# PROPHETIC REVELATION

# LOGOS: THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

He that hath an ear, let him hear!

# **FOREWORD**

Mendel Kravitz, an 84-year old Jew, was hit by a car in New York City and lay bleeding on the sidewalk. A policeman arrived on the scene and, glancing at the victim, immediately called for an ambulance and a priest.

The priest arrived first, and bending over Kravitz, he asked, "Do you believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost?"

Kravitz lifted up his head, opened his eyes wide, and turned to the crowd that had gathered around him. "I'm laying here dying and he's asking me riddles!"

**Ignorance** is not bliss. The New Testament writers constantly appeal to us to know and be sure of what we believe. St. Paul's probing "Know ye not?" occurs frequently in his epistles.

The false doctrines in the days of Jesus Christ were the result of the people's ignorance of the Scriptures together with the practice of "teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matt.15:9). How great, then, is the ignorance of Christians today? Simply consider this rebuke of our Lord Jesus — "Ye worship ye know not what" (Jhn.4:22).

Friend, do you know what you worship, or do you merely follow the traditions of your church? Is your God **the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob?** 

The purpose of this book is to outline briefly and as clearly as possible the **Revelation of the Mystery of Godliness** (1 Tim.3:16), or the subject of **The Godhead** of the Holy Bible. I earnestly urge you to search the Scriptures diligently until the Truth is revealed to you.

In just less than 300 years after the Ascension of Christ Jesus, Christianity became an organized religion and the light of the One True God was soon darkened by theologians who preached and taught the creeds and dogmas of their organizations and the traditions of

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men rather than the Word of God. As a result, there are now many different interpretations on the doctrine of the Godhead. A wide majority believe that God is **a triune being** or **a trinity of persons**, while some believe that He exists as two persons. And there are others who believe that He is one but deny the deity of Jesus Christ. The saints of the Bible times never speculated about God. The later believers began to lose sight of the Word of God and forsook Its foundation when they drifted away from the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Then the human thoughts prevailed, and wild speculations about God became rampant.

The majority of the Jews, during and after the first hundred years of the Gospel, held strictly to their Monotheistic faith, but they failed to see that Jesus the Christ was their God manifested in flesh to be their Messiah. Organized Christianity was no better in their belief. They have turned the Monotheistic faith of Abraham into a Polytheistic one. Their theologians have taken the God of Abraham and chopped Him into three pieces, and then tried to christianize his descendants by offering them the second piece. They are still doing so today.

Though the doctrine of the **Oneness of the Godhead** is generally believed and accepted by certain believers of the Bible to be Truth, it has not really been fully understood by many of them.

Do not merely be satisfied with what you believe, but also satisfy yourself that your belief is really the Truth. There are too many *Bible believers* with much head knowledge of their favourite preachers (be they Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors or Teachers) and their teachings, but very few who are Spirit-filled and Word-satisfied. Do not say "*I believe*" until you are sure that it has truly been revealed by the Spirit of the Lord. "*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are spiritually discerned*" (1 Cor.2:14). No revelation is true revelation unless it is given from above. "*But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God*" (1 Cor.2:10). So, "*let God be true, but every man a liar*" (Rom.3:4).

May the Lord bless you in your study of His Word is my prayer.

Richard I. s. Gan The Author This article was first written in 1984 to expose the fallacies of the doctrine of the so-called Trinity. Since then certain important Scriptural Truths on the subject have unfolded. However, the revelation of the Oneness of the Godhead remains true just the same.

As God leads His Bride into perfection, all the saints of Christ are expected to have a deeper understanding of God's Truth. Therefore, the author deems it necessary to revise the original article for the benefit of the believers of the Truth.

This article is aimed at presenting the readers with an overall objective understanding of the Godhead — the Mystery of God in Christ. Due to the constraint of space, it does not endeavour to detail every possible argument against the Trinity.

"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"

— John 4:23-24

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# THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD

#### THE CREATION

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Gen. 1:1)

It is a well known and generally acceptable fact that the heaven and the earth were created in six days. But the earth on which we are now living was a recreation after some æons of time since it was first created by God. Prior to the recreation, the earth was in a state of desolation, emptiness, and darkness.

Why was it so? And, what were the causes?

#### PREHISTORIC ERA

Let's examine the Biblical records of the chronology of events pertaining to the heaven and the earth which God had created. From Genesis 1:1 we believe that God created the heaven and the earth in a period called **THE BEGINNING** which was millions of years in the past. This is **THE BEGINNING of the Creation of the Heaven and the Earth**. Prophet Isaiah said that God "hath established it and

created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited" (Isa.45:18). And archeological discoveries have proved to us that there was an era when dinosaurs and upright man-like creatures roamed the earth. It was an era which spanned millions of years before "the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep" (Gen.1:2a). It is simply known as the **Prehistoric Era**.

#### ANGELIC BEINGS

The earth, being created in a good state and condition, was meant to be an habitation for all creatures to live harmoniously together during that Prehistoric Era.

Now, let us take a further step beyond **THE BEGINNING of the heaven and the earth** to **THE BEGINNING of the angels**.

In Job 38:4-7, God exposed Job's ignorance when He questioned him:

"Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? ...when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

Yes, the stars of God (angelic messengers) were there with God when He laid the foundations of the earth. Every Seed-Word son of God was there in the infinite Mind of God shouting for joy. [Note: God often spoke of non-existent things as if they (already) existed (Rom.4:17).]

Every creature created in the image and likeness of God is endowed with the power to choose between right and wrong. None of them is programmed to be a robot. The angels, being in God's image and likeness, had to be tested regarding their choice. And what better place for their testing could there be than the planet earth. The heaven was never meant to serve any purpose other than God's dwelling place.

## **FALLEN ANGELS**

Satan was already a **fallen angel** when he entered the **Garden of Eden** made for Adam and Eve. Evidently, he had been tested at some point of time in ages past and, having failed the test, was cast to the ground as recorded in Isaiah 14:12-14 and Ezekiel 28:11-17.

In John 8:44, Jesus said (to the unbelieving Jews):

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

In saying that, Jesus was neither referring to the murder of Abel by Cain, the seed of the Serpent, nor the lie that the Serpent had told Eve. Christ was pointing back to the origin and testing of Satan when he had his own **Garden of Eden** on this same earth.

In Ezekiel 28, when Prophet Ezekiel was prophesying, he was not only rebuking the king of Tyrus, a man of glory, who loved to glorify and exalt himself, but also Satan, when he said, "Thou hast been in Eden the Garden of God" (v.13). But please note carefully that this Garden of Eden, which was made for that Angelic Prince before his fall, was a garden of precious stones and not a garden of vegetation. Adam's garden was a garden of fruit trees and plants. The word "Eden" simply means "a delight" or "paradise". Everything in that garden of precious stones was made for that anointed cherub; every precious stone was his covering — his glory. He was elevated to a position of authority — "thou was upon the holy mountain of God" (v.14). He was perfect in his ways until iniquity was found in him (v.15). He failed his test and fell. Then Lucifer — Son of the morning — became Satan, the adversary of God.

When the seventy disciples returned to Jesus Christ after their successful mission, they were filled with great jubilation that the Lord cautioned them, saying: "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven" (Lk.10:17-18). Yes, Satan exalted himself and he fell from his first estate, and was "cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations" (Isa.14:12).

It is evident that Lucifer, who previously had power and control over this planet earth, has been fighting very hard to regain control of the earth from man, the new ruler, who has been appointed to rule in his stead since the *recreation*. He has been trying, by all ways and means, to achieve his ambition. His lies and wicked schemes have filled the earth with all forms of violence and sins. O that devil! He is all out to destroy everything that God had created! Yes, he is the god of this evil age!

Yes, Lucifer was perfect when he was created. But he was not contented with his possessions and status. It seemed that he got bored with his position and began to harbour a secret ambition to be like the Most High (Isa.14:14). God knew it and began to deal with him. That was when iniquity was found in him and he began to cause a 'war' among the mammoth creatures of the earth. **Kill! Murder! Destroy!** Thus, Lucifer became a murderer!

And when God confronted him, he told his first lie. He did not abide in the truth. That's right. "He was a murderer from the beginning and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him."

The earth was in a state of turmoil and chaos. All the creatures were fighting among themselves and killing one another which wreaked havoc on the environment around them. The wreckages,

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together with decomposed carcasses, caused a change in the climatic condition of the earth and lands laid waste. Finally, God decided to stop the widespread destruction. All He did was to cause glaciers to cover and freeze the whole earth. Then the fallen angelic prince was stripped of his authority and dominion over the earth.

All the angels that followed Satan's evil leadership fell with him. They left their first estate by choice. Angels that proved loyal to God remained at God's right hand to carry out and execute His plan.

The 'great' educated theologians can never figure out the profound truth that has been hidden in God's Word. God will only reveal the truth to babes and such as would learn. Yes, the Word of the Lord is given unto us, precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little and there a little that we may receive the truth.

Even today, there are people (especially those who believe that the earth was only about 6,000 years old) who teach that the dinosaurs existed in Adam's days and that they all perished in the great deluge of Noah's day. That's sheer foolishness! If dinosaurs existed in Noah's day, why were they not in the ark when God had specifically commanded Noah to take with him "two of every sort" of animals before He destroyed the world by the flood? And if they were brought into the ark, why are they not here with us today? (Some preachers speculate that because of their size the dinosaurs lived only for a short while after the Flood due to a lack of food.) In the first place, could "two of every sort" of dinosaurs and gigantic birds (even young matured ones) be carried in the ark? Think about it. The Flood in Noah's day (about 4,400 years ago) was not the cause of the death of the dinosaurs.

Archeology has proved that they existed millions of years ago and not merely 6,000 years ago in Adam's era. If the Flood was the cause of the extinction of the dinosaurs and other land creatures, then why the trilobites and certain other arthropods living in the seas could not survive the Flood? How and why did they become extinct in the deluge? The answer is that they were *not* existing in Adam's era but æons before that. They perished when God froze the earth after He had passed His judgment on Satan and the fallen angels.

No time limit is recorded in Genesis 1:1 regarding God's creation of the heaven and the earth. The events that occurred are not recorded in that one verse. (Obviously to hide the truth from the wise and prudent men.) The process could have easily covered æons of time.

Yes, Lucifer had his Eden. Adam had his Eden. And in the *Regeneration* when our Lord Jesus Christ shall sit on the throne of His glory to reign with His Bride, He will have His Eden (Matt.19:28; Isa.65:18-25).

#### RECREATION

The Fall of Satan had brought about the dismal condition of the earth as recorded in Genesis 1:2a. There was no light. It was empty and laid waste. "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" and God began to recreate the earth (in six days) to be inhabited once again. This time the animals were created smaller than before.

"And God said, Let us make man in our own image and after our likeness..." (Gen.1:26)

And **MAN** was given dominion over every living thing that moved upon the earth. This is **THE BEGINNING of man** who was created a little lower than the angels yet was crowned with glory and honour, and set over the works of God's hands.

#### THE GODHEAD

In Genesis 1:26, God was *not* talking or counselling with two other Gods, namely the Son and the Holy Spirit, that the Trinitarian theologians would want us to believe because of the word "us". On the contrary, the verse immediately following says, "God created man in His own image..." The use of the singular personal pronoun emphasizes that creation was the work of **One Divine Being**. (See also Jhn.1:3,10.) Who was God talking to, then? It was none other than His tried and tested angelic beings. (See Isa.6:1-8.) In humility, the Great God revealed to them His intentions. Though angels do not create nor do they preach the Gospel, they are interested in the works of God. They are God's servants, and are sometimes referred to as "men" (Gen.18:22; 19:1; Acts 1:10). No one teaches or instructs God, yet God would counsel with angels and men. (See 1 Pet. 1:12, Acts 10:1-8; Gen.18:17-33; 19:1; Psa.103:20.)

There is no such a thing as the **Trinity of God**; no such a thing as **Three Persons or Beings in One God**. The Bible has never taught a **United Godhead of 3 Gods** or a **'3 Gods' Godhead**. The Trinitarians teach that and call it a **mystery**. Sure, it will always be a mystery to them as long as they theorize God according to their own intellect. In the first place this mystery (as they called it) is a mysterious theory produced by finite minds and involving the infinity of the Godhead! And this is the theory of one such Trinitarian (Keith L. Brooks):

"If the doctrine of the Trinity is not accepted, then Christ is not divine and the character of His redemptive work is reduced to nothing. If there is a Trinity...and worship is not accorded to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, then proper adoration is being withheld from two-thirds of the Godhead."

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This 'Three-Gods-in-One' Godhead is the biggest stumbling block to the Jews, Moslems and many other Truth-seekers. Yet, many Christians, who are taught to believe in this so-called 'mystery', proudly but foolishly defend it by declaring:

"The Trinity is a fundamental article of the Christian religion, and he that denieth it may lose his soul, so he who strives to understand it may lose his wits!"

The teaching of a Triune God is a direct contradiction to the simple Scriptures of Colossians 1:19 and 2:9 which state that *in Christ Jesus dwells the FULLNESS of the Godhead bodily*. He is ALL THAT GOD IS. There is no such Biblical teaching that He is only *one-third* of the Godhead. Some even believe that there are *three separate thrones* in Heaven where the Son will sit (or is now sitting) on the right hand of God. Such people limit the Spirit of God to a form of body of a human being.

St. John bare record that "no man hath seen God at any time: the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared Him" (Jhn.1:18). That's right. No man has ever seen God, neither will any see Him — "Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen" (1 Tim.6:16). God is a Spirit. He dwells in an unapproachable light and chose to hide Himself, hence, remaining invisible (Isa.45:15; Col.1:15).

Some may think that Stephen, when he was stoned and dying, did see God because he proclaimed that he saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God (Acts 7:55-56). The term "the right hand of God" expresses God's Glory and Power. It also denotes mercy, grace, and authority, whereas "His left hand" denotes the judgment of God. (Please read Ex.15:6 and Matt.25:31-46 for a better understanding.) When the Polytheists believe that Stephen had seen God they contradict the very Scriptures they claim to believe — John 1:18, 1 Timothy 6:16, Colossians 1:15, etc.

In the Bible, whenever Jesus is pictured standing, He is in the position or office of the High Priest in His intercessory work. This is His office now. However, He will not always be in that office of High Priest. One of these days, He'll be the Judge and King when he sits on His throne of Glory to judge the world.

