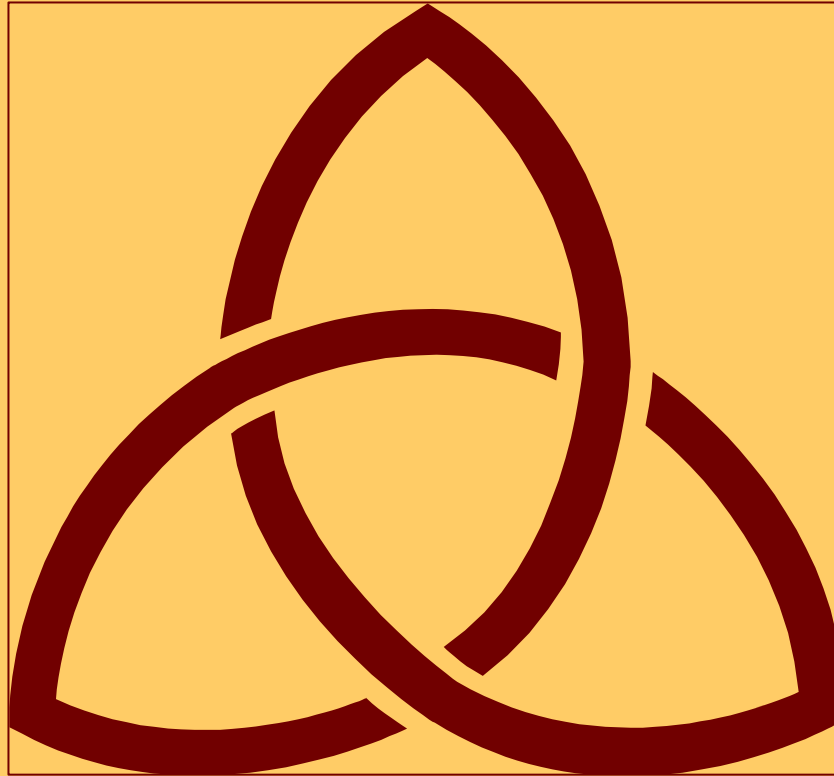


# The Holy Trinity



The Doctrine of The Trinity can be difficult, but it is important

Five reasons to study the Trinity:

1. To know God
2. To worship God
3. To instruct others about God
4. To correct false beliefs about God
5. To defend our faith in God

# Knowledge of God requires revelation from God

Two reasons why revelation is needed:

1. God is infinite
2. God is personal

The Bible is revelation from God

# What The Trinity is Not

- ☹️ The Trinity is not three gods
- ☹️ The Trinity is not one person with three names.
- ☹️ The Trinity is not one god and two lesser beings.

# Definitions

**Being-** (n.) Something that exists; a unification of attributes. Also *essence, substance*

**Person-** (n.) Individual, self. Possessing personal/relational attributes: intellect, emotions, will

**Trinity-** (n.) God is three persons, united in one being. God is one being, three persons

A worm is one being and zero persons

A Human is one being and one person

God is one being and three persons

Objection:



"The 'Trinity' is a contradiction."

Law of Non-Contradiction: X cannot be X and not X in the same way at the same time

“God is only one being, God is three Beings”, is a contradiction.

“God is one being, God is three persons”, is not a contradiction.

“God is three persons, God is only one person”, is a contradiction.

“God is three persons, God is one being”, is not a contradiction.

# Objection:

"The word 'Trinity' is not even in the Bible!"



# Trinity, Tri-unity

Greek, *trias*, (trias) meaning 3 in 1

Latin, *trinitas*, meaning 3 in 1

“Trinity” is a word that summarizes the tri-unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is not uncommon for the Church to borrow, or even create, words to describe theological truths.

For example, the word “incarnation” (Lat. In the flesh) is not found in the Bible. Yet the truth of “God in the flesh” is undeniable.

