christianity flourished in the lives of the majority, and continues to our day.

Pagan traditions and forms of worship have mutated into false teachings, clouding people's beliefs about God, His Son, His Spirit and His word of truth written in the Bible.

Thankfully the faithful of God turned away from the false teachings flooding the church, and clinging to His pure truth, they chose to live in isolation.

Christian "trinity" Takes Root

With the marriage of paganism and Christianity in full force, the time had arrived for conception of a Christian trinity.

Satan's cunning plan began to unfold: Certain individuals of the clergy would teach that the Son had always existed with the Father, that the Son had no beginning.

This subtle deception would open the way for Satan to create the illusion that God is a trinity of three coequal persons. Instead of the Father, the Son and Their Holy Spirit Presence, Satan would cleverly deceive people into believing the Holy Spirit is a person, and then Satan would simply personify the Holy Spirit.

If Satan could implant this corrupt deception in the church as a Christian belief, then God would be openly mocked before the watching universe.

Now Satan introduced his wily decoy, Alexander, Bishop of the Egyptian city Alexandria. Inspired by Satan's deceiving spirit Alexander circulated a "new" idea.

Alexander wanted people to accept a Christian trinity, of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; three co-equal Gods who make up one God. Of course, this trinity was none other than a pagan belief veiled with Christian names.

To make this trinity plausible, Bishop Alexander put forward another "new" idea, this time about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In a statement He said the Son was begotten by God the Father, yet at the same time the Son had always existed with the Father, without beginning.

In recent times attempts have been made to explain away this confusion by saying that the Son is eternally begotten by the Father. In other words that the Son has always been and shall always be in a continual state of being begotten by the Father.

The catholic church defines "eternally begotten" like this:

"The Christian belief is that the Christ of history is the Son of God, eternally begotten by one ceaseless action from the Father..." *Tell Us About God... Who Is He?*, page 30, by the Knights of Columbus. Retrieved December 19,

2011; from Smyrn Gospel Ministries website: http://www.smyrna.org/Books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The_Formulation_of_the_Trinity.htm

You see, to believe in a trinity, three gods in one, three gods equal in every way, you would have to believe the Son of God has existed with the Father, always, and has no specific beginning.

In opposition to Bishop Alexander, Arius, a presbyter of a parish church in Alexandria, spoke out. Arius believed that Jesus Christ was begotten by His Father and therefore *did* have a beginning. It is worth noting here that much later, the trinitarian believers accused Arius of believing Jesus was created, a false accusation which has persisted even to modern times.

A meeting of presbyters was called, they discussed the dispute, and both sides claimed to have won. Now the controversy began to spread.

Bishop Alexander decided to finish the controversy, in his favour, once and for all. He called a meeting, and had 100 bishops attend, making sure most of them sided with his trinity view. Claiming a victory, Arius was told to side with Alexander.

Arius refused to compromise truth for error. Arius, his supporters and many people were then excommunicated from the church by Alexander.

"Arius for himself wrote a book entitled 'Thalia,'—Songs of Joy—a **collection of songs in which he set forth his views**. This expedient took well, for in the excited state of the parties, his doctrinal songs were hummed everywhere. Alexander on his part, likewise, sent circular letters to the principal bishops round about. The controversy spread everywhere, and as it spread, it deepened." (Page 332) Beachy, L. *The Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity: A History of the Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity within Orthodox Christianity [Electronic Version]*, p3. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from http://www.smyrna.org/books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The%20Formulation%20of%20the%20Doctrine%20of%20the%20Trinity.pdf

These "Songs of Joy" became "pop" songs of the day.

"Sailors, millers, and travelers sang the disputed doctrines at their occupations or on their journeys. Every corner, every alley of the city [this was said afterwards of Constantinople, but must have been still more true of Alexandria] was full of these discussions - the streets, the market-places, the drapers, the money-changers, the victualers. Ask a man 'how many oboli?' he answers by dogmatizing on generated and ungenerated being. **Inquire the price of bread, and you are told, 'The Son is subordinate to the Father.'** Ask if the bath is ready, and you are told, 'The Son arose out of nothing.'—Stanley 'History of the Eastern Church,' Lecture iii, par. 10. Beachy, L. *The Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity: A History of the Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity within Orthodox Christianity [Electronic Version]*, p3.