Therefore, in his vision, Stephen saw Jesus as the High Priest of God Who was invested with the full authority and power of God (Rev.1:13; Matt.28:18). He was the mercy and the grace of God.

The concept of a *Trinity* is a Babylonian dogma. It was upheld as a foundational doctrine at the *Nicene Council* convened in 325 A.D. by the Church of Rome which was none other than that "*Mystery Babylon the Great, The Mother of Harlots And Abominations of the Earth*". That Romish Church not only split God up into three, but she also made intercessors of the saints just like the pagan Romans did with their ancestors. Apostate Christianity could only provide dark counselling. Sad but true, the doctrines and teachings upheld by the majority of churches are based upon the carnal thinking and reasoning of the preachers and not, as generally believed, on the original words of the Apostles and Prophets.

When the philosophical, theological minds formulated the *Trinity*, the Scriptures were either overlooked or twisted to suit their traditional imaginations. And what is wrong is accepted as right, and the true knowledge is frowned upon as error.

Consider this: Who was the Father of Jesus? Did not Matthew 1:18 say that Mary "was found with child of the Holy Ghost" (i.e. the act of paternity was performed by the Holy Ghost)? Yet Jesus claimed that God was His Father. Then 'God the Father' and 'God the Holy Spirit' (terms often used by Christians) are one and the same Spirit, or else Jesus had two Fathers. (Note: There are no such terminologies as 'God the Holy Spirit' and 'God the Son' in the Scriptures. These terms are used by Apostate Christianity to denote separate Personalities(?) in the Godhead.)

It is clear from Ephesians 4:4 and John 4:24 that there is but **ONE SPIRIT**. Jesus also said that He and His Father were **one**, not two. That makes **ONE GOD**!

"One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (Eph.4:6)

And there is ONE LORD.

"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." (1 Cor.8:6)

"Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord." (Deut.6:4; Mk.12:29)

God created all things for His own good pleasure (Rev.4:11). Being omniscience He purposed in Himself (Eph.1:9) "all things after the counsel of His own will" (Eph.1:11), not after the counsel of their (Trinity's) will. Revelation 1:8 reads "I AM...WHICH IS, WHICH WAS, AND WHICH IS TO COME, THE ALMIGHTY", and not "WE ARE... WHICH WERE AND WHICH ARE TO COME, THE ALMIGHTIES". That's the revelation of One God, not three. One God counselling with Himself, not themselves. There is but ONE GOD.

#### THE ETERNAL SPIRIT

Nothing is eternal except the Almighty Spirit, the Supreme One, the All-sufficient One. He is "the high and lofty One that inhabited eternity. Whose name is Holy" (Isa.57:15 cf. Heb.9:14). This "High and Lofty One" is **ELOHIM**, but He is also known by many other names in the Hebrew tongue. Though ELOHIM appears in the plural form it does not denote a plurality of Persons but rather His Supreme Majesty and Greatness, for in Himself are various attributes being revealed — Fatherhood, Creator, Sustainer, Healer, Saviour, etc. Now *Elohim* relates to His Deity — Divine Majesty. In connection with *ELOHIM* the word **YAHWEH** (**YHWH**) is being used. YAHWEH means "The Self-sufficient One" or "The Eternal within **Himself Existing One"**. Yahweh relates Himself to man whom He had created from the dust of the earth, and was the visible appearance of Elohim in a **Theophany** through a **WORD-body**. It is **ELOHIM** Who made Himself known as YAHWEH. Yahweh is the covenant-name in the Old Testament when God set forth to deliver the children of Israel (Ex.6-13) according to the promise He had given to Abraham (Gen.15:13-16). Read Numbers 6:22-27. In the New Testament, when YAHWEH came to manifest Himself in human flesh, He took the name YAHSHUA.

[Note: To show the majesty of their many gods, the pagans also employ the same (plural noun) word *Elohim* for their many idols in their idolatrous worship. Christians whose mind are set on the specifics of the Hebrew and Greek words have concluded strongly that the word *Elohim* clearly shows a plurality of Gods in the Godhead. If this is true, consider the words which the Lord spoke to Moses in Exodus 32:8:

"They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'This is your god [Heb: elohim], O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!'" (New KJV, the original KJV has "gods" for "elohim".)

Obviously God knew that there was only one golden calf. The backslidden Israelites had moulded only one golden calf and worshipped it (Ex.32:4). Can any Christian be so blind as to believe that there was more than **ONE** golden calf?

Word study is good, but word study does not always lead to a revelation of the Truth. Truth comes only by the revelation of the Holy Spirit as He illuminates His Word.

Consider the teaching that the Second Death is an endless suffering of the wicked in a lake of everlasting fire. The word "everlasting" or "eternal" [Grk: aionios] used in describing the fire has

caused many Bible Theologians and Christians to believe that the wicked souls will be burnt forever and ever without end. If the teaching is truly Biblical, then DEATH is *not* death at all. But how could the wicked live forever without end — in the lake of fire? How could the wicked souls live forever without the Spirit of God?

Surely, without the Spirit of the Holy God there is no life, much less living forever. DEATH is DEATH. It is the cessation of life. All wicked "shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Rev.21:8). How long each wicked soul will burn in the lake of fire depends on the righteous judgment of the Holy One of Israel.]

Let me emphasize: Nothing existed in eternity past except the **Eternal Holy Spirit** — **ELOHIM**. He spoke unto Isaiah, who had it recorded (in several verses in Isaiah chapters 43 and 44), that there was no other God besides Him. And "in Him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no Saviour." (Isa. 43:10-11)

**'Eternity' means infinite in time and space.** It has no beginning and no ending. It always was, is and will be. So, **it is contradictory to call Jesus the** *Eternal Son of God*, for every 'son' has a beginning. The term '*Eternal Son*' is a Trinitarian invention. **Jesus was the Begotten Son of God** (Heb. 1:6). Look at the prophetic words of Psalm 2:7:

"I will declare the decree: The Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."

The word "this day" (or, "today") has no connection to eternity. It speaks of time. But, the Almighty Spirit 'inhabits eternity'. He has no form or body which limits Him; He is omnipotent and omniscient, which makes Him omnipresent. He is invisible (Col.1:15; 1 Tim.1:17; 6:16), and no man can see Him and live (Jhn.1:18; Ex.33:20). Then how could the Trinitarians believe they will see God, the Father, sitting on a throne in Heaven? How could Joseph Smith (of Mormonism) claim to have seen God the Father and Jesus Christ?

Some of you may question: "Who then did Moses, Joshua, Abraham, and the other saints in the Old Testament time see or talk to, when it was mentioned that they saw God or talked to Him face to face?" (For examples: see Exod.33:11; 24:9-11; Josh.5:13-15; Gen.17:1; etc.)

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For the answer, we have to look into many Scriptures and see from various angles. Now, we know that the Scriptures often have compound meaning and that God has a Divine purpose for hiding truth whilst at the same time revealing it. It is evident from the Prophets' and Apostles' usages of certain *particular expressions* in which the *deep things of God* lie hidden behind the 'letter' of the Word, unsearchable to the natural man. Even Christ Jesus spoke in such a way "that the Scriptures might be fulfilled". (For examples, read Jhn.2:19: 6:53-58: 13:18).

Take a look at Exodus 33:14:

"And He said, My presence (Heb: My face) shall go with thee..."

Now, what does "My presence" (or "My face") mean? Isaiah 63:9 says:

"In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His presence (or His face) saved them..."

This "Presence of the Lord God" was the very One Who came to visit Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Gen.3:8). "The Angel of His presence" that "saved" Israel was their Saviour, and we know that they had but **One Saviour**. So then those holy men must have seen or talked to the Messiah Who was the **Face** or **Visible Presence** of the Almighty, the One Who "shall go before thee", "bare them and carried them" and "redeemed them".

In Exodus 23:20-23, we read,

"Behold, I send an angel (Heb: messenger) before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of Him, and obey His voice, provoke Him not; for He will not pardon your transgressions: FOR MY NAME IS IN HIM. But if thou shalt indeed obey His voice, and do all that I SPEAK; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. FOR MINE ANGEL shall go before thee, and will bring thee in..."

These verses plainly show that the Almighty God had a **MESSENGER** Who performed the *VERY WILL* of God. He literally stood in the stead of God and was God. The children of Israel were warned to obey His voice and not to provoke Him. Obeying His voice meant doing all that God had SPOKEN (through Him) because the *NAME OF GOD WAS IN HIM*. And there is only one person in the heaven and the earth that has the *NAME OF GOD IN HIM*. He is none other than Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Living God!

"I am come in my Father's Name." (Jhn.5:43)

"For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father which hath sent Him." (Jhn.5:22-23)

Now, does that mean that before His earthly sojourn Jesus preexisted? Who was the VISIBLE PRESENCE of God Who bore the NAME OF GOD IN HIM and was the Saviour of Israel?

## **INVISIBLE SPIRIT, VISIBLE WORD**

The different answers to the question regarding the pre-existence of Jesus have caused much confusion among Bible Believers. Besides the Trinitarians, there are also non-Trinitarians who believe that Jesus pre-existed his earthly life. [Note: Sometimes a seemingly correct and logical answer may just turn out to be the wrong answer. For example, it is common for Christians to refer to verses of Scriptures where a Father, a Son and a Holy Spirit are mentioned, and straightaway conclude that God is a *Trinity* of Three Persons in One. Another example is the use of wrong baptismal formula in Water Baptism. Instead of the formula clearly prescribed in Acts 2:38, the majority of churches would simply follow the *command* in Matthew 28:19 without a true understanding of its underlying meaning. That's why there are so many different interpretations of the Godhead and many other doctrines of the Bible.]

No, Jesus did not pre-exist as a separate person from God, nor did He pre-exist as a Son of God, at any time before Bethlehem. However, the spirit of the 'Sonship' of God was in the WORD. It was an attribute in the WORD, which manifested itself in Jesus Christ. Without the spirit of the Sonship in the WORD, there would be no Son of God. But it is wrong to say that the WORD was Jesus and that He pre-existed. [Note: Please read the last paragraph under the subtopic 'DUAL NATURE' for a similar line of thought in answering the question: 'Did God die for our sins?'] Until about two millennia ago, Christ had been God's great mystery to mankind for ages. The mystery of Father-Son relationship was hidden. Jesus, Who was in the bosom of God, was sent to declare the Father — His Father and our Father, His God and our God (cf. Jhn.20:17).

Beloved, we need to properly understand the great mystery which lies hidden in **the WORD that was with God**. We should not do what some Bible translators and interpreters have done by directly *equating* the WORD with JESUS. Instead of saying that "the WORD was God", they are saying that "the WORD was Jesus". This is one of the many classical traditional interpretations among the Trinitarians. If this is the true interpretation, the Beloved Apostle John would have written it that way. The erroneous interpretation was deduced from the words

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recorded in John 1:14: "And the Word was made flesh...". But this verse has no direct reference to the birth of the child Jesus in Bethlehem nor even His conception in Mary's womb; it refers to the WORD being manifested in the life (flesh) of Jesus, in His ministry, right after God incarnated in Him at River Jordan. Remember, Jesus was the Begotten Son of God, not the Eternal Son of God.

One favourite verse some Trinitarians like to use is 1 John 5:7:

"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."

Any serious Bible student will know that this verse was *not* part of the Holy Scriptures. Earliest available manuscripts do not contain the text. However, foolish arguments do arise among the Trinitarians who try and prove a *Trinity* in this verse by the phrase "these three are one". But "these three are one" is not "these three agree as one". It does not even hint at a 'three in one' God nor about an *United Godhead of Three Gods*.

[Note: To those who argue that Jesus was a Son before Bethlehem because the Scriptures say, "The Father sent the Son", they would have to justify that John the Baptist was already a man before his natural birth, for the Scriptures also say, "There was a man sent from God whose name was John". Also, to insist that THE WORD which was brought forth in the beginning was the begotten Son of God, we have to justify that Adam was also a begotten son before his birth into the world in a body of dust. Like the spirit of Adam, the WORD BODY is both male and female. Adam, who was both male and female in spirit form, could not be called son. The attributes of the 'son' and 'daughter' of God lying in the spirit of Adam were only manifested when Adam became a living soul. There was first the man and then the man's wife (the woman). Similarly, the attributes of the Son of God and His Church (Spiritual Bride) were only in THE WORD until a body of flesh was formed for IT to dwell in. There was first the Man Christ Jesus and then His Bride (the Church) taken from His side at Calvary. The spiritual man Jesus was the anti-type of the natural man Adam.l

Before a son was born, he had always been a *seed* in his father's loin. But the son did not pre-exist as a separate person from the father, but as a seed in him. Remember the Almighty Spirit has many attributes, such as that of a Creator, a Healer, a Saviour, a Warrior, a Defender, etc. All these attributes lie in the SEED which carries the FAMILY NAME. To manifest these attributes, God had to set forth a Work to declare His Word and to manifest His Name (Jhn.5:17; 17:3-10). In His own counselling (Eph.1:11), He predestinated and even glorified and called those things which did not yet exist as though

they did (Rom.4:17). And Jesus, Who was **'THE SEED'** in the Great Eternal Spirit, in the bosom of the Father, was later sent forth as the Only Begotten Son of God to fulfill that predestinated Plan of God (Jhn.1:18).

Jesus was only mentioned *prophetically* as 'the coming one' in the Old Testament, and always in relation to God as Father, for He was that WORD delivered and manifested at different times and in divers manners unto the Patriarchs by the Prophets (Heb.1:1). He existed only in the Mind of God in the beginning as that **WORD and BREAD**, which later came down from Heaven as the Son of God (John 6). And when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth His Son, born (or made — Gal.4:4) of a virgin woman. Jesus was begotten of God but born of a virgin woman. Mary's firstborn son was God's only begotten Son. Jesus was also the "firstborn among many brethren" (Rom.8:29).

Now this Visible Being, the Angel of God, was *not* another God and Saviour. For God had declared:

"There is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside Me." (Isa. 45:21)

As most Bible scholars understand, this Visible Being that appeared throughout the Old Testament unto the Prophets was none other than the *THEOPHANY*, a manifestation of God. It was *THE WORD* of God — *THE THOUGHT* and *MIND* of God *EXPRESSED* and *REVEALED* in a certain way or form.

Let us take a closer look at this **Word** of God in the Scriptures to determine what the **Great Eternal Spirit** had counselled and purposed in Himself to do.