The word "Trinity" is not in the Bible, but the truth expressed by the word "Trinity" is present throughout the entire Bible

# The Bible Says,

- † There is one God
- † God is three persons
- † Each person is fully God

Therefore, there is one God who is  
three persons

# There is Only One God

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. (Deuteronomy 6:4)

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:  
"I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. (Isaiah 44:6)

# There is Only One God

Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." (1 Corinthians 8:4)

[There is] one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:6)

There is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus (1 Timothy 2:5)

# God is Three Persons

In the beginning, God ( *Elohiym*, plural ) created ( *Bara'*, singular ) the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

The noun, “God” is plural, the verb “created” is singular. God is plural in personhood, but singular in being.

# God is three persons

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness... (Genesis 1:26)

God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil (Genesis 3:22)

The LORD said,... Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." (Genesis 11:6-8)

# Objection:

“The plurality passages in the Old Testament are only expressing a ‘Plural of Majesty.’

For example, when God speaks of ‘us’ and ‘our’, He is speaking on behalf of His Heavenly court, that is His Angels.”



# God is Three Persons

Then God said, "Let us [God and His Angels ?]  
make man in our image [God and His Angels ?]  
in our likeness..." [God and His Angels ?]

(Genesis 1:26)

So God created man in his own image, in  
the image of God he created him; male  
and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)

# God is three persons

† For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. (John 3:34-35)

† I [Jesus] will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, (John 14:16)

† The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my [Jesus] name, he will teach you all things (John 14:26)

# God is Three Persons

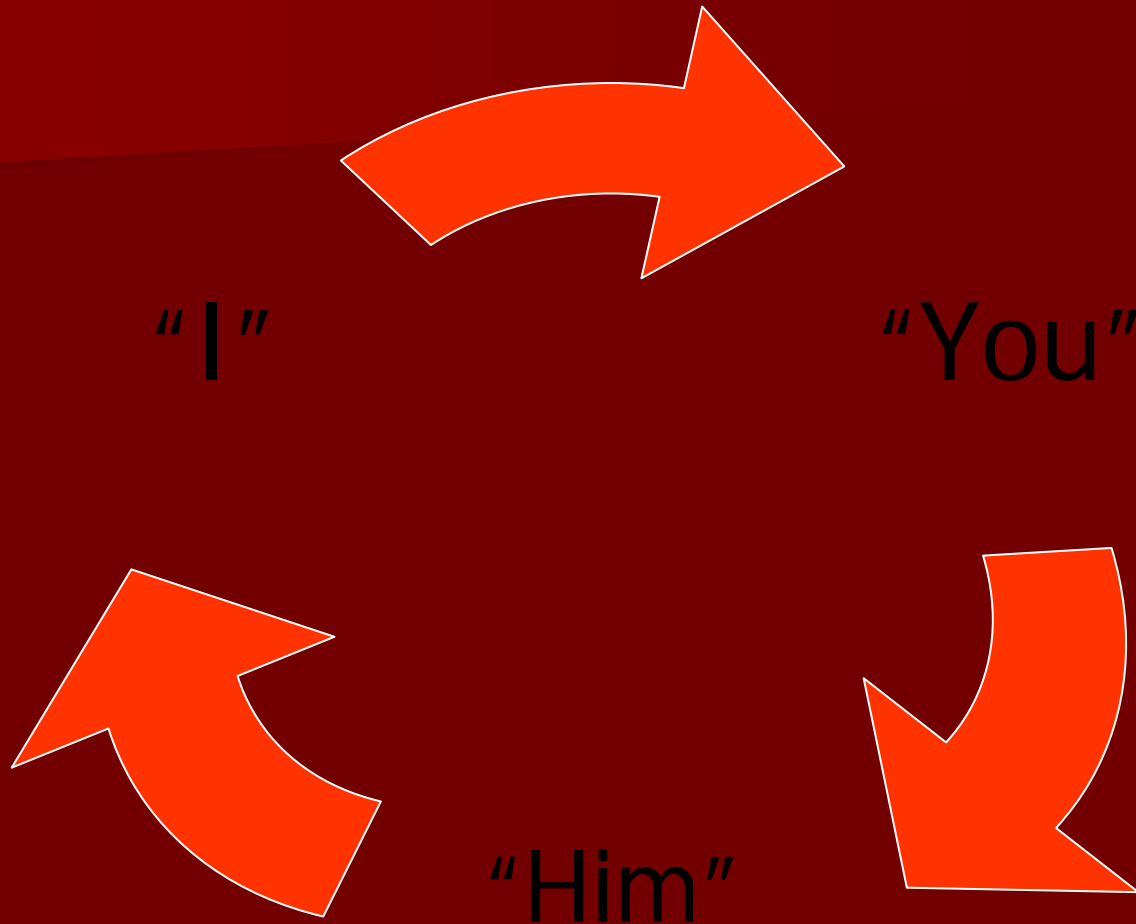
† When the Helper comes, whom I [Jesus] will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me [Jesus].

