

## **THE TRINITY** – **an incomprehensible characteristic of the Great and Awesome ONE TRUE GOD**

I cannot explain or rationalize the working of a computer, or an i-pod, but I can derive great benefit from using these things that I myself cannot comprehend and explain! I submit to the superior knowledge of those who conceived and manufactured these things and have given us a working knowledge of their advantages. Although I do not know HOW it is possible, I know something of WHAT it can do for me.

Although we cannot explain or rationalize what is revealed to us of **God**, we can still revel in the reality of such a God at work for us, and in us, and through us! One of the mysterious truths about God as revealed in the Bible, and which is very puzzling, and complicated, and impossible for me to grasp or try to explain, is the **TRINITY**- but I am certainly not going to dismiss God as Three-in One *because I cannot fully explain Him!*

Some people will only accept a god they can fully understand. If they can fully understand and grasp the knowledge of their god then such a god would be inferior to them, or at best their equal! In the Holy Bible we have revealed to us a mysterious incomprehensible **3-in-1 God**. Some people will not allow any amount of evidence or revelation to stir up faith in such a God because they cannot understand all about Him. (Romans 1:18-23.) I acknowledge a God who is much bigger and greater than what I can understand or explain. (Psalm 121:2.) "My help comes from the Lord, *the Maker of heaven and earth.*" Maybe you will choose to reject the claims of the Almighty **Creator God** because you cannot understand how He could have created the universe, or how He could exist as a Three-In-One God! In the Bible we read of God having this to say to a man who called into question the mind and will of God; "Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? Let him who accuses God answer Him!" Then Job answered the LORD: "I am unworthy—how can I reply to you? I put my hand over my mouth...." (Job 40:2-4.)

The Bible teaches us that we have been made in the image and likeness of God. (Genesis 1:26.) Here are a few of the ways that I see we are made to be like God....

- We are *spiritual* beings (an awareness of God who is Spirit, and we have an affinity to reach beyond the physical level of the world around us. Something that other creatures do not seem to share.)
- God has "set eternity in the hearts of men." (Ecclesiastes 3:11.) Mankind senses there is an afterlife!
- We have been entrusted with God-like rule and authority over creation (Genesis 1:26.)
- God-like creativity. (The animal world cannot produce mechanical, artistic, or musical creations!)
- God-like ability to appreciate beauty; music; art; (admittedly some animals could produce something that would pass as "modern art"!! I am convinced that Picasso must have believed in the ridiculous big bang evolution theory! Surely some of his pictures must be his attempt to portray what he would expect as a consequence of such a big bang – an eye here, a hand here, a foot here, an ear here.....!!! Surely such "art" forms do not reflect true God-like traits of creative beauty and design!)
- And God would have us to become more and more like Him - "Be holy as I am Holy"! He is faithful, loving, gracious, just..... we should strive to be like Him by letting Him live in and through us!

Going back to the beginning, and the creation of man, we read that the first man Adam "became a living being" in a physical world. (1 Corinthians 15:45.) This was when the invisible **SOUL** of Adam came from God and was breathed into a physical **BODY** God had prepared for him. Adam "became a living being" who could relate physically to the physical world in which he was placed. (Genesis 2:7.) But mankind was clearly superior to all the other creatures God put to live on the earth. Only mankind had the ability to relate to another sphere of existence beyond the physical – mankind could relate on a non-physical level with his Maker and develop a meaningful relationship with Him "in Spirit and in truth". (See John 4:23-24.) This third aspect of man's being is identified as his **SPIRIT**. So, the **SOUL** of man was not just given the **physical** abilities of having a **BODY**, he was also given **spiritual** abilities by being given a **SPIRIT**. *He was created to have spiritual communion with his God. So, man was created as a 3-in-1 being* – each individual person is **3-in-1!** The Oxford Dictionary term is "TRICHOTOMY – Division into 3, esp. of human nature into body, soul and spirit."

When Adam and Eve rebelled against the Holy God, something catastrophic happened – they became **spiritually DEAD!** The **SOUL** of man was still alive in his **BODY** – neither BODY nor SOUL died immediately man sinned - he was still capable of loving and of creativity and interacting **PHYSICALLY**. *But God declared man SPIRITUALLY DEAD!* -- "*dead in .. transgressions and sins..*" (Ephesians 2:1. Genesis 2:17.) Mankind was now cut off from access, and harmony, and oneness, with God because of his sinful rebellion against God!