# 'MONOGENE' — THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD

In the Barclay translation, the first five verses of the Gospel of John read:

"When the world began, THE WORD was already there. THE WORD was with God, and the nature of THE WORD was the same as the nature of God.

THE WORD was there in the beginning with God.

It was through the agency of THE WORD that everything else came into being. Without THE WORD not one single thing came into being.

As for the whole creation, THE WORD was the life principle in it, and that life was the light of men.

The light continues to shine in the darkness, and the darkness has never extinguished it."

**THE WORD** (Grk: **LOGOS**) was the very agency by which all things came into existence. Without THE WORD nothing could exist or be created. For "**THE WORD was God**". The WORD could not be anything less since **IT** was there in the beginning with God. Undoubtedly, **LIFE** was in THE WORD. It still is. Jesus said, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (Jhn.6:63).

Since all things came forth from this WORD (the centre theme of Life) Which was the Beginning of the Creation of God, we can simply say that **IT** was the **SEED OF LIFE**. We can term IT the **MONOGENE OF GOD**. And if we know our Bible, we would have noticed that this WORD was expressed unto the Patriarchs by (Grk: in) the prophets throughout the Old Testament "in many separate revelations — each of which set forth a portion of the TRUTH — and in different ways" (Heb.1:1, Amplified). But God "hath in these last days spoken unto us by (Grk: in) His Son... Who being the brightness of His Glory, and the **express image** of His **person** (Grk: **hupostasis** — **substance**; **essence**; **real nature**. The word "person" is a mistranslation)..." (Heb.1:2-3).

Right, THE WORD of God was revealed unto the Old Testament prophets in different manners and in various ways, not only expressed and heard but manifested and seen by those holy men of God. And in each of those **REVELATIONS**, THE WORD was revealed in a certain manner and way that would **portray** or **prefigure THE CHRIST** (Jesus) Who was to come as the FULLNESS of THE WORD, to fulfill ALL that THE SCRIPTURES (THE WORD) had spoken of Him. Therefore, right in the MONOGENE was the spirit of Sonship (the germ of the SEED) that was later manifested as Jesus, the only begotten Son of God.

"IN THE BEGINNING was THE WORD, and THE WORD was with God and THE WORD was God." (Jhn.1:1)

The term "in the beginning" does not mean "in eternity" nor "without a beginning". Just as the heaven and the earth, and the angels had their beginnings, "THE WORD" also had ITS BEGINNING. And this "WORD" later became flesh and dwelt among men.

The word **"WORD"** came from the Greek word **LOGOS** which means the **EXPRESSION OF THOUGHT** and *not* merely the thinking of a *thought* (Grk: *noema*) or the *reasoning* (Grk: *dialogismos*). One cannot separate man from his *mind* (Grk: *nouns*) wherein are his thoughts. So, as long as the Almighty is, His *Mind* is in Him.

In eternity past, before anything came into existence, there was only the Almighty. He was **Self-sufficient**. All His *THOUGHTS* were in His *MIND*. But they were *not EXPRESSED*. THE WORD was *not manifested*. IT was only in His *MIND*.

A thought is a word unspoken or unexpressed. It's merely in the mind. On the other hand, a word is a thought expressed or spoken. And an expression is a thought in words or acts. THE LOGOS is therefore the THOUGHT plus ITS EXPRESSION (OR REVELATION). Simply, the LOGOS stands for the WORD SPOKEN, as well as THE SPEAKER BEHIND THE WORD.

With this in mind we can see why John wrote — "IN THE BEGINNING was THE WORD (THE LOGOS)". Before that period of THE BEGINNING, there was just the Almighty with His Thoughts (not Logos). But after He had finished counselling with Himself and purposed in His Mind, He began to express them accordingly "after the counsel (Grk: boule) of His Own will" (Eph.1:11). That was then THE BEGINNING OF THE LOGOS or the expression of His inward thoughts. Elohim began to form a SPIRIT BODY, called THE WORD, a body very similar to the angelic beings which later were created. But unlike the spirit body of angels, the SPIRIT BODY which came forth out of Elohim was LIFE ITSELF because it carried the Revelation of the Word of God which is Life. Hence, "In him was life;…" (Jhn.1:4a). And as God began to speak His Thoughts through this Word Body, things began to happen!

[Note: Certain theologians who believe in Two Gods are teaching that the word "God" in the phrase "the Word was with God" (Jhn.1:1) came through as "Yahweh" in the Hebrew language. And because the word "Yahweh" is used instead of "Elohim", they would override the phrase "in the beginning", and contend that the **Logos** was a separate Spirit Being who co-existed with the **Almighty Spirit** (**Elohim**) "in eternity". Like the Trinitarians, they call the Logos the 'Second Member of the Elohim Family'. (We will see later why such polytheistic doctrines fail to reflect the type of the **Tabernacle of Moses**.)]

#### THE WORD & JESUS

I pray that you may have the revelation on the **difference** between **JESUS** and **THE WORD**. Many Bible scholars would have us believe that *THE WORD* was Jesus in the beginning and He became flesh nearly two millenniums ago. But by saying that *THE WORD* was Jesus, they are telling us that in eternity past (or in the period of "the beginning" in John 1:1) there were **two Gods** — God the Father and God the Son. **THE WORD** was **not Jesus**. **THE WORD** was **God. However, Jesus was THE WORD of God made manifest in the flesh.** Jesus was not with God in the beginning; *THE WORD* (that was to be made manifest in the Man Jesus) was. And *THE WORD* was the 'Monogene' (SEED) which came forth from God to **express ITSELF.** THE WORD had a beginning but since IT came forth from the Eternal Spirit, THE WORD was and is eternal (because THE WORD was God), but the Man Jesus, Who was begotten and created, was not eternal.

THE WORD was the **Full Prefiguration of Christ** who came forth from the MIND of God to express Deity, the Eternal Godhead. In that beginning, Deity comprised of the *Invisible Almighty Spirit* and His Visible Word Body (Grk: LOGOS) and not the Father and the Son.

Unless we have the revelation, we will think that THE WORD (LOGOS) was Jesus, the Son of God, in the beginning. But Jesus Who was to be God's WORD (tabernacled and manifested) in flesh (about 2000 years ago) was expressed right there in that LOGOS. Because of the attribute of Fatherhood in God, there had to be a Son. And the LOGOS of God came forth with that **Sonship spirit** to express the Son of God Who was vet to come. (Remember a son is a carrier and a builder of the family name.) Hence, the Sonship spirit of Jesus was an intrinsic part of the *LOGOS* which came forth from God to express God's attributes. Jesus, Who was the Monogene (Seed, 'Son') of God, was being expressed in and through that WORD body. He was the very Spirit and Soul of God, so to speak. The LOGOS which was later to be tabernacled in Jesus, the Son of God, was the 'SON', figuratively And according to God's Sovereign Will, God glorified Him, the Son of God, in His WORD (Jhn.17:5). Then God crucified and slayed Him as a Lamb before the foundation of the world (Rev. 13:8). Elohim purposed His WORD after the counsel of His Own Will (Eph.1:11), and spoke of non-existent things as if they (already) existed (Rom.4:17). As the redeemed of God, we were even chosen and purified in Christ before the world was founded as God saw us in love (Eph. 1:4). We were a part (sonship) of that WORD because we are a part of the Body of Christ. We are "seeds" produced by the "Monogene" (Seed) which was expressed in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament according to the Master Plan of God. Because we have the sonship spirit we could be born flesh (human beings) and be **born again** as sons and daughters of God. Moreover, we have also been glorified as it was established in the Mind and Word of God (Rom. 8:29-30). Yes, by the foreknowledge of God, He had thus **predestinated** and **foreordained** His **Redemption Plan** such that even the names of His sons and daughters were written in the Lamb's *Book of Life* before the foundation of the world (Rev. 13:8).

Adam, who was first created a spirit, was *not* yet a son of God. He could *not* be called a son of God until he was given a body of flesh — born into this world. In that spirit form, he only possessed the attribute of sonship. Some Bible believers believe that, like Adam, all human beings (or just the true sons and daughters of God) were created, and existed, as spirits before they were born. A favourite scriptural verse in support of this idea is Job 38:4-7: "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding...When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" Do they mean to say that the spirits of all the other human (or all the "sons of God") were already created

together with the spirit of Adam before the earth was founded? Also, before the earth was laid, was the spirit of Eve existing among all the female spirits or was she a part of the spirit of Adam?

All the "sons of God" (which include "daughters") were existing only in the omnipotent Mind of God. They were a part of the LOGOS, as 'seeds' (sons of God) to be brought forth by the 'SEED' (SON of God) when He came to lay down His Life on earth (Jhn.12:24). As 'seeds' within the 'SEED' (e.g. mangoes (seeds) which would be produced by ONE MANGO SEED through time), they did not literally exist as spirit beings. The "sons of God" were intrinsic in the LOGOS.

We know that God is a Creator, but He cannot be Creator if creation exists only in His Mind. He has to create and make manifest His creation before He is called Creator. We know that He is a Saviour, but if there is no literal sinners for Him to save, then He cannot be called Saviour.

The **Father-son relationship** between God and Adam had to be expressed and manifested. Adam was the beginning of mankind (Hebrew: âdâm). Though he was first created a spirit (male and female), he was unlike the *LOGOS* which was the *WORD BODY* of God. He came from God being created by the WORD Himself. Adam was just a part of the Word body. The sonship attribute of Adam was in the spirit of Adam but it had to be visibly manifested as a person (human being) before it can truly be called a son of God. Adam had to have a corporeal body from the dust of the earth. [What is a person? See section under 'PERSON AND PERSONALITY'.] After forming a body of dust, God then took the spirit of Adam and breathed it into the body of dust, and Adam became a **living soul**, a person (human being) with the life and vitality of his Maker (Gen.2:7). He was to **express** the **Life of God** in him. (The living soul is the manifestation of the spirit.) Even though Adam was a son of God, the knowledge of Father-son relationship was unrevealed in the Old Testament. God's relationship with Adam and the children of Israel was a **Master**servant relationship. The revelation of Father-son relationship came only after Jesus was sent as the Son of God to be the propitiation of our sins (1 Jhn.4:10).

The spirit-mind of Adam was an expression from the Spirit of the Almighty God, and thus it was part of the image of God. The (sonship) spirit of Adam was both male and female. And as long as Adam was in that form he could never be manifested as a son of God. It was manifested only after Adam became a person, a man. Then from his side, was the feminine part taken out to form a woman. Likewise when the *WORD* was made manifest in the person of Jesus Christ, we see the expression of both male and female. Christ was the 'male' (Bridegroom) and the Church the 'female' (Bride) which was taken and formed from His side at Calvary.

#### PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Angels have *no* sonship spirit though they were created in God's image (spirit in form) and likeness (visible feature). They cannot be born human. They cannot be persons. They are not persons even though they may appear (*en morphe*) as men. They cannot be sons of God. They were simply created and ordained to be ministering spirits.

The prophet-messenger, William Branham, said:

"The Great Eternal began to form Himself towards flesh in a Theophany; it's called THE WORD, a BODY. This then was the state He was in when He met Abraham; He was called Melchizedec. He was in the form of Theophany."

"This Great Spirit began to form (in the creation) and THE LOGOS that went out from IT was 'The Son of God'. It was the only VISIBLE form that the SPIRIT had. And it was a Theophany which means a BODY, and the BODY was like a man."

"Now, 'no man has seen the Father at any time'. No man can see God because God is not in body form. God is a Spirit ...Then after a while I begin to see a little sacred LIGHT which began to form, like a halo or something. You could only see it by spiritual eyes...What was that? That was called, by Bible readers, 'LOGOS', or 'The Anointed', or 'The Anointing', the part of God began to develop into something so human beings could have some type of an idea what IT was. That was THE WORD of God."

God is a **SPIRIT**, that's what He is. Though the **WORD** is God yet *not* all of God is the *WORD*. Theologically, we could say that the *SPIRIT* of **Elohim** is the greater part and His *WORD* the lesser part (for the latter proceeds from the former). It is this lesser part that is the visible side of God (called *THE WORD*) which became a man. Hence, the *WORD* is the **Lord of Heaven** (1 Cor.15:47; Jhn.3:13). And the *WORD* was manifested in the Person of Jesus Christ.

The Thought and Expression of God — THE WORD — went forth from Him in a Spirit-Body as THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD (THE BEGINNER or AUTHOR OF THE CREATION OF GOD), THE FIRSTBORN OF EVERY CREATURE, THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN. By and through this WORD were all creations of God brought forth into existence.

"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." (Col.1:16-17 NKJ version)

"And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things [by Jesus Christ:]." (Eph.3:9 [bracketed text are not in original])

The **Word** of God came through this **WORD BODY**. God spoke through Him and said, "Let there be light" and there was light; "Let there be fishes" and there were fishes. He was the **Spokesman** of God. And it was through this WORD (or SPIRIT) BODY that the Spirit of God 'en morphe' Himself and became VISIBLE unto His servants the prophets. We call such a manifestation **THEOPHANY**.

#### **THEOPHANY**

Now, the 'going forth' of this **LOGOS** (from God) to reveal God's purpose was expressed in the form of a **MAN**. The **LOGOS** was expressed in a **Spirit Body** (called the **Word**). Whenever the **LOGOS** went forth from God, IT will return unto Him after accomplishing ITS mission. ITS appearance as a man was either in a corporeal or visual (visionary) non-tangible form. Each appearance of a **Theophany** was a **pre-figuration** of Christ and was only temporary as well as localized. We have read how He was once Melchizedec, High Priest of God; next, He was the Judge and Saviour of Israel; and then, He was the Friend of Abraham with whom He had sweet communion.

Abraham knew that Melchizedek, who blessed him, was the Priest of the Most High God and he gave Him tithes of all that he had (Gen.14:17-20). He knew that He was none other than *THE WORD* of God. Melchizedek was *not* Jesus, but a prefiguration of Christ in His High Priestly Ministry. Paul said Melchizedek was "without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life" (Heb.7:3); but it was not so with Jesus Who was born with a body consisting of the elements of the earth, and Whose "mother" was the Virgin Mary. So, Melchizedek could only be the VISIBLE part of God, *THE WORD*, His Thought Expressed, Who appeared unto Abraham. Since *THE WORD* was God, Paul could say directly that Melchizedek was "without father". Truly, because the Father-Son relationship between *GOD* and *THE WORD* did not exist.