(John 15:26)

† When the Spirit of truth comes ... He will glorify me [Jesus], for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

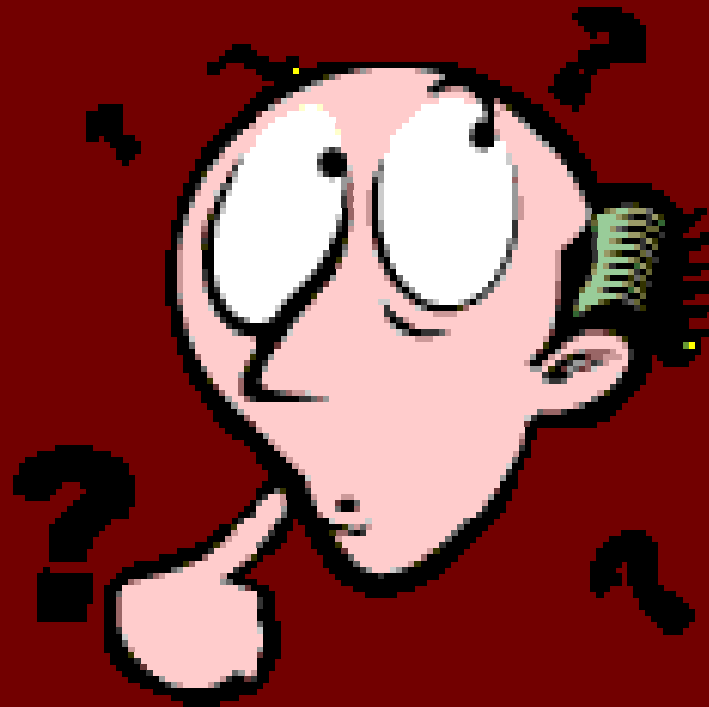
(John 16:13-15)

# God is Three Persons



Personal Relationships within the Trinity

Is the Holy Spirit really a person?



# The Holy Spirit:

- ✎ Teaches (Luke 12:11-12)
- ✎ Speaks (Acts 13:2)
- ✎ Intercedes (Romans 8:26)
- ✎ Wills (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11)
- ✎ Is Grieved (Ephesians 4:30)

Each Person is Fully God

 The Father is fully God

 The Son is fully God

 The Holy Spirit is fully God

Divine Attributes	The Father	The Son	The Holy Spirit
<b>Eternal</b>	Psalm 90	Revelation 1:17	Hebrews 9:14
<b>Omnipresent</b>	Jeremiah 23:24	Ephesians 1:23	Psalm 139:7
<b>Omniscient</b>	1 John 3:20	John 21:17	1 Corinthians 12:11
<b>Creator</b>	Psalm 100:3	Colossians 1:16	Psalm 104:30

# The Father is God

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:7)

The phrase “God our Father” appears 11 times in the New Testament

# The Father is God

To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Philippians 4:20)

The phrase "God and Father" appears 12 times in the New Testament

# The Son is God

† For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells  
bodily (Colossians 2:9)

† But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O  
God, is forever and ever, the scepter of  
uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.  
(Hebrews 1:8 ; Citing Psalm 45:6,7)

# The Son is God

† Our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ... (Titus 2:13)

† To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ... (2Peter 1:1)