Retrieved December 29, 2011 from http://www.smyrna.org/books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The%20Formulation%20of%20the%20Doctrine%20of%20the%20Trinity.pdf

Controversy now began to rage, and reached the ears of Emperor Constantine.

Emperor Constantine enforces pagan Christianity

Now Emperor Constantine was having troubles of his own. The great Roman Empire was beginning to crumble. He had already tried to unify the empire by enforcing one day for religious worship. In 321AD with the blessings of the pagan/Christian bishops, he passed a law, making the legal day for worship the pagan Sun Day (the venerable day of the Sun).

And now just four years after enforcing Sun Day worship, in the year 325AD, Constantine was facing serious religious division, a very real threat to his political power.

The emperor wrote a long letter to both Bishop Alexander and Presbyter Arius, explaining his desire to unite the empire. But Alexander and Arius did not want to compromise their stance, yet each wanted the Emperor's approval.

Constantine called a meeting of both sides. The objective: an agreeable outcome, uniting both groups, giving the Roman Empire a united religion. The meeting was arranged. Venue: Nicea.

In today's world, this is similar to the prime minister or president of your nation, meeting with the head of a large church, to decide what the people are to be taught.

Representatives from the church rallied to the call to support either Presbyter Arius or Bishop Alexander. Three hundred and eighteen bishops, together with many deacons, presbyters, acolytes and other church officials gathered in Nicea.

According to some historians, the council meeting was full of noisy, dramatic displays by Alexander's party, claims of heresy, and calls to banish Arius and his followers.

After much debate, the Emperor adjourned the meeting to consider his decision.

The result: The Nicene Creed of 325AD was endorsed and approved by Emperor Constantine favouring Bishop Alexander! Over time, this creed would be altered and additional pagan ideas included. Yes, from the simple words of the very first draft of the Nicene Creed of 325AD, each successive creed began to cloud the pure, simple Christian faith in a haze of Satanic lies and men's traditions.

"...having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!" 2 Timothy 3:5

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the

apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 KJV

Constantine decided to support Bishop Alexander and his supporters simply because they were the majority. With his heart and mind sent on political success, Constantine was hoping to secure political favour and support for a united empire, while at the same time by the use of fear he hoped to enforce the support of the minority - Arius' supporters.

Thus Arius was exiled, anyone owning any of his writings, or copies of his song-book *Thalia*, were commanded to burn them, or expect to be put to death.

The only records remaining are those which fell through the hands of the ruling powers of Church and State, or those which the Catholic Church has chosen to keep, whether in original form or altered by them.

But the original Nicene Creed did not bring an end to the dispute. Yes, Constantine endorsed the majority in the "new" idea that Jesus Christ was one and the same as His Father and had no beginning. But his decision was motivated by political ambition, not religious belief.

And as history shows, politics are as fickle as the personalities who dominate at any given time.

Thus continued 55 years of bitter dispute over the divinity of the Son of God, dividing the people of the Roman empire.

The "new" idea that the Father and the Son were both of the same substance and without beginning was new to the people. They had always understood that there was one unbegotten (without beginning) and another begotten by Him (with a beginning). This was the common understanding of the majority of the people at the time of, and prior to the Council of Nicea.

The marriage of Church with State resulted in every kind of violence. Bishops were elected by the Church/State and ordained while being surrounded by heavily armed guards to protect them from the mutinous crowds over which they were to preside.

There was a short time between 325AD and 380AD when the supporters of Arius gained a firm foothold with the Emperor, and his successor son.

Trinity Doctrine enforced by Law and Creed

But in 380 AD threats of force and violence pushed the trinity into the law books: The sole leadership of the Empire had crumbled - two child emperors were led by a third named emperor, a Spanish soldier Theodosius.