Later on, in the plains of Mamre, three MEN paid Abraham a visit. Two of them were the invisible Spirit Angels (Angelic Beings) who had 'en morphe' themselves to become visible human beings, bodies made up of created elements. Abraham recognized the **third MAN** and called Him, **LORD**. **THE WORD of the Lord** had again become

visible (*Theophany*) to fellowship and eat with Abraham (Read Genesis 18). This was the same MAN, the Angel (Messenger) of the Lord, who had also appeared at different times, wearing different garb, to all the other prophets and servants of the Lord in their days. The different appearances *prefigured* and showed the many roles and attributes of God, such as Saviour, Defender, Intercessor, Friend, Judge, Comforter, and so forth.

Now, the MAN seen by all those holy men of God was the **same being** with the **same face**. That face was the face of Jesus. **There is only one face of God and it is the Lord of Heaven.** The *LOGOS* could only appear with that face because God had to show forth His "Son" Who was to come and fulfill all that were spoken of Him. Jesus said to the Jews, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad" (Jhn.8:56). **Hence, Jesus was that spirit of Sonship, manifested in the LOGOS of God, who was to be born into the world as the Only Begotten Son of God to fulfill the various attributes of God, which were shown to those holy men.** 

#### HIS CREATIVE SELF-REVELATION

We now understand that **THE WORD** of God (Grk: LOGOS; Heb: DABAR) is more than a verbal utterance; it is His **creative self-revelation**, "the side of God turned towards the world". We also understand from St. John's 'prologue' that THE LOGOS is not a blind, impersonal creative principle or life force but the PERSONAL EXPRESSION OF THE LIVING GOD in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the very embodiment of THE LOGOS of God, the EXPRESSION of the Divine Light, Life, Glory and Truth in a human personality (Jhn.1:4,9 cf. 1 Jhn.1:1-4).

As I have said, THE WORD was not Jesus. And according to John, THE WORD was God. Jesus, "Who is the Image of the Invisible God" was THE WORD made manifest. He was THE REVELATION OF GOD. Jesus was basically what the WORD was. He was The Christ, the Mystery of God revealed to the saints. He was THE SEED of God, the 'Monogene' of God, the ONLY BEGOTTEN Son of God, Who was in the BOSOM of the Father, that was expressed in the LOGOS throughout the Old Testament. As Jesus Christ was prefigured in the old, so He was manifested and revealed in the new. In the old, He was that "Sonship" spirit intrinsic in the LOGOS expressed; in the new, He was the Son of God, the LOGOS incarnated. In the old, the LOGOS was expressed in and through a spirit body; in the new, the LOGOS was expressed in and through a human body. In both the old (a spirit body) and the new (a human body), the LOGOS of God had but one face, the face of Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Jhn.4:2-3).

THE WORD was not another ALMIGHTY SPIRIT or another GOD. In His 'Self-counselling', the One True Almighty Spirit God had

purposed in Himself to bring forth children (of God) unto Himself. As such, there had to be a **SEED-WORD** in order to produce and bring forth life into existence. The **WORD** Body was the channel through which God manifested and revealed Himself. **The Spirit of God and His Word are One.** This is the compound unity of the Godhead Who is **Elohim**. We know that a seed will bring forth its own kind. That's God's law (Gen.1:11-12,21,24-25). For example, an apple seed when planted will bring forth an apple tree which will produce apples with apple seeds in them. And *that* apple seed (which went down into the earth) had its origin in its 'parent' apple seed. So, in type, we understand that **THE WORD was the MONOGENE (SEED) of God, and IT was God** — for that which is Spirit is Spirit.

## NO SEED, NO LIFE

When you get an apple seed to work, by planting it, it will bring forth a shoot, then leaves, stalks, branches, and so on. Then the flowers appear and fade. The pistils enlarge to become apples which contain the same type of *seed* which was originally planted. The *seed*, the beginning of the product, through its different manifestations in various stages would in the final stage emerge as *seed* itself. So, we understand that *THE LOGOS* as *THE SEED* of God, which came forth as *The Beginning of the Creation of God*, was manifested unto the Patriarchs and Prophets at different times and in divers manners, and ("in these last days" — Heb. 1:2) revealed unto us as *The Only Begotten Son* (Monogene — Seed) of The Father. The complete *LOGOS* of God was in the Son of God. Therefore **Jesus was THE WORD** (LOGOS) of God. He was the revelation of God to mankind (cf. 1 Pet.1:23-25).

As THE LOGOS was THE SEED (Monogene) of God which God had brought forth out of His own bosom to express His attribute of Fatherhood, it could not be anything less than the 'SON' of the 'FATHER', THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER, THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD, THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD, THE FIRSTBORN OF EVERY CREATURE, THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN — Elohim producing Himself a Family. This is that "Mystery of Godliness; God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of the angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in the glory" which was purposed in the Mind of the Almighty before anything ever existed, and brought forth to pass in Christ Jesus our Lord. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was come in the flesh. He was THE WORD of God manifested in human flesh. In all things, He was the pre-eminence.

Now, since "the Word was with God,..." (Jhn.1:1), IT therefore dwelled with the Almighty Spirit in the Light (Pillar of Fire) that was unapproachable (cf. 1 Tim.6:16). IT dwelled in the bosom (heart) of God. God, as 'Father', cradled the Word, His Seed, His 'Son'. The

spirit of *SONSHIP* (Jesus, the Son of God) was in the *WORD*. Jesus was that *'Son of God'* expressed in that *WORD* Body. That's why Jesus, the Son of God, was the *WORD* of Life — both in Creation and Redemption (Jhn.1:4; 1 Jhn.1:1). As the Messiah (Saviour) must be human, the *WORD* must put on human flesh. To do that, God had to bring about a new creation for the dwelling place of the *WORD* — *"...a body hast thou prepared me"* (Heb.10:5b). Yes, a body of flesh (*not* the body of a baby) was prepared for the *WORD* of God to be manifested. It was a body untouched by human genetic. **That body was the body of Jesus.** And God was with Him **preparing** Him for the *WORD* to indwell Him when He came of age (Lk.1:80; 2:40,52; Jhn.1:14). [Note: The gospel of Luke deals with Jesus as Son of Man, His Humanity and the gospel of John deals with Jesus as the Son of God, His Divinity and Godhood.]

When the baby Jesus was born in Bethlehem, God breathed into Him the spirit of Sonship (that was expressed in the Spirit Body of the *WORD*). The newborn baby Jesus became a living soul and grew up to express the Life of God. From thence there was no longer any manifestation of the Spirit (Word) Body. *Theophany* ceased but the *WORD* was still with God. Though Jesus was sinless and had a divine nature, just as Adam had before his fall, Jesus was *not* Deity (God). Until He was 'adopted' (cf. Gal.4:5, see section under 'HUIOTHESIA'), He could not be anointed. Until He was anointed (at His Water Baptism), He could not be the *fullness of the Word*. And until He was *indwelled by the Word*, He could not be Deity, He could not be *God incarnate*.

Though every living thing, both animals and man, received their spirit of life from the Living God, only the predestinated sons (and daughters) of God were with God as part of His WORD in His predestinated plan. Jesus said:

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me;..." (Jhn.6:37a)

"But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."
(Jhn. 10:26-29)

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." (Jhn.12:24)

Jesus Christ, the *WORD* of Life, is that "corn of wheat" — the SEED of God, which died and brought forth "much fruit" — sons and

daughters of God. These sons and daughters of God are the *pre-destinated seeds* of God in the *MONOGENE* of God. (Remember *SEED* begets *seeds* of its kind.) Therefore, only predestinated seeds possess the spirit of sonship within them, even though they are born into this world in sin. The apostles wrote:

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom.5:8)

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Eph.2:4-10)

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." (1 Jhn.3:9)

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." (1 Pet.1:23)

It is clear that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did *not* by-pass the *WORD* (Spirit Body). He, being the *MONOGENE*, was that spirit of *SONSHIP* in the *WORD BODY*. He came straight from the *WORD* and was God incarnate after His water baptism at River Jordan. He was then "the Word made flesh". Whereas the predestinated sons and daughters of God, who were "fruits" of that *Monogene*, had to by-pass their *Word* (*Spirit*) *Bodies* and be "subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope" (Rom.8:20 New KJV). And as the "deep calleth unto deep" (cf. Psm.42:7), the predestinated seeds would instinctively respond to the Revelation of the *WORD* because they were a part of the *MONOGENE WORD*. They were a part of the body of the *SEED* (Christ) that died. They were His "fruits" which came forth out of Him Who died as a "corn of wheat" (at Calvary). The saints are intrinsic in the Sonship of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Like Jesus Who was born a child (*not* Son of God) from Mary's womb, the elected seeds were also born children (*not* sons of God) from their mothers' womb. Like Jesus Who had to *receive* the Fullness of the *WORD* to become the Son of God, the elected seeds needed also to *receive* the *WORD* to become sons of God.

#### AS THE FATHER. SO THE SON

Whatever is ascribed to God in the Old Testament is reflected in Jesus. We read of God being addressed as King (Psm.5:2; Jer.10:10; Zech.9:9). When Jesus came into the world, He was worshipped as King (Matt.2:2) and will be King in the day when He shall sit upon His Throne of Glory (Matt.25:31-32 cf. 1 Tim.1:17; Rev.11:17; 15:3). We read of God as the Judge (Psm.58:11; Isa.33:22), and Jesus is the Judge (Jhn.5:30; Rev.19:11). God is the Redeemer (Psm.19:14; Isa.43:14), so is Jesus (Gal.3:13; Heb.9:12). God is the "I AM" (Ex.3:13-14; Isa.44:6b), Jesus claimed that He was the "I AM" (Jhn.8:24; 57-58; Rev.1:17-18).

All these examples and others in the Scriptures do not testify of two Gods. On the contrary, they demonstrate that the Lord Jesus is God Himself in the flesh. The Scriptures emphasized that there is One God, the Father, Who created all things, and that there is One Lord, Jesus Christ, by Whom all things consist (or stand together). Concerning Jesus Christ, Paul wrote:

"Because in him were the all things created, those in the heavens, and those upon the earth, those visible, and those invisible, whether thrones, whether lordships, whether principalities, whether authorities; all things through him, and for him, have been created, and himself is before all, and the all things in him have consisted." (Col.1:16-17 Young's Literal Translation)

It is clear that Jesus Christ was God's reason for creation. Jesus was the Firstborn in God's designation, creation and predestination plan. He was the PRINCIPAL THEME of God's Glory. God was the Author Who purposed the heavens and the earth in Christ.

"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him." (1 Cor.8:6)

Amen. God the Father is God, and the Son, Who is Lord, is also God (cf. Rev.4:11).

#### **CHRIST**

In trying to prove the doctrine of *TRINITY*, some Trinitarians have even taken the word "*Christ*", in 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 (where Paul warned the church at Corinth not to be like the children of Israel who tempted Christ) and said that JESUS pre-existed because He was "that spiritual Rock" that followed the children of Israel.

The word "Christ" in the Scriptures does not always point to the Man, Christ Jesus. This can be verified by reading Matthew 24:5 (and

similar scriptural verses) where Jesus speaks about False Christs or False Anointed Ones that will come into this world. Also, there are many in this world who are called by the name 'Jesus', but there is only one who is called *THE CHRIST*.

The Greek word for **CHRIST** is **CHRISTOS** which means **ANOINTED**. God's prophets are called **HOI** CHRISTOI THEOU which means *THE ANOINTED OF GOD*. And the ANOINTING comes only from the SPIRIT (LOGOS) of God.

In Acts 2:36, Peter said "that God HATH MADE that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ". Now, why was it necessary for God to make Jesus both Lord and Christ if Jesus had pre-existed as a Spirit called the Christ? And if Jesus had pre-existed as a separate individual Spirit (the second Person of the Godhead according to the Trinitarians) from God (the Father), would not the title Christ on a Spirit, Who was God, be a contradiction? God only anoints; He does not receive anointing. Only created beings and things receive anointing. Therefore, the Man, Jesus, received the anointing from God, His Father.

Thus, that spiritual Rock was none other than the Anointed DABAR (WORD) Which flowed from the Almighty Spirit of God to give the children of Israel their spiritual meat and drink in the wilderness. That Rock was the same Christ (Anointed Word) of which every true elect is now partaking. Of course, that Anointed Word came to Israel through the Angel (Messenger) of God who bore the Name of God. He was that WORD which led the children of Israel. He was the Face (Presence) of the Lord God.

#### **INCARNATION**

Now, note carefully John 1:14:

"The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us..."

It is often said that "The SPIRIT was made flesh", or "GOD became flesh". Such statements, which are normally taken for granted, tend to lead Christians to conclude wrongly that the Great Omnipotent Spirit vanished to become a man. The equally appalling concept of Trinity implies that the second Spirit Being called 'God the Son' transformed Himself into a human embryo in the womb of the Virgin Mary to be born the "Son of God". It implies also that the WORD (which is interpreted to be Jesus Christ Himself) became that foetus in Mary's womb and, hence, the human child was divinely God (the Son). Those Christians who believe in this concept call this the incarnation of the Son of God. They further believe that God (the Father) then incarnated Himself in the Son after His baptism at River Jordan. Such sacrilegious teachings have no foundation in the Holy

Scriptures. (Note: The word 'incarnate' is derived from the Latin word 'incarnare' which means 'to clothe with flesh'.)

How could any sane person believe that God, Who is Spirit, would transform Himself into a human embryo to grow in the womb of Mary? How could any one believe that God, Who is Spirit, would become a human being when the human body is composed of created elements? Some may exclaimed: "Oh, God could do all these things because He's God!" Such foolish persons would also believe that God could create a huge rock so heavy that even God Himself could not lift it.

Seriously think about this. Does it make any sense to believe in such an absurd idea that God was once a growing foetus in Mary's womb? When baby Jesus was born, He came forth crying like all other babies: was that crying baby God? When baby Jesus was sucking on the paps of Mary, was that God being breastfed with milk? Certainly, not! **God is a Spirit. He is not a man; He is not made of flesh**, for "that which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (Jhn.3:6).

It was God's WORD, His Visible Self-Revelation, that became (made manifest in) flesh. It was that WORD BODY which proceeded from God, and which had appeared unto the various Old Testament saints in temporary THEOPHANY forms, that had completely vanished. IT ceased at Bethlehem for God had decreed that the LOGOS should take on a permanent HUMAN FORM.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a SON is given." (Isa.9:6a)

"And the Word was made 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." (Jhn.1:14)

"The Word was made flesh" only when God incarnated Himself in the Man Jesus at His baptism in River Jordan before a multitude of people fulfilling the prophecy of Malachi 3:1:

"...And the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in:..."

