

A Basic Outline of God - Father, Son and Spirit's Good News!

Trinity

1.) God, Who is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is Love and God Loves You!

Whenever the Bible speaks of "God", it does NOT mean a single, solitary "old wise man" called "God". As Revealed in Jesus, the God Who created us is One Divine Being in Three Distinct Persons; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Father is not the Son, and the Son is not the Father; The Holy Spirit is not the Father or the Son, and the Father and the Son are not the Holy Spirit, though Each are Fully God. Each Person in the Being of God is the same in Substance and Being, and of the same Love, Motives and Intentions – (Gen 1:26, Matt. 28:19, Luke 3:21-22). The 3 Persons of God are so One in Being, and of the same Substance, that to see One of the Persons of God is to see the full Nature and Character of the other two Persons (John 14:7-9). This is why Jesus reveals about God, Father, Son and Spirit and what we mean in Christianity when we say that there is only One God (Mark 12:29, John 14, 15, 16).

To think of the three Distinct Persons in the One Being of God as anything less than One is to betray God's Union and Intimacy! "God IS Love" means that God is