But man does not want to think of himself as being lifeless to God, and totally incapable of doing anything to develop his relationship with God, so he stubbornly persists in trying to do the impossible – to assume he can achieve acceptance with God! Jesus said, *"With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."* (Mark 10:27.) Sinful man cannot get himself to God – *but God has chosen to reach out to him!* (Genesis 3:8-9.) See how the **Eternal 3-in-1 God** provided a way of salvation for helpless hopeless sinners like you and me. (If man is a complex 3-in-1 being - 1 Thessalonians 5:23 - we should not think of ourselves as being superior to God! We should not consider it impossible that God our Creator is the 3-in-1 SUPREME Being He has revealed in the Bible.) God Himself was ready and willing to pay our debt - DEATH - that we had brought upon ourselves by our sin, but that we ourselves could never pay and be restored to God! *How could the Holy and Just, Eternal God, pay our debt?* Only by becoming one of us, and living among us, *and then being willing to die for us!* So, in the eternal plan of **God, the Father** chose to reduce Himself to a human body by the power of the **Spirit** and live among us as Jesus Christ the **Son of God**. (Luke 1:28-35.) Romans 3:25-26 puts it this way; *"God presented Him (Christ Jesus) as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His blood. .... He did it to demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus."* Because of this, God is now able and willing to restore SPIRITUAL LIFE to the one who will trust in Him for Salvation – that person is **"BORN AGAIN"**! Jesus clearly taught that *"You must be born again... No-one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is born again!"* (John 3:3,7. ) Sinful mankind needs to realise he cannot make himself fit for Heaven and God. Instead, *he must want the broken Spiritual relationship to be restored.* He must come in repentance, and total dependence upon God's justice having been satisfied by Christ's atoning sacrifice. *"Everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved."* (Romans 10:13.) Instead of trying to save himself mankind needs *to call on God to save him.* Have you come to that place of repentance and of having faith in the Salvation God has made freely available to you? **Are YOU born again?**

This has been made possible by the gracious workings of the Eternal "three-in one" **God. This ONE TRUE GOD displays three distinct aspects of His Being – Father, Son & Holy Spirit!** God, the **Eternal Father**, humbled Christ, His very own **Eternal Son**, to be reduced to human form in order that He would be able to pay your debt *by dying for you.* God raised Jesus Christ from the dead, **being satisfied that He had paid the price God demanded for your sin.** All who will have faith in God's wonderful Salvation plan through Jesus are given SPIRITUAL LIFE, restoring peace and harmony with God. They are made to be spiritually alive to God – **"Born again"** – and God's **Eternal Spirit** lives within that person maintaining their *new life for God, by God, and with God!* (Romans 8:6-17.)

Only **A three-in-one GOD** could provide such a great and free Salvation! (Acts 13:37-39. 10:39-48.)

My attempt to portray some aspects of the Trinity is most inadequate to do justice to our Awesome Mysterious **One True God.** I hope it might cause you to strive to get to know God better by getting into His Word, the Holy Bible, in order to know more about Him for yourself. (Jeremiah 29:11-14.)

Here are a few examples of how the Awesome three-in-one God is revealed for us in the Bible?

- **Matthew 3:16-17.** As soon as Jesus was baptised, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he (John the Baptist) saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased."
- **Ephesians 2:18** For through Him (Jesus) we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.
- **2 Corinthians 13:14** May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **John 14:15-16.** "And I (Jesus the Son of God) will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever— the Spirit of truth."
- **Genesis 1:26 & 3:22.** "God said, 'Let US make man ... like one of US.'" (See Genesis 1:1-2. John 1:1-3, 14.)

Let us worship the **One True God – the Awesome Trinity who created us** and came to our rescue when we rebelled against Him. (Romans 3:21-26. 8:11.) Only this God could provide us with a wonderful and free offer of salvation that can be ours by faith in His great mercy and grace through the sacrificial love of God in Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 1:2-10.)