That was when the FULL WORD of God dwelled in Christ.

"And Jesus, when He was baptised, went up straight way out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him (John the Baptist), and he saw the SPIRIT of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is My Beloved Son, in whom I AM WELL PLEASED." (Matt. 3:16-17)

"For it pleased the Father that in Him SHOULD ALL FULLNESS DWELL." (Col.1:19 cf. Jhn.14:10; Col.2:9)

Notice that the prophecy of Isaiah 9:6 calls for **a SON**, **not a child**, to be given as a sacrifice for sin (cf. Jhn.3:16-18). Hence, the Anointed Man, Jesus, is called the *last Adam* or the *second Man* in contrast to the first Adam or first man who was created and made a man, a son of God, and not a child. Also, God never once appeared in *Theophany* as a baby, a child or even a youth because the *Word Body* always appeared as a mature person.

"And the Word was made 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." (Jhn.1:14)

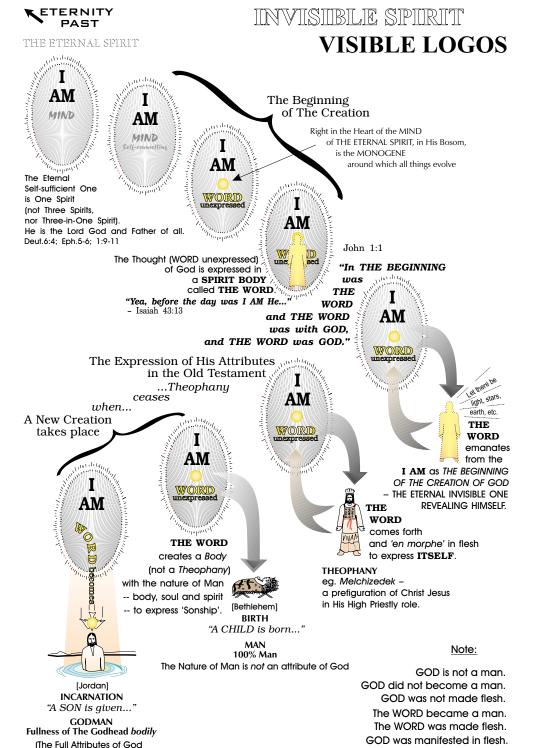
It is clear that this statement of the Apostle John is certainly *not* referring to Jesus when He was a suckling babe or even when He was a youth without a ministry yet. Rather, he is referring to the **glory expressed in the life and ministry of the Son of God after His baptism.** There is no doubt that John (and all Christ's followers) had witnessed the glory (the Name, the Word and the Work, cf. John 17) of the Everlasting Father in Christ's life and ministry. Yes, **they beheld God's glory when the "Word was made flesh"**, **that is, when the Word was made manifest in the person of Jesus Christ in the flesh.** 

Typologically Jesus is like a seed. A seed must mature and be pollinated in order to have LIFE so that when it "dies" it will bring forth fruits. (An immature or an unpollinated seed cannot do that.) Likewise, the Son of God was to grow from babyhood and mature into a man. Then He was "adopted" and given the power of the Word of LIFE (cf. Lk.4:18-19). The Son of God came as a Servant with a Prophetic Ministry to serve mankind (cf. Isa.42:1; Matt.12:17-21; 20:28). Hence, one of His titles — Son of man. He was anointed to deliver THE WORD of God.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." (Lk.4:18-19, cf. Isa.42:6-7; 61:1. Read also John 1:32; 3:34)

With the WORD incarnated in Him, Jesus was able to lay down His life to bring forth fruits.

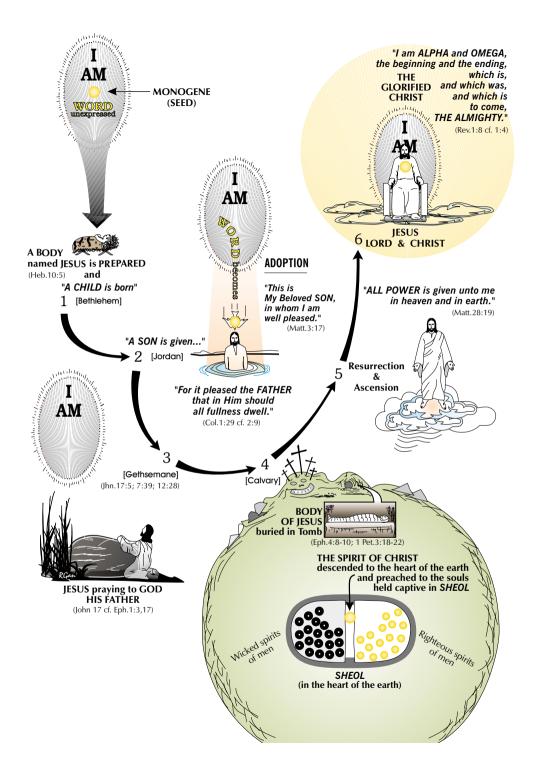
"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die..." (Jhn. 11:25-26)



#### ...GOD IN HIS WORD IN CHRIST JESUS...

manifest in flesh.)

GOD was in Christ Jesus.



Jesus was no longer just a living soul, He "was made a quickening spirit", a life-giving spirit (1 Cor. 15:45).

That the fullness of the Godhead had dwelt in Christ Jesus bodily did not imply that the whole heaven was drained of the Almighty Spirit completely. God, who is a SPIRIT being, is always OMNIPRESENT (because He is omnipotent and omniscient). So, not all of God was in Christ Jesus, but all that God was was in Christ Jesus. The body of Jesus was merely the dwelling place (the temple) and the full representation (glory) of God. In other words, God put His Spirit without measure in the Son. Jesus was, therefore, the full expression of God's attributes.

A very important statement made by Jesus is found in His prayer in John 17:3. He said,

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

This statement clearly supports the truth of One True God and that Jesus Christ was sent as the direct manifestation. Jesus Christ is the Life of God. He is THE WORD of Life.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life." (Jhn.3:36, cf. Heb.1:3)

As Jesus Christ is NOW God's EXPRESS IMAGE (Col.1:15) and the FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD BODILY (Col.2:9), it is therefore impossible for God to reveal Himself outside of, or apart from, Jesus (without distorting the originality and continuity of His THOUGHT as purposed in His MIND).

#### THE FLESH — HUMANITY

"The Word became a human being and lived awhile among us." (Jhn.1:14 (Barclay)

Consider this question again: Since *THE WORD* was God, does that mean that the *body of flesh* (of Jesus) was God?

**No.** The body of Jesus was as much human as any other man except that it was virgin born and sinless. The Apostle Paul stated that **God prepared a body for** *THE WORD* (Heb. 10:5). **The flesh was not God but it was God's body** — **His abode.** 

God spoke the Word. All things came forth by **THE SPOKEN WORD** (**Logos**) of God. In Genesis, we read of how things materialized as soon as God spoke the Word: "Let there be light: and there was light" and so forth. THE SPOKEN WORD was creative (Heb.11:3). By the same token, the Almighty God spoke forth (created) a **sperm cell** 

and an **egg cell**, and fusing them. He planted the embryo in the womb of the virgin Mary. When the child was born, the spirit of Sonship in the LOGOS entered the child and He became a living soul. THE LOGOS would then be carried by this child when He came of age — a **SON** (cf. Isa.9:6). That which was manifested unto the holy men of old in different ways would then be made known to Israel and the world in a more tangible form, in the body of a **MAN** of flesh, born of a virgin woman (cf. 1 Jhn.4:2-3). That MAN was Jesus Christ. He was the FULL REVELATION of God to mankind. He was the temple of the living God, without measure. It was not EMMANUEL by a THEOPHANY, but EMMANUEL by a BIRTH. The Man Jesus was a created being (man - Heb: âdâm), the Theophany was not. See the difference? THE WORD came forth to take the nature of man, but the nature of man (Heb: âdâm) is not an attribute of God, and GOD is not a MAN (Num.23:19a). The nature of man is the attribute of a created being (man - Heb: âdâm). When Emmanuel came forth in the Theophany, the Theophany was not a created being; it was a Spirit (Word Body) being. But Jesus, the Son of God, was a created being (man - Heb: âdâm) for He was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary and born into the world.

[Note: Some denominations teach that Jesus was born of Mary's egg which was fertilized by the sperm introduced by the Holy Spirit. They contend that it was necessary in order that Jesus could be a true earthly MAN. This teaching tears away the core of truth that Jesus was the ONLY BEGOTTEN (MONOGENE) OF GOD. The overshadowing of the Virgin (Lk.1:35) was not to purge or to sanctify her egg for fertilization by the sperm which was introduced by the Holy Spirit; it was the power of God coming upon her to bring about the genesis of the Manchild (Matt.1:20). She was chosen to be the 'mother' of the Child. As both the sperms and eggs of mankind hold the genetic traits of the fallen nature, and as the new creation of the fallen mankind can only take place by a spiritual rebirth, it would certainly be contrary for God to take one of Mary's eggs and rid it of its natural genetic traits for the conception of His Son. So, without doubt, both the sperm and the egg, which brought about the conception and birth of Jesus Christ, were totally the creation of God.

Now, when the *embryo* was planted in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, it began to develop into a *fœtus* and into a *baby*. **The embryo** was not God. The fœtus was not God. The baby was not God. In the whole process of its growth from a cell, the baby received nutrients from the blood of its mother through the placenta, the same way as any human baby. The nutrients were the elements of the earth that provided the growth of the body. And God is not composed of matter. God is a SPIRIT.

The baby was a "holy thing" — a holy child. He was born the 'Son of God' to express and fulfill all that was written of Him. Jesus said "the Scriptures must be fulfilled" (Mk.14:49). The shepherds gave their adoration to the child Saviour and the Magi paid their homage to the child King. [Note: Many Christians argued that the baby Jesus had to be God because the shepherds and the wise men "worshipped" Him. The word "worship" has more than one meaning. Read Revelation 3:9 – were the saints of the Church truly Gods because they were worshipped? Mark 15:19 – were the soldiers truly worshipping Christ as their God?] But as a baby, a child, and a man, Jesus (Heb: YAHSHUA – the redemptive name of God) was only potentially a Saviour and King. He was THE SAVIOUR only when He laid down His life on Calvary's Cross, and would be KING only when He comes again to rule over His Millennial Kingdom.

There was **only ONE INCARNATION** of God and that was at Jesus' water baptism. **Therefore, during those 30 years of His life prior to His water baptism, Jesus was not the ALMIGHTY GOD INCARNATE (or the Word Incarnate). He was just a MAN, God's <b>Son**, as Adam was a man and God's son without sin before his fall. (The **Spirit of Jesus** is the **Monogene** from God but the **spirit of Adam** and the **spirits of all redeemed children of God** are **genes** from God.) And because He came directly from the Eternal God, Jesus was without sin; He was perfect. He had eternal life in Him. If He had not laid down His life at Calvary, He would still be alive on earth today and would be nearly 2,000 years old.

So, for the first 30 years of His life, Jesus was merely a Man among men. During this period He was tutored by the Holy Spirit of God as He walked in the faith of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. **He grew; He learned.** 

"And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him." (Lk.2:40)

Outwardly, there was nothing special about Him — "He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him" (Isa.53:2b).

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." (Lk.2:52)

Even as a "Son of God", Jesus had to grow in the Word before He could be DECLARED the SON OF GOD.

#### HUIOTHESIA

Then came the day for his "adoption" (Grk: huiothesia – placing as SON, that is, sonship bestowed in distinction from a relationship consequent merely upon birth, usually performed in the open;

cf. Gal.4:5). It was foreordained to be performed at His baptism when He was about 30 years old. On that day, the heavens were opened and the Almighty Spirit descended upon Him and abode in Him. **GOD** had incarnated in the MAN Jesus – EMMANUEL – God with us IN THE FLESH! [Note: It will soon come when Satan will also incarnate himself in a man, the antichrist, the man of sin.]

This "adoption" declared Who He was and the position placed upon Him by God, His Father. When God incarnated in Jesus, the Heaven was not completely drained of the Almighty Spirit of God into the body of Jesus. But those who believe otherwise support it with this scripture verse (and others similar scripture verses) without any understanding:

"Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works." (Jhn.14:10-11a)

If God dwelled in Jesus, and that the Father was within Him, why then did Jesus lift His eyes to heaven whenever He prayed (Jhn. 17:1; 11:41)? [Note: Some Christians actually believe that Jesus prayed to the Father within Him or to Himself, that is, He Himself is the (Everlasting) Father (misplacing the words of Isaiah 9:6).]

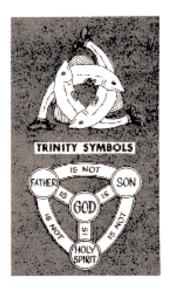
God is LIFE. There is no Life outside of God. As God is invisible (Col.1:15 cf. Isa.45:15), in His self-counselling, prior to the beginning of creation, He chose to reveal Himself in and through a visible form — the WORD, a BODY. And by this WORD were all things created because LIFE was in the WORD (Jhn.1:3-4). God had put His SPIRIT of LIFE in His WORD (cf. Jhn.6:63; Rom.8:2,10; 2 Cor.3:6; Phil.2:16; 1 Jhn.1:1). God's Life was in His Word. Hence, it was the fullness of the WORD of God that filled the Man Jesus. And where the WORD was, there was the SPIRIT of God, there was the LIFE of God. That is how the Spirit of God dwelled in Jesus Christ, and even in us because we have received His Word.

"Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?" (Jhn. 10:34-36)

The Spirit of God is in His Word but God dwells in His own Light in Heaven.

The Apostle Paul said that Jesus Christ was the "perfect tabernacle, not made with hands" (Heb.9:11). The Tabernacle of Moses was fashioned by the hands of the children of Israel. It took them

about nine months to *complete* the building of the Tabernacle. (Read Exodus 25-29, 35-40.) And on the *appointed* day and time when everything was ready and the Tabernacle was *erected*, "a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle" (Ex.40:34). The Shekinah Glory came down to dwell upon the Ark of the Covenant where the Word of Life was stored—the two stone tablets of the covenant, the pot of manna, and Aaron's rod which budded (Heb.9:4). Likewise, Jesus was prepared and fashioned until the appointed day and time when He was water baptized in the River Jordan. As He rose out of the water and stood in the river, the Heavens were opened and the Shekinah Glory of God came down and tabernacled in Him (Mk.1:9-11; Jhn.1:14; cf. Mal.3:1).