Immediately after his baptism by the Catholic bishop of Thessalonica in 380 AD, Theodosius issued an edict, which included these words:

"...According to the discipline of the apostles, and the doctrine of the gospel, let us believe the sole deity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: under an equal majesty, and a pious Trinity..."

We authorise the followers of this doctrine to assume the title of Catholic Christians; and as we judge that all others are extravagant madmen, we brand them with the infamous name of 'heretics'...Besides the condemnation of divine justice, they must expect to suffer the severe penalties which our authority, guided by heavenly wisdom, shall think proper to inflict upon them.'

"This law was issued in the names of the three emperors, Gratian, Valentinian II, and Theodosius. 'Thus the religion of the whole Roman world was enacted by two feeble boys and a rude Spanish soldier.' Milman *'History of Christianity,'* book iii, chap. ix, par I. Beachy, L. *The Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity: A History of the Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity within Orthodox Christianity [Electronic Version]*, p19. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from http://www.smyrna.org/books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The%20Formulation%20of%20the%20Doctrine%20of%20the%20Trinity.pdf

In 381 AD a new creed was composed by only 150 bishops, following on from the emperor's edict.

Up until this time the focus of the controversy was the relationship of the Father and His Son.

But with this new creed, a third individual was included, and the name of that third individual was the Holy Spirit. So it was that the doctrine of the Trinity was first presented.

Although the doctrine of the trinity was voted by the majority of the Catholic Church bishops, many people did not believe the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Those who rejected the doctrine of the trinity did so because the trinity affected so many other doctrines taught by Jesus, his disciples and the early Christian Church.

History informs us that in the 5th century the Anathanasian creed solidified the Holy Spirit as a third person, bringing forth the bitter fruit of the seeds of the trinity, sown in the Nicene Creed of 325AD.

At the time the Anathanasian creed was brought in, the pagan cross began to adorn churches. And the pagan festival December 25th was fully established as the Birth of the Son. Pagan Easter celebrations are now called "Christian." Worshipping on Sun Day, the first day of the week was now law.

Whenever a government, or any other agency forces, or persuades others to believe as they do, they are not following the teachings of the Bible. There is no sanction in the Bible for using force.

Trinity Central Doctrine of the Catholic Faith

To this day, the Papacy of the Catholic Church admits the doctrine of the Trinity was formulated by her.

"The mystery of the Trinity is the central doctrine of the Catholic Faith. Upon it are based all the other teachings of the Church...

"The Church studied this mystery with great care and after four centuries of clarification, decided to state the doctrine in this way: in the unity of the Godhead there are three Persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit..."
Ref: Handbook for Today's Catholic - page 11.

"Our opponents (Protestants) sometimes claim that no belief should be held dogmatically which is not explicitly stated in Scripture (ignoring that it is only on the authority of the Church we recognize certain Gospels and no other as true). **But the Protestant churches have themselves accepted such dogmas as the Trinity for which there is no such precise authority in the Gospels...**" Beaulieu, R., (1950, October 3). The Trinity - Central Doctrine of the Catholic Faith. *Life Magazine*. Retrieved December 19, 2011 from Omega Countdown Ministries and the Ellen G. White Defense League website: <http://omega77.tripod.com/centraldoctrine.htm>

Clearly the Catholic Church did not acquire the doctrine of the Trinity from the Bible, but rather adopted it from the pagan religions.

"The Platonic trinity, itself merely a rearrangement of older trinities dating back to earlier peoples, appears to be the rational philosophic trinity of attributes that gave birth to the three hypostases or divine persons taught by the Christian churches...This Greek philosopher's [Plato, fourth century BC] conception of the divine trinity...can be found in all the ancient [pagan] religions." Ref: Paris, 1865-1870, *Nouveau Dictionnaire Universel*, edited by Lachatre, M. Vol 2, page 1467. Beachy, L. *The Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity: A History of the Formulation of the Doctrine of the Trinity within Orthodox Christianity [Electronic Version]*, p22. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from http://www.smyrna.org/books/Formulation_of_the_Trinity/The%20Formulation%20of%20the%20Doctrine%20of%20the%20Trinity.pdf

