



# Hearts of Love

*Tom & Debbie Tillman "to touch the world for Jesus Christ"*

*A free monthly publication of Hearts of Love Ministries.*

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## **Praise to God, our Three in One!**

As we approach Christmas, celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ into a human body so that He would live a perfect and sinless life, righteously fulfilling all the Law for us and then willingly taking our sin upon Himself to be punished and crucified in our place, we recognize that God's Word clearly portrays the Lord Jesus Christ as fully God, having chosen to become, also, fully man, that His coming to Earth was to accomplish God's eternal plan of redeeming, for Himself, all those He has chosen, before the foundation of the World, to be the Eternal Bride for His beloved Son. Yes, I know we are not eternal: we did have a beginning but our eternal lives will never end.

God, the Father, sent His Son to die for us so that His Holy Spirit would eternally indwell us. From Eternity to Eternity, God has revealed Himself as One God, eternally existing as three distinct persons. The birth of the Lord Jesus Christ is the beginning of God's clearly revealing Himself as Trinity, although He surely hinted at it throughout the Old Testament, as well.

We received an email, recently, to our Website: HeartsofLove.org. The writer lives in the Philippines and found some of our writings on the website: RaptureReady.com. They are kind enough to publish many of our articles. Obviously, it helps that our understanding of Eschatology, the End Times, aligns with that of those who created Rapture Ready.

Sometimes, when we've receive an email from someone reading what we've written, it's been to argue the truth of the Rapture, the Tribulation and the Millennium. Unusually, this man took issue, after reading some of our other articles, with our understanding of our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Three in One.

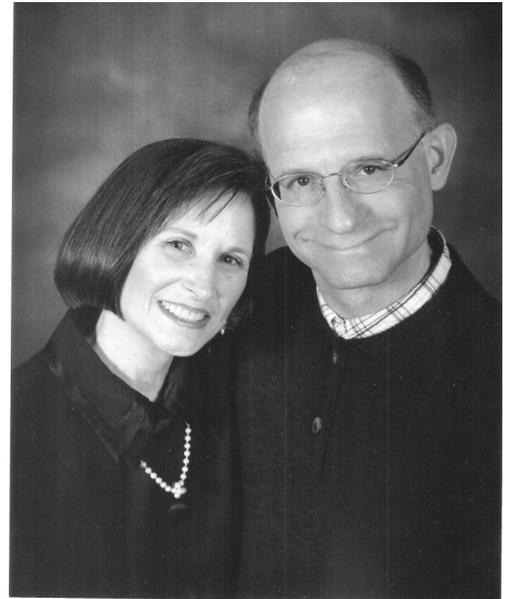
Perhaps you've come across 'christians' who disbelieve the truth of the Trinity; all cults do. They may believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is Michael, the Archangel, or perhaps that He is the brother of Lucifer but cults invariably deny the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, that He is fully God and fully Man and that He is a coequal member of the Godhead.

The man who wrote to us believes God the Father and God the Son to be the same Person while the Holy Spirit is simply the force which God uses.

Since a correct understanding of the Trinity is fundamental to Christianity, let's look at that. Because our first and only avenue of a right understanding of God is through His Word, the Bible, where He has condescended to reveal Himself to man, that is where we will find all our evidence.

The doctrine of the Trinity is clearly seen throughout the New Testament but an understanding of the plurality of God is also seen in the Old Testament.

In the beginning, when God created Adam, He referred to Himself in the plural; 'Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness' A good question is, 'How was Adam created in the image of God? Is God about 6 feet high; does He look like a man?' If that were the answer, then wouldn't apes, gorillas and chimpanzees, also look very much like God?



*For a child will be born to us, a son will be give to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called*

*WONDERFUL*

*COUNSELOR*

*MIGHTY GOD*

*ETERNAL FATHER*

*PRINCE OF PEACE*

*Isaiah 9:6*

I believe our having been created in the image of God goes far deeper than our looks or stature.

First, the best argument for the truth of the Trinity is the fact that God created Adam and Eve 'in His own image.' What does that mean? We know it was not that God is a 5 to 6 feet tall person but it has to mean something significant.

He created the first people as 'trinities, themselves; they were 'triune' persons. He created them as living souls within a body of flesh, within a body of spirit: 3 distinct aspects to their one person. He told them that they would die on the very day in which they disobeyed Him to sin by eating of the fruit of the *tree of the knowledge of good and evil*.

We know that God does not lie so we can know, with certainty, that somehow... they did die which was evident in that they saw themselves, suddenly, as naked; their spirits, which were their outer person, had died. Now, ever since, every human is born only as a living soul within a body of flesh while somehow having a spirit which is dead. Consequently, the natural man is incapable of knowing God or understanding His Word because He and His Word are spiritually discerned; the natural man's spirit is dead so that God and His Word are utter foolishness to him, and wholly

beyond his understanding.