Symbol of the Trinity, as it appears in the Catholic church of Tagnon, France.

Now, if Jesus or the *WORD* was a *Second God* Who co-existed with the Almighty Spirit (Whom we call the Father), and that He literally became flesh (that is, changed from Spirit to flesh) and was GOD even as a baby, then it must be concluded that *GOD tabernacled in GOD*. Is that Scriptural?

The *Tabernacle of Moses* was a *foreshadow* of a *MAN* that the Almighty God would tabernacle in — "GOD tabernacled in FLESH (MAN)" or as the Apostle Paul wrote "God was in Christ (the Anointed)" (2 Cor.5:19). Jesus Christ was anointed by the Holy Spirit Who placed His Word in Him for the work of God.

John the Baptist did not see THREE PERSONS of God at that Baptism (as the Trinitarians imply he did). John heard the voice of God and saw the Invisible Spirit of God in the form of a dove coming down from heaven and abode in Jesus. Jesus was then FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WITHOUT MEASURE, and ALL THINGS WERE PLACED INTO HIS HANDS BY THE FATHER (Lk.4:1; Jhn.3:34-35). And being the Lord's Christ, He was to be tested by the devil, and He was to express the Everlasting Father's Thought and Will.

[Note: Jesus was obviously full of the Holy Ghost before His Baptism (so were many other Saints of God) but that does not mean that He was God incarnate then as some Trinitarians would argue. John the Baptist was said to be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he was born (Lk.1:15) but he was not God. Many believers after Pentecost were also "full of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 6:3,5; 7:55; 11:24) but they were not God. These verses – Luke 4:1 and John 3:34-35 – clearly emphasize Who and What Jesus was after His Baptism — 1) He was full of the Spirit of God without measure and 2) God gave all things into His hands.]

Christ Jesus possessed the full attributes of God, and He was to fulfill all that were written of Him. (Remember, He did not perform any miracles before His baptism.) And anyone who had really seen Christ had seen the Everlasting Father (Jhn. 14:9), for the Everlasting Father dwelt in that flesh (Jhn.14:10; Isa.9:6). Jesus was God manifested in the flesh (1 Tim.3:16). God worked through Jesus. The work of Jesus declared that God dwelled in Him. He was the Expressed Thought (LOGOS) of God. He was the GOD-MAN, God incarnate. He has become our Saviour; therefore, we must believe in Him, in order to get a new heart, a new spirit, and be redeemed (cf. Ezek.36:26-27: Acts 16:31: Psm.2:12). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life" (Jhn.3:36) because He was the WORD of God made The establishment of the Father-Son relationship manifest. (beginning in Bethlehem) has made it possible for us, born again believers, to be sons and daughters of the Living God through the **Son of God Himself** (cf. Psm.89:26-27; Eph.1:5; 2 Cor.6:18). The Fatherhood of God was manifested in the Son of God, hence the title, "the everlasting Father" (Isa.9:6).

#### IN HIM WAS LIFE

Observe this closely. The Apostle John declared that "the Word was with God, and the Word was God... In him was life; and the life was the light of men" (Jhn.1:2,4). THE WORD which came forth from God WAS LIFE itself. The Life of THE WORD was the light of men. Life was not given to Him. He was Life Himself. However, it was not so with Jesus Who said.

"For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself." (Jhn. 5:26)

Jesus did not have LIFE in Himself. It was God the Father Who gave Him power to have LIFE in Himself. Yes, Jesus was GIVEN the power of LIFE, the LIGHT of LIFE. Therefore, it is clear that THE WORD was God; THE WORD was not Jesus. But Jesus was THE WORD made manifest. The Light of Life came into the world in Jesus Christ. That's why Jesus was able to proclaim:

"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (Jhn.8:12)

At this juncture, let me call your attention to the usage of certain words in a few Scripture verses as laid down by the Spirit regarding Jesus' infancy, childhood, and His maturity:

- Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:..."
- Luke 2:40 "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom:..."
- Luke 2:52 "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."
- Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to..."
- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son,..."
- John 3:17 "For God sent not his Son into the world..."
- John 20:21 "...as my Father hath sent me,..."
- Matthew 21:37 "But last of all he sent unto them his son,..."
- John 3:34-35 "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand."

Clearly, **Jesus was not born a SON.** He was born a BABY and grew as a Child and increased in wisdom as He learned. As a *SON*, He was anointed with the full attributes of God and entrusted with everything by God. He was sent and given as a SON to be the **Saviour of the world.** Undoubtedly, the Truth is that Jesus the Christ was sent as a mature Man after His "adoption" as a Son—the Son of God and *not* as an infant Child (see *huiothesia*, above). As a mature Son, well-tutored by the Spirit, so to speak, He was then able to carry out the works of God, to manifest His Name and to deliver His Words (cf. Jhn.17:3-8).

Likewise, when God saved us, we received the spirit of God's Son into our hearts that we might also receive the "adoption" of sons (Gal.4:4-7). But when will our "adoption" be realized? When we, the Body of Christ, are perfected (cf. Eph.4:6-12) and our bodies redeemed.

"And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." (Rom. 8:23)

When this happens the "adoption" of the saints will take place with "the manifestation of the sons of God" (cf. Rom.8:19) as they are positionally placed in the Kingdom of God to rule with Christ on His Throne in the Age of Regeneration.

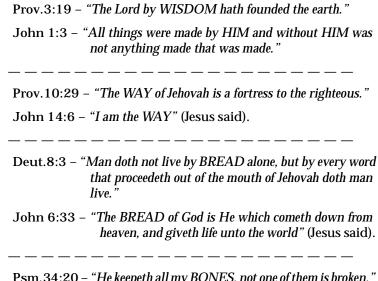
[Note: When the *Tabernacle of Moses* was *completed* and *erected* before the people, God *descended* and the *ministry* of the tabernacle began. When the *Son of God* was *grown up* and *matured*, He was water baptized. As He rose from the water and *stood* there before the people, God *descended* and the *ministry* of Christ began. When the *collective Body of Christ (the Church)* is *perfected* and the *redemption* of our body is done, Christ will gather together all His redeemed for the Father. After that Christ shall return with His saints to earth and *present* them as His *Bride-WIFE* in His Kingdom. The Almighty Spirit will *descend* to anoint the redeemed and *"the manifestation of the sons of God"* will begin as they *reign* with Christ a thousand years.]

#### PERSONIFICATION

Christ the **LIVING WORD** of God is personified in various ways throughout the whole Bible. In Proverbs 8:22, we see God possessed (created, procured, erected, brought forth; Heb: qanah) **WISDOM** to be His **Master Workman** Who was His daily delight (Prov.8:30). The WISDOM of God was His **POWER** in **Mind, Word** and **Act.** Paul called **"Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God"** (1 Cor.1:24). God's WORD and His WISDOM are often used synonymously.

WISDOM was the EXPRESSION of God's omnipotence in bringing forth life. That was THE LOGOS of God Who was the creative factor. It went forth as a SPIRIT in the form of a body as God had purposed that man should later be created in the same shape of that body form, after His likeness (Gen. 1:26).

The following are a few particular expressions which show the Written Word being the **PERSONIFICATION of Christ:** 



Psm.34:20 – "He keepeth all my BONES, not one of them is broken."

John 10:35 - "The SCRIPTURE cannot be broken" (Jesus said).

Thus, even the Scriptures of God are the literal expression of the Living Christ in Written Words.

#### GOD'S WORD

The Hebrews, unto whom the Holy Writ was given, did not differentiate between word and deed. (For some examples, read Lk.4:32; Matt.12:34; 2 Chron.29:30; Prov.10:19-21.) THE WORD of God was more often seen rather than heard. That was how God revealed Himself at different times and in divers manners unto certain chosen vessels during the Old Testament era. Undoubtedly, we can see that THE WORD (Heb: DABAR) of Jehovah that came, or was revealed to the servants of the Almighty God (Gen.15:1; 15:4; 1 Sam.3:7; 1 Chron.17:3; etc.) was the same WORD (Grk: LOGOS) mentioned in John 1.

As He had counselled in His Mind, it was God's purpose to express Himself in the form of a body - Word Body - like a 'PERSON' and not as mere words. Being an Invisible Spirit, He expressed His Personality in the visible form of a man by a THEOPHANY. All His Theophanies were but shadows of the real things to come. They foreshadowed the MESSIAH, the Promised Seed (Gen.3:15; 22:18; Gal.3:16,29) Who was to accomplish all that were spoken or written of Him. So, when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth His WORD into the world to express IT in a HUMAN FORM. IT was no longer expressed in a Word-Body (Theophany), but in real human flesh of a Man (not a baby or a child, as all *Theophanies* were manifested in the form of a Man) made a little lower than the angels, by a birth through the vessel of a virgin woman. As God had expressed His THOUGHT in human form in the THEOPHANY, likewise He expressed His THOUGHT in the same LIKENESS of a man, a human being (cf. Gen.1:26), in tangible physical flesh, by a birth. That MAN (Jhn. 19:5) was the Full Expressed Thought of God, and was called THE WORD of God just as the Full Expressed Thought of God was expressed in and through the WORD BODY in the beginning. Jesus Christ was **the only man** Who had the **Fullness** of the **Godhead** dwelling bodily in Him.

In His *creation* of man, God gave life to man through His *WORD*. In His *redemption* of man, God recreates him for life eternal through the same *WORD*. "God was in Christ (THE WORD of God) reconciling the world unto Himself" (2 Cor.5:19).

#### PERSON AND PERSONALITY

It should now be perfectly clear that, before His earthly sojourn nearly 2,000 years ago, the Man Christ Jesus did **not** pre-exist. **He was that Hidden Mystery of God Which came forth from the Mind of God, before anything else was ever created, to EXPRESS the VERY PERSONALITY of God.** Hence, Jesus was the *LOGOS (WORD)* of God made manifest in the flesh: "And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God" (Rev. 19:13 cf. Col.1:19; 2:9). It was the WORD which pre-existed. It came forth out of the Almighty Spirit in the beginning as the "beginning of the creation of God" and as "the firstborn over all creations".

Regardless of whether they believe in *one*, *two*, or *three* Persons in the Godhead, the majority of Christians think that God is a *PERSON*. Because of the way the Scriptures are written and the various *particular expressions* used, the Trinitarians have wrongly concluded that there are *three separate co-equal individuals* of the *same identical substance* in the Godhead, thus making *three Gods in three Persons*. On the other hand, the Oneness believers have at times subscribed to the *'Two-Persons'* doctrine which teaches that the *LOGOS* is one Person, and *GOD* is another Person, or that *JESUS CHRIST* is one Person and the *Almighty GOD* is another Person.

[Note: Some Trinitarians try to justify the use of the word 'person' by substituting it with 'persona'. But the usage of the word 'persona', which means 'a mask used by a player, a character acted', apparently contradicts their own definition of the Three Persons of the *Trinity* as being separate, equal and distinct individuals, each of them possessing a personal will. Although God did manifest in the persona of **Melchizedek** to Abraham and also of the **Angel of the Lord** who wrestled with Jacob, He is still One God and *not* Three.]

For a better understanding, we have to examine the meanings of the two words, 'person' and 'personality'. Most dictionaries give the basic meanings of the two words as follows:

PERSON — i) human being; ii) individual; iii) one's actual self, personality; iv) body of a human being, bodily appearance.

(Besides having a corporeal body, a person also has a spiritual intellect.)

PERSONALITY — i) sum of one's qualities of mind and character; ii) individuality, personal identity.

It is undeniable that the Almighty Spirit has a **PERSONALITY**. We can see the various attributes of His **PERSONALITY** as He reveals Himself throughout the Scriptures. However, **God is not a PERSON** that a person is. **God is a SPIRIT.** It is clearly stated so in John 4:24 and Ephesians 4:4.

Let's take an illustration. We know that an animal is *not* a *person*; yet an animal, such as the chimpanzee, has a certain *personality* (that is, the sum of its qualities of mind and character).

The PERSONALITY of the SPIRIT of God is manifested in a PERSON – THE PERSON Jesus Christ – even as He manifested Himself in a form like 'Person' of the WORD (BODY) in the beginning. In Hebrews 1:3 it is stated that Jesus Christ was "the express image of His person". The word "person" is a mistranslation. The Greek word is "hupostasis" meaning "substance; essence; real nature". As such, Jesus Christ was the express image of God's substance or nature. Simply stated, our Saviour is THE PERSON of God, THE VERY PERSONALITY OF GOD revealed and manifested in Him.

[Note: The angels of God are not human beings, they are therefore not persons *per se*. They were created spirit beings (Psm.104:4; Heb.1:7). Even though they sometimes expressed themselves in the form of men, like when two angels and Elohim appeared to Abraham (in Gen.18), they were not persons, *period*. God is Spirit. Angels are spirits.]

#### **DUAL NATURE**

The most difficult thing to understand about Jesus Christ is, perhaps, His **Personality** make-up. However, we do understand that like all men He was an individual and a separate being from the entity of God. But, remember that before His baptism, He was just a sinless **Man** Who had come directly from above (Jhn.8:23), and not from the union of Mary and Joseph. He had eternal life because He had no sin in Him. He was divine but not deity. As such, by nature He could not die. Death could only come upon Him by physical force, if God allowed it (Lk.23:46; Jhn.19:10-11a; 1 Cor.15:3.) He had to eat and sleep (Matt.4:2; 8:24). He could feel weariness and pain (Jhn.4:6; Lk.22:44; Heb.4:15). But God, Who is a Spirit, is not subject to all these constraints.

So, Jesus was a **Man** and not **God** before the **incarnation** at His Baptism. He was merely a Man and a Son of God just like Adam was a man and also a son of God without sin and having eternal life before his fall. But only Jesus had the pre-eminence as **The Son of God** for He was that *LOGOS* that was declared and revealed to the saints of old. In the beginning, the *WORD* (Monogene/Seed), which was to be revealed in Jesus, was the 'Son' who dwelled with God Who is the Father of us all (Jhn.1:2).