Martin Luther, a famous fifteenth century reformer converted from Catholicism to Protestantism said this:

"I now know of a certainty that the papacy is the kingdom of Babylon and the power of Nimrod the mighty hunter." Luther, M. (1520). *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*. Steinhäuser A.T.W. (Translated) *Works of Martin Luther with Introductions and Notes*, volume II (1915). Philadelphia, PA, USA : A.J. Holman Company. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from Truth on the Web Ministries website: <http://www.truthontheweb.org/luther.htm>

Can you see Satan's power manifested in the pagan trinities and the Christian



trinity down to our day? And most importantly do you see the main theme of the trinity? How Lucifer the highest angel, wanted equality with God in heaven. But as Lucifer was merely a created being this was impossible.

So when Lucifer, now called Satan laid claim to planet earth he set up his own religion in the form of paganism, and that religion practised all that is unholy against God. Thus, in the guise of pagan gods Satan tried to enthrone himself as supreme god on earth.

By creating pagan trinities, Satan played out his evil desires to be equal with God the Father and the Son. But even more ingenious, through his invention of pagan trinities, Satan paved the way to personify the Holy spirit of God in the realm of Christendom.

Now do not be fooled. Satan knows exactly how many persons are in the God-head. If there really were three persons, then to infiltrate the Godhead, Satan would need to invent a Godhead of four persons. Not a very plausible idea.

But knowing the truth, that there are only two persons - God the Father and His only begotten Son - Satan has very cleverly latched onto their One spirit presence, the spirit presence called the Holy Spirit.

Satan Masquerades as the Holy Spirit in a “trinity”

And by personifying the Holy Spirit, Satan has infiltrated the Godhead; creating an illusion that God is a trinity of three persons.

Thus masquerading as the Holy Spirit persona in the churches of Christendom Satan receives worship as though he is God.

*" 'For you have said in your heart:
"I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
I will be like the Most High."'" Isaiah 14:13-14*

And this is not all. For in his attempt to dethrone God, Satan performs a double act. Masquerading in the personage of "...the man of sin..." (the leader of the church which formed the trinity doctrine), Satan "sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

"...the man of sin..." 2 Thessalonians 2:3 "...who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." 2 Thessalonians 2:4

"...according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and

with all unrighteous deception..." 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

And so assuredly, we have found the missing key, and unlocked the mystery behind the trinity, discovering the very beginnings of the trinity and who is behind its dark teachings.

As we head towards the end of the world, we have yet to see where belief in the trinity will lead its followers.

Freedom from the “trinity”

Yes, today we can choose to be free of the trinity falsehood. Freedom from the trinity begins by opening our minds to the truth. For Jesus said,

" 'And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'" John 8:32

Free from, *"...the spirit of error..." 1 John 4:6*

Free to follow, *" '...the Spirit of truth..." John 15:26*, in God the Father and His beloved Son.

Yes, right at this very minute, God the Father and His Son are willing and waiting to enfold Their Spirit personalities into our lives, so we might become one in spirit with Them, through Their one *"...eternal Spirit..." Hebrews 9:14.*

*"...there is a spirit in man,
And the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding." Job 32:8*

"...he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him." 1 Corinthians 6:17

What a great privilege! What a tremendous gift from an all-loving God.

*"... He (God) is unique, and who can make Him change?
And whatever His soul desires, that He does.
For He performs what is appointed for me,
And many such things are with Him." Job 23:13-14*

*"Praise the LORD!
Praise God in His sanctuary;
Praise Him in His mighty firmament!
Praise Him for His mighty acts;
Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!
Psalm 150:1-2*



Let us Pray
Dear Heavenly Father,
We come before you in our human weakness, acknowledging you as the only true God, the great king
of the universe.
Please reign over our lives with your touch of divinity.
Energise us with Your Spirit of life, that we might become Your loyal subjects in Your spiritual kingdom
upon earth.
This we ask in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen. (Let it be so)

*“The LORD bless you and keep you,
The LORD make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to;
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.” Numbers 6:24*

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