# The Holy Spirit is God

Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit?... You have not lied to men but to God. (Acts 5:3-4)

# The Holy Spirit is God

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:17,18)

# The Trinity: Diversity in Unity

When Jesus was baptized, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw The Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:16)

# The Trinity: Unity in Diversity

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

# The Trinity: Grace, Love, Fellowship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God and the  
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with  
you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

# Salvation according to the Trinity: ordained, accomplished, applied

To God's elect...

who have been chosen according to

the foreknowledge of God the Father,

in the sanctification of the Spirit,

for obedience to Jesus Christ

and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

(1 Peter 1:1,2)

# St. Patrick's Illustration

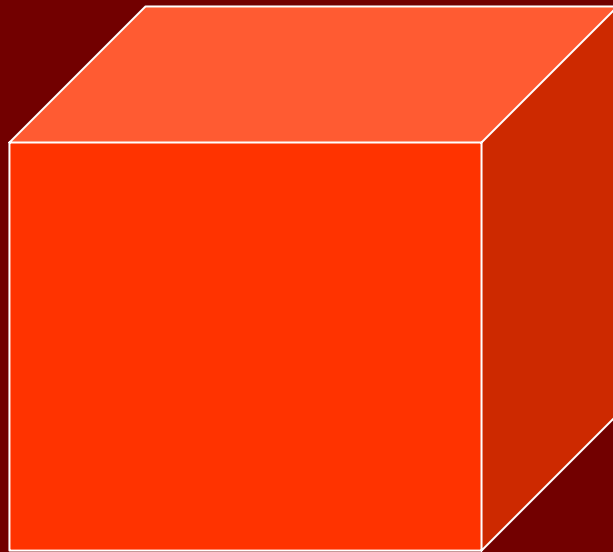
Is this one leaf or three?  
If it is one leaf, why are  
there three lobes of equal  
size? If three leaves, why  
one stem?

If you cannot explain the  
Shamrock how can you  
hope to understand the  
Trinity?