Paul clearly teaches that before coming to God through faith in Jesus Christ, we were spiritually dead but upon being 'born again' through faith, we were made alive in Him. Now, His children, all of us who were born again... we are once more fully recreated in the image and likeness of God. Our spirits and souls now eagerly await the moment when the Lord Jesus Christ will come down into the clouds to call us up to Himself as He then finally recreates our fleshly bodies into glorified eternal bodies like His Own. 1 John 3:2

When rebellious man, under Nimrod, began to build the Tower of Babel, God said: 'Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.'" Gen 11:7

In Deut 6:4, we read: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, **the LORD is One.**"

In Hebrew, the verse reads: 'Shama Yisrael Jehovah Elohim Ehad Jehovah.' Actually, in Hebrew it reads from right to left: 'havoheJ dahE mi-hoIE havoheJ learsiY amahS' However, I believe Jews say and write 'Adoni' in place of Jehovah, choosing not to use God's Name. But... if God has revealed His Name and He com-

manded that His Name not be used in vain... wouldn't that strongly suggest that He has affirmed our use of His Name? Hear Israel! Jehovah is singular: One God. Elohim is plural: more than One. Ehad means a plurality of One. And then, Jehovah, singular, One.

Jehovah is His Name, Elohim means God as plural, **Ehad means 'a plurality of One'** and then, His Name, Jehovah.

Ehad, meaning a plurality of one, is the same word used in Gen 2:24: 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and **they shall become one** (Ehad) **flesh.**' A plurality in one. The husband and wife are coequal and distinct members of the singular marriage unit; they are called, one: a plurality within the one.

Part of God's plan for marriage is that it gives a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ's relationship to the true Church and every individual believer but also that it is a representation of the relationship of God within the Trinity. The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God, coequal but He has willingly submitted Himself unto the will of the Father as a wife is commanded to willingly submit herself to the headship of her husband. Also: not to be left out: the husband is commanded to sacrificially love his wife as Christ loves His Church.

The word, Trinity, though not found in Scripture, is clearly revealed throughout the Bible as God has revealed Himself to be One God and Three Distinct Persons. The first reference to the Trinity in the New Testament is seen in Gabriel's announcement to Mary: 'And the angel answered and said to her, "**The Holy Spirit** will come upon you, and the power of **the Highest** will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called **the Son of God.**' Luke 1:35

We see the Trinity clearly seen when Jesus' is baptized by John: 'When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a **voice came from heaven,**

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saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt 3:16

In Peter's first sermon, at Pentecost, he said, 'This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.' Acts 2:32  
Later, in Acts 10: 38, Peter says, 'how **God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.**'

To Isaiah, God refers to Himself in both the singular and plural: 'Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?"' Isa 6:8  
We often see, in Scripture, referring to God: 'Holy, Holy, Holy' The threefold repetition of God's Holiness speaks to His completion within Himself and to His Tri-unity with all Three of the Members of the Trinity being coequal in Majesty and Holiness. The Old Testament implies the Trinity often until the New Testament clearly reveals the Lord Jesus Christ and the Full Trinity.

Paul ended his second letter to the Corinthians: 'The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.' 2 Cor 13  
Then, indicating our creation in God's Image: he ended his first letter to the Thessalonians: 'Now may the God of

peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole **spirit, soul, and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you *is* faithful, who also will do *it*.' 1Thes 5

Jesus' last words in Matthew: ' Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the **Father** and of the **Son** and of the **Holy Spirit,**' Matt 28 'Now He who establishes us with you in **Christ** and has anointed us *is* **God**, who also has sealed us and given us the **Spirit** in our hearts as a guarantee.' 2 Cor 1:21  
Peter, in his first letter wrote: 'elect according to the foreknowledge of **God the Father**, in sanctification of the **Spirit**, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of **Jesus Christ:**' 1 Pet 1:2

'For through **Him** we both have access by one **Spirit** to the **Father.**' Eph2:18  
'Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in Whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, , in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.' Eph 2:20

'He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,' Titus 3:5

'...how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God'

Heb 9:14

Jesus said, 'And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever the Spirit of truth' John 14:16

'But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.' John 14:26

'But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.' John 15:26  
Obviously, anyone reading God's Spirit-inspired Word, under the guidance of His Spirit must recognize the truth of the Triune Nature of God.

After reading my reply, our Philippine emailer ignored it all and then wrote: 'Hell is not a real place!'

At that point, I realized that I was probably dealing with a *Jehovah's Witness* and decided that this was a brick wall upon which I was no longer willing to hit my head.

Praise God for His love for us in sending His Son, born to die for us! Thank you, Father, for sending us Your Son to redeem us unto Yourself that we might live forevermore with You.

This Christmas,

remember Easter!

**That's the real reason  
for the season!**

***You can touch the World for Jesus Christ... Please partner with us in these last days.***

***The Harvest is Great, but the laborers are few.*** Matt 9:38

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