With the *Fullness of God* dwelling within Him after His Baptism, Jesus became a **GOD-MAN**, *both* **God and Man**. Only then did He have the **power of words** — "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man" (Jhn.5:26-27). Before that, there was no power in His words. From the lips of that GOD-MAN, the Almighty God spoke His words of life and power. On the other hand, the Man Jesus also used the same lips to speak words, perhaps, of thanks to His friends who provided Him food and lodging, and praises to God, His Father.

That Jesus was both God and Man did *not* mean that the Deity and the Humanity of Christ were *fused* into one nature, as some Christians believe. Jesus was fully God and fully Man. He had a distinct spirit and a distinct will from the Heavenly Father.

When Paul said "God sent forth His Son, made of a woman" (Gal. 4:4), undisputedly, he was referring to the flesh or humanity of Christ. Whereas when the Everlasting Father or God was mentioned, it was referring to the Almighty Spirit Who indwelt the Son. Thus, the great mystery of 1 Timothy 3:16 was revealed in that "God was manifest in the flesh".

[Note: Christians who assume that the Jews of old knew that God had a SON or that there was "God the Son" are only presuming it by deducing from such passages of Scriptures as Daniel 3:23-25 and John 7:25-29. It is true that the Jews believed their Messiah (a Man) would also be God. But had they known that God had a Son (if "God the Son" truly pre-existed), they would have gladly received Christ as their Messiah and would not have said,

"However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from." (Jhn. 7:27, NKJ version)

Even Saul, a Pharisee, did not receive such a teaching about "God the Son" though he knew about *ADONAI*, the *Angel of Yahweh*. Therefore, it is obvious that even those in the Old Testament time did not have such revelation of a Son of God. But who was the *fourth man* in the fire with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? Nebuchadnezzer said.

"Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." (Dan.3:25)

Could Nebuchadnezzer, a Babylonian king, have such a revelation about "the Son of God"? The term is a translation error. There is no article in the words and the translation should be "a son of God" or "a son of the gods", denoting "a mighty one", "an angel", "a messenger" or "a superhuman being". (See other Bible versions.) However, this fourth man was undoubtedly the WORD prefiguring Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The chosen people during the Old Testament era never addressed God as "Heavenly Father". Also, there is no account where they turned and called upon a "Heavenly Son" because there is no "Eternal Son". The terms "Everlasting Father" and "Heavenly Father" are New Testament terms. Though the former is used once in the Old Testament (in Isa.9:6), it is used prophetically in relation to the New Covenant when the Everlasting God would manifest Himself in the flesh of the Son. Both terms are used because of the Only Begotten Son Who was born to reconcile God's Family. See Heb.1:5-14; cf. 2 Sam.7:14; Psa.2:7; Acts 13:33; Rom.1:4; and also Dan.7:9-10; 13-14; Rev.1:13; Matt.25:31; Eph.1:20-22.

The phrase, "whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" concerning the "Ruler" whom God would bring forth out of Israel, in the prophecy of Prophet Micah (5:2), does not imply that Jesus (Who fulfilled this prophecy of being the Ruler) was from eternity past, but rather from a distant era, ages past. Yet, Jesus did not exist

then as a separate being from God. But, because He was the *Full Word of God incarnated and expressed*, the Scriptures traced Him back to His beginning in *ELOHIM* as the One Who was pre-eminent in the *Mind* or *Bosom* of the Almighty Spirit. He was the Only Begotten Son (Monogene) Whom the *LOGOS* came forth, out of the eternal *Mind* of God's counsel, to express and to prefigure. The Logos later became incarnated in Jesus right after He was water baptized in River Jordan. The following different translations will give you a better understanding:

The Jerusalem Bible – "his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old";

The Sacred Scriptures (Bethel Edition) – "whose origin is from an ancient era, from ages of eternity";

Lamsa's Translation – "whose goings forth have been predicted from of old, from eternity".]

When Jesus was praying in the garden of Gethsemane, it was not God praying to God. God is One Who is worshipped and Who receives prayer. God does not render worship or prayer. If He does, it undeifies Himself. It was the Man Jesus praying unto God, His Father. Appearing unto Mary Magdalene, after His resurrection, "Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and my God, and your God" (Jhn.20:17).

And it was not God Who died for our sins on Calvary either, for GOD CANNOT DIE. God is a SPIRIT. It was Christ Jesus, the Only Begotten Son of God Who died for us (1 Cor.15:3). Yet, somehow God did 'die' in a way, so to speak. In order to carry out His Covenant Plan of Redemption, the Eternal Spirit must be both God and Man. The Law of the Covenant was that the Covenant-maker had to die before the Covenant would be in force (Heb.8:7-13; 9:16-17). And since God was a Spirit, He had to take the form of a man to identify Himself with mankind and taste death for us in order to redeem us (Heb.2:9; Rom.8:3). So, He Who died at Calvary was in that sense Yahweh, the Covenant-maker.

### THE WORD, NOT GOD, WAS CRUCIFIED

From another point of view, we also know that *THE WORD*, Which was *GOD*, was crucified. *THE WORD*, Which was glorified in the beginning before the world was (Jhn.17:5), was crucified at Calvary. We cannot separate *THE WORD* from Jesus because Jesus was the Word of Life. Jesus, *THE WORD* of God, the Son of God, died.

And after His resurrection and ascension into Heaven, the Holy Spirit was given to confirm that *THE WORD* had again been glorified by the *ETERNAL SPIRIT*, just as He had prayed (Jhn.12:28 cf. 7:39; 1 Tim.3:16).

It behoves us to know that **Elohim** always identifies Himself with His **Word** for they are **one** (Jhn.1:1; 1 Jhn.5:7). When He was dying on the cross, Jesus suddenly let out a terrible cry, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" (Matt.27:46). That cry was a cry of great agony for He, Who knew no sin, had the sin of mankind suddenly thrust upon Him. He became the **sin-bearer**, fulfilling many Old Testament prophecies that were spoken of Him. Under the burden of sin, He felt God-forsaken because He was human. And because He took the sin of the world upon Himself, judgment was passed on Him. Hence, the terrible cry. But God did not actually desert or forsake Him at all (cf. Jhn. 16:32). [Note: A study of the "Meal Offering" in the Book of Leviticus chapter 2:1-3, where the fine flour (Christ's humanity) and frankincense (Christ's intercessory life) were mixed with oil (Holy Spirit of God) and together baked by fire on the altar (which speaks of Calvary) proves that Jesus was never actually forsaken of God at Calvary.]

#### THE GLORIFIED BODY OF CHRIST

After our Saviour had conquered death and hell, He resurrected and ascended into the Heaven and put on His heavenly body, Word Body. The **fusion** of the **natural** and the **celestial** bodies produced a new body which is **incorruptible** and **immortal**. This **glorified** body is a **spiritual** body.

When Adam came into this world, he was a natural man of dust. He had an earthly body of flesh. God *sown* this same natural body in Jesus that He might *raise* a spiritual body out of what was sown.

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body." (1 Cor. 15:42-44)

When corruption set in upon the soul of mankind, "the last Adam was made a quickening spirit" (1 Cor.15:45b) to give life and a new body – a spiritual body – to those who believed.

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." (2 Cor.5:1)

When a saint of God dies, his soul leaves his *earthly* body to the dust of the earth and returns to the Heaven to pick up his "house not made with hands", a Word body. And on the resurrection morning, when the dead in Christ shall rise, he will have a new body. He will come with his Word body to pick up his *earthly body* of dust. The fusion of these two bodies will produce a spiritual glorified body. As for those living saints, they will be also be changed when their Word bodies come down to cap their bodies of flesh at the last trump.

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." (1 Cor.15:52-53)

And when all these come to pass, then these words of Paul shall become a reality:

"As we have borne the image of the earthy [i.e. Adam], we shall also bear the image of the heavenly [i.e. Christ]." (1 Cor. 15:49)

Amen. We shall surely put on the same kind of spiritual glorified body that Christ Jesus now possesses.

# THE FULL-ORBED DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST - GOD IN CHRIST

In the 17th chapter of John, we are told that Jesus came to fulfill three things that God had purposed for Him. He was to **finish God's work** (v.4). He was to **manifest God's Name** (v.6). And He was to **deliver God's words** (v.8). He accomplished all His missions by the AUTHORITY that God had granted Him. In John 14:10, He said,

"Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, He doeth the works."

This ought to be enough proof that **Jesus is not His own Father** contrary to what the "Jesus Only" movement professes.

The WORD was the MONOGENE of God. To fulfill God's Predestinated Will the WORD (existing in a Body – Spirit Body) had to manifest His Sonship. The mystery hidden in the relationship between THE ALMIGHTY SPIRIT and THE WORD was the mystery of Father-Son relationship. That the Father-Son relationship might become a visible reality in His creation, God ordained the Sonship spirit of the LOGOS to take the form of a human person. The LOGOS would not continue to exist in a Spirit Body. God prepared a human body from the dust of the earth for the LOGOS to manifest as the Son

of God (Heb.10:5). Then the  $\it The ophany$  ceased when the Child was born in Bethlehem.

"Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God." (Heb. 10:5-7)

"For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?" (Heb.1:5).

Christ Jesus, in His humanity, could have sought to do His own will. But He desired only the Perfect Will of God in His life. He was *one* with THE WORD. You cannot separate THE WORD from Jesus. He was the very Word of Life, the Life of God Himself. Paul wrote:

"Though He was a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered." (Heb. 5:8)

Yes, Jesus was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

"Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, existing in God's form (as He was the Son of God, He was one with the Word of Life, He was the WORD of God incarnate), counted not the being on an equality with God aught to be grasped at, but emptied himself, taking a bondman's form, being made in likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient unto death, yea, death of the cross. Wherefore also: God highly exalted him, and endowed him with the name: above every name; that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to God the Father's glory." (Phil.2:6-11 from the Greek Text as established by Bible Numerics; cf. Psm.129:3; Isa.53:2-5,11; Mk.15:19-28; 1 Pet.1:9-11)

His *mind*, His *word* and His *act* were so completely submissive to God that He and God literally became **ONE**: "I and my Father are one" (Jhn.10:30 cf. 10:38) and "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (Jhn.14:9). His Spirit was so harmoniously blended with the Spirit of God that **His spirit had become one with the eternal Spirit.** May we, the saints of God, so blend our spirits with the Spirit of God by our total subjection to His *WORD* that the world will see only Christ in us, even as Jesus had said, "At that day, ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you" (Jhn.14:20). May we also

fulfill His Will as He had prayed, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me" (Jhn.17:21, also vv.22-23).

The words of the Apostle Paul, in Philippians 2:5-8, have often been misinterpreted or misconstrued. While the Apostle was referring to the Man Jesus Christ, as he knew Him by revelation of Who He was, some Christians try to prove that Jesus pre-existed with God before the creation by making Paul's words to read as follows:

"Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, **pre**existing in God's form, counted not the being on an equality with God aught to be grasped at, but emptied himself, taking a bondman's form, being made in likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient unto death, yea, death of the cross."

Or, using the King James Version, they would misconstrue the Greek word "being" in the passage to read as follows:

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being (was originally) in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

These Christians contend that as Adam pre-existed in spirit form Jesus also pre-existed in God's form either as the so-called Second Person ('Eternal Son') of the Godhead or "in the beginning" as stated in John 1:1. And because they believe that He pre-existed Jesus could therefore make His own choice to come to earth as a human being. But did Adam really have a choice as to whether he should remain in the spirit form or come to earth as a human being? Obviously not. God created all things for His own good pleasure and glory which He had purposed in Himself after the counsel of His own will (Eph.1:19; Rev.4:11).

Before the existence of *THE WORD* in the beginning (Jhn.1:1), the Great Almighty God, in His self-counselling, pre-ordained that His *SEED* should come to earth and take the form of a man to fulfill His purpose as predestinated. The Great Eternal Spirit did not seek anyone's permission. He planned, He created, He sent and He fulfilled His own desire *"after the counsel of His own will"* (Eph.1:11).

Since Jesus Christ was the "express image" of God's essence (Heb.1:3) and the Word of Life (1 Jhn.1:1) He was worshipped

as God. Being in the form of God (the Word incarnate, as was prefigured in ages past), Jesus was equal with God the Father. However, Jesus chose to give up that position or identity being that He was born in the likeness of man but without sin. He unreservedly humbled Himself even to fulfill His death on the cross which was pre-planned by God. And He always directed people's attention to the Everlasting Father, the Spirit of Life.

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man. Christ Jesus." (1 Tim.2:5)

"Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one." (Gal.3:20)

Concerning Jesus, Paul wrote in Romans 9:5: "...of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, Who is over all, God blessed forever". Jesus was both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36). So, without a shadow of a doubt, the Lord Jesus Christ was BOTH GOD and MAN, and that God and Christ are ONE. It's not 'God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity', but 'God in One Person, Blessed Unity'. Hence, we see the vindication of the truth of the Apostolic revelation concerning Water **Baptism in the NAME of the Lord Jesus Christ** (Acts 2:38; 8:12,16; 10:48; 19:5 cf. Matt.28:19 — name of triune titles).

#### COMFORTER

The Holy Spirit is that SPIRIT of the Father that dwelt in **Christ.** And since Christ and God are *ONE*, it is also called the *Spirit* of Jesus Christ (Phil.1:19) as well as the Spirit of His Son (Gal.4:6). Notice these words of Jesus:

"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." (Jhn.14:16-18)

By "another Comforter (or Helper)" Jesus is not referring to another God but rather to another (or different form of) ministration of Christ Himself as the Holy Spirit. Clearly, Christ was speaking of Himself coming in the form of the Spirit when He said, "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." The disciples knew Him because He dwelt with them. And, as promised, Jesus came to them — in the form of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost!

The Apostle John who recorded these words of Jesus: "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (Jhn.6:63), wrote later in the same book, "...He breathed on them, and said, Receive ye the Holy Ghost" (Jhn.20:22). These statements establish that the person of a man and his breath cannot be differentiated. Unless we can do it, we cannot succeed in proving that the person of Jesus and the Holy Ghost are separate and distinct individuals.

**Christ** (*THE WORD*) came from the **Father** (*THE ETERNAL SPIRIT*) and had to return to the Father after His atonement (Jhn.16:28). But He promised, "I will not leave you comfortless (Grk: orphanos – parentless, fatherless): I WILL COME to you". Ten days after His Ascension, He emanated from that same Great Fountain of Life again to dwell with His Church and in every member as the Spirit of the *FATHER* (Gal.4:6; Rev.21:7). He could not do this while He was on earth as a *PERSON* born into this world, but He could do it now in the *SPIRIT* form (Jhn.14:16-20). Thus, the *Person of Jesus Christ*, in the form of the *Holy Spirit of God*, is abiding in His Word-believing saints.