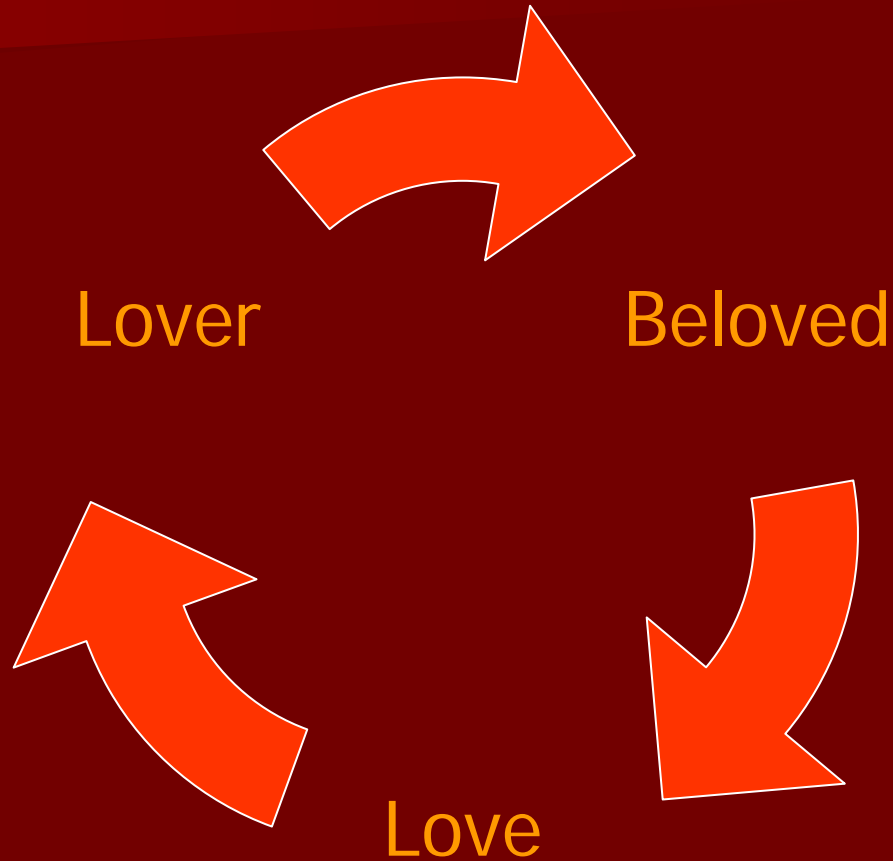


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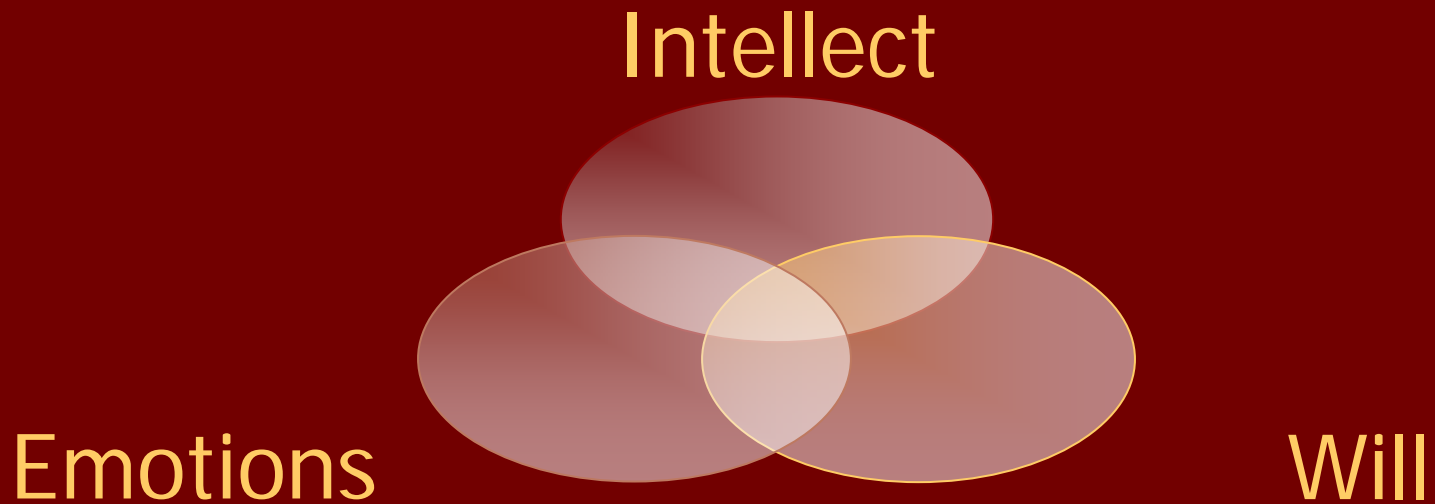
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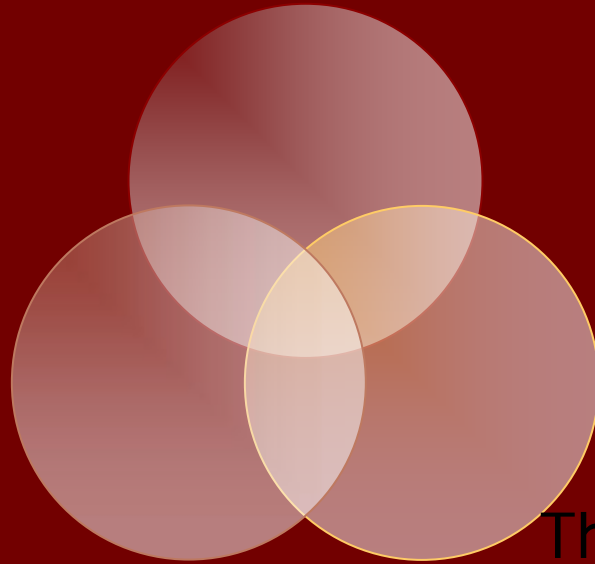
# God is Love



# Human Mind



The Father



The Son

The Holy Spirit