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." (Eph.1:13)

These words of the Apostle Paul point clearly to the Holy Spirit dwelling in us: "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col.1:27; cf. Rom. 8:9,11). Yes, we are made rich through the poverty of Christ: "For ye brethren, know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. How that though He were rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, that we through His poverty might be made rich" (2 Cor.8:9 cf. Eph.2:13-16).

Hence, abiding in the saints of God are not *two* or *three* Divine Persons. The pronouns "we" and "our" in the New Testament, as in John 14:23, speak of the difference between what God is as the Almighty **Yahweh** and what He is as the Saviour in the Man **Yahshua**. In John 12:45 we see the operation of two offices of **One Person** — "And he that seeth Me seeth Him that sent Me." Remember the **dual nature** in Christ Jesus — the **Spirit of the Father which is Omnipotent, Omniscient and Omnipresent**, and the **Spirit of the Son which is humility, obedience, priestliness, prayerfulness and submission. These are but <b>ONE SPIRIT** (Eph. 4:4; Jhn. 4:24).

#### **ALPHA & OMEGA**

"Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all."

(1 Cor. 15:24-28)

Jesus has never been an ETERNAL SON of God. He is the BEGOTTEN SON of God. As such, the Sonship ministry will have its end just as it has its beginning. After His millennial reign as King of kings, Jesus Christ will sit upon the Great White Throne to pass the final judgment and cleanse the earth from all traces of sin and death. After that he will hand back to the FATHER the redeemed Kingdom that the FATHER may be all in all as it was in the beginning. Jesus will then take His place at the head of God's family of children as the Eldest, the Firstborn among many brethren. The Lordship of Jesus Christ, a conferred authority which was his right of inheritance given by the Father and which is presently in operation, will be put in subjection to the Godhead — "that God may be all in all".

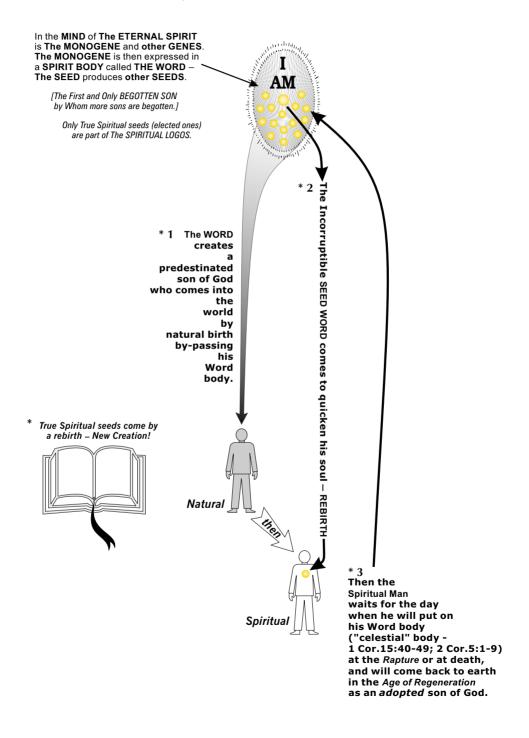
In Revelation 1:8, the Lord, *Which is, and Which was, and Which is to come*, the Almighty (the Eternal, High and Lofty Spirit) said,

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending."

This verse speaks of Him, Who is Eternal, in *relation* to His plan of creation, and how He would bring to a perfect ending that which He had purposed and ordained in the beginning after the counsel of His Own Will. And when **TIME** – "the beginning and the ending" – is absorbed into the **eternal circle** in God, the Eternal Spirit, there will be only **eternity.** 

**Finis** 

# SPIRITUAL REBIRTH by THE INCORRUPTIBLE SEED-WORD



# The Traditions of The Churches say:



# The Word of God says:

"Ye worship ye know not what...
the true worshippers shall
worship the Father in spirit and in
truth: for the Father seeketh such
to worship Him. God is a spirit:
and they that worship Him must
worship Him in spirit and in truth.
God is light (revelation, truth),
and in Him is no darkness
(tradition, falsehood) at all."

# \* ADDENDUM \*

## THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY

The doctrine of the *TRINITY* (3-in-1 God) is recognized and described by its most fervent teachers as a "*mystery beyond explanation or conception*". In actual fact, it is nothing else but CONFUSION!

In his book "*The Two Babylons*", Alexander Hislop traces most of the practices and teachings of the *Roman cult* to paganism and proves the *Papal Worship*, in its origin, to be the worship of Nimrod and his wife. See Genesis 10:8-12.

In comparing *Roman Catholicism* (we might as well include *Protestantism* as it is hardly removed from *Catholicism*) with ancient Babylonian paganism, Hislop uses "*Trinity in Unity*" as his very first subject. Quoting from the various authoritative sources, it appears that the idea of a *Trinity* is an ancient one: "In the unity of that One Only God of the Babylonians, there were three persons and...they employed...the equilateral triangle, just as it is well known the Romish Church does today." (Pg.16) "The Papacy has...in the monastery of the so-called Trinitarians of Madrid, an image of the Triune God, with three heads on one body." (Pg.17) Similar three-headed gods are found in India's ancient supreme divinity and Japan's Buddha (Pg.17-18). "The recognition of a Trinity was universal in all the ancient nations of the world." (Pg.18)

One recurring theme featured in the Old Testament is the Divine abhorrence of those pagan gods or idols. The God of Israel had never likened Himself unto any of the pagan abominations!

The following are the teachings on the *TRINITY* by two well-known Trinitarian teachers:

"What we mean by Divine Trinity is that there are three separate and distinct persons in the Godhead, each one having His own personal spirit body, personal soul, and personal spirit in the same sense each human being, angel or any other being has his own body, soul, and spirit. We mean by body, whether a spirit body or a flesh body, the house for the indwelling of the personal soul and spirit. The soul is that which feels and the spirit is that which knows." (Finis J. Dake, Dake's Annotated Reference Bible)

Keith L. Brooks says, "If the doctrine of the Trinity is not accepted, then Christ is not divine and the character of His redemptive work is reduced to nothing. If there is a Trinity...and worship is not accorded

to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, then proper adoration is being withheld from two-thirds of the Godhead." (Quoted from 'Our Daily Bread', July 8, 1971)

These are words of men who are wise in their own conceit. They are only making fools of themselves by revealing their ignorance and stupidity.

Is the Lord Jesus Christ only one-third of the Godhead?

1 Timothy 3:16 and Colossians 2:9 clearly state that God was manifest in flesh, and that the Lord Jesus Christ was the FULLNESS of the Godhead bodily. Simply, it means ONE GOD in ONE PERSON. Jesus Christ.

Trinitarians have turned butchers when they *cut God into three equal parts* to make *Three Gods* out of the Almighty One. *Nowhere* in the Bible is there any allusion to God as a *Trinity* or a *Triune God*. Yet, the Trinitarians can quote as many as 80 "strong Scripture texts" to 'imply' the existence of the *Trinity*.

This *TRINITY* doctrine was promulgated some time after the death of the last Apostle in the 2nd Century. There were many great theologians who had tried to figure out the Godhead. Among them were men like Ignatius, Polycarp, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Clemens and others.

Let's see how Justin got it right and then got into error and confusion.

"He (Justin) has great difficulty in expressing this point of view. He had, it is true, the precedents of Philo, and even of St. John; for in St. John the Logos or Reason or Word is the power by which God made the world, and also the light that illuminates every man who comes into the world, if that is the correct translation; but Justin attempted to define the matter most precisely. The divine Reason is a second God. He is 'a second God in number, but not in mind'; that is to say, 'he is a second God and he is not a second God'." (Dictionary of Christian Biography)

Now, see if you can understand this:

"Some said that there was but one substance in the Godhead, others three. Some allowed, some rejected the terms...according as they were guided by the prevailing heresy of the day and their own judgement concerning the mode of meeting it... Some declare that God is numerically three; others numerically one; while to others it might appear more philosophical to exclude the idea of number altogether in the discussion of that mysterious Nature which is beyond comparison, whether viewed as One or Three, and neither falls under nor forms any conceivable species." (The Arian of the 4th Century)

For many centuries, the doctrine of the *TRINITY* has been the 'central doctrine' of most Protestant, Evangelical and Catholic churches. Yet the doctrine is not a part of the "faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3). The Catholic Encyclopedia states:

"This (the Trinity), the Church teaches, is the revelation regarding God's nature which Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came upon the earth to deliver to the world: and which she (the Catholic church) proposes to man as the foundation of the whole dogmatic system."

Hence we can see that it was the Roman Catholic Church which propagated the *TRINITY* as a foundational doctrine of her whole dogmatic system. And it was in the last 25 years of the 4th Century that "the definitive Trinitarian dogma 'One God in Three Persons' became THOROUGHLY ASSIMILATED INTO CHRISTIAN LIFE AND THOUGHT." ("Holy Trinity" – New Cath. Ency.)

Here is what the record reveals about the belief of the *TRINITY*:

"We cannot doubt the existence among the orthodox Fathers of different opinions on this mysterious subject until its final definition by the Church." (Dictionary of Doctrines & History Theology)

And truly, the doctrine of the Godhead had its final definition — the *birth* of a *Three-in-One God* — in the year 325 A.D., about 300 years after the death, resurrection and ascension of Christ! It was *Pagan Rome* which led the propagation of this doctrine! It was a pagan doctrine started by a pagan church! You can find this "*Trinity*" in the Nicene Creed established by the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. The so-called *Apostles' Creed* (100-150 A.D.) which was not written by any of the Apostles, does not even define the Godhead as a *Trinity*. "It is not, as already seen, directly and immediately the word of God." (New Cath. Ency.) Truly, it can never be found in the Word of God!

Since then, this dogma has become thoroughly assimilated into the Christian life and thought, and most Christians today find it hard to discard this wrong doctrine of the Godhead. They have been indoctrinated by the church system to believe and accept it as a *MYSTERY*.

It is indeed a mystery, being a creation of the church system.

"A fruitful cause of error in ancient and also modern times is owning to an attempt to explain or illustrate this doctrine, forgetting that it is a MYSTERY to be received on faith, which CANNOT, from its own nature, be rendered intelligible to man's intellect." ("Trinity" - Dict. of Doct. & Hist. Theo.)

Can a true Christian believe, by faith, in something that doesn't exist at all?

The *TRINITY* has always been a mystery, which is filled with much controversy, and is difficult for any one to comprehend. All scholarly attempts at understanding it have caused only more misunderstanding! All theological attempts at clarifying it have resulted in more confusion.

Why?

Simply because it's a man-made fiction! All Bible scholars admit that there is no reference to the *TRINITY* in the Bible; it is *only 'implied'*, as they say. Their attempt to interpret plain Scriptures by obscure Scriptures has been an age-old foolish practice.

Why don't they adopt a more intelligent and sensible approach to the problem? That is, to use the plain Scriptures to analyze and understand obscure Scriptures!

O, how desperately Bible Believers are in need of the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help them to distinguish between the Divine Truth of God and the wordy and fictitious doctrines of carnal men!

# Triune divinity...



...as worshipped in ancient Assyria.



...as worshipped among the Pagans of Siberia.

In the reign of Constantine, Christianity was proclaimed the state religion for the Roman Empire. With that, the populace began open discussion on matters of theology, subject heretofore reserved for the philosophers. The Platonic philosophical influences upon John 1:1 and other sacred writings, bred a great contention as to the "being" of the Logos.

Arius, a presbyter of Alexandria and leader of the sect – Arianism – taught that Jesus was the first creature, "made a second God" inferior to the Almighty. As opposed by the Trinitarian concept, he taught that Jesus was not equal or identical with God the Father.

It was at the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. that the Nicene Creed was formulated to do away with Arianism and the Church to accept the doctrine of the Trinity Godhead. However, the revelation of the Word of God could verify that both doctrines, though true in parts, are filled with hordes of errors.

Athanasius, a deacon who had led the fight against Arius, was later to become the Bishop of Alexandria. The Athanasian Creed, found in the Book of Common Prayer, states quite emphatically the Church's stand with respect to the multiplicity of gods.

# This is the TRINITY — Can you figure it? This is what you're defending — if you insist on being a Trinitarian!

# THE ATHANASIAN CREED

 fundamental doctrine of the Trinity as endorsed by Catholic, Protestant and Pentecostal Churches.

Extract from the New Schaff Herzog Encyclopædia of Religious Knowledge Vol. XI pg. 202, quoting from The Guardian, London, 10/11/1909 which gave a revised translation of the Athanasian Creed, made at the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury pursuant to a resolution of the Lambeth Conference of 1908.

Now the Catholic Faith is this: that we worship the one God as a Trinity; and the Trinity as an Unity.

4. Neither confusing the Persons, nor dividing the Substance.

- For there is a Person of the Father, another of the Son, another of the Holy Ghost.
- But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Ghost is one, their glory equal, their majesty co-eternal.
- Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Ghost.
- 8. The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Ghost uncreated.
- The Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Ghost infinite.The Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Ghost eternal.

11. And yet they are not three Eternals, but one Eternal.

- As also they are not three uncreateds, nor three infinites, but one infinite and one uncreated.
- So likewise the Father is Almighty, the Son Almighty, the Holy Ghost Almighty.
- And yet they are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.
- So the Father is God, the Son God, the Holy Ghost God.

And yet they are not three Gods, but one God.

17. So the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, the Holy Ghost Lord.

18. And yet they are not three Lords, but one Lord.

- For like as we are compelled by Christian verity to confess each of the Persons by Himself to be both God and Lord
- So are we forbidden by the Catholic religion to speak of three Gods, or three Lords.
- 21. The Father is of none, not made nor created nor begotten,
- 22. The Son is of the Father alone, not made nor created but begotten,
- The Holy Ghost is of the Father and the Son, not made, nor created nor begotten but proceeding.
- 24. There is therefore one Father, not three Fathers, one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts.
- 25. And in the Trinity none is before or after, none is greater or less
- 26. But all three Persons are co-eternal one with another and co-equal.
- 27. So that in all ways, as is aforesaid, both the Trinity is to be worshipped as an Unity, and the Unity as a Trinity.
- 28. Let Him therefore that would be saved think thus of the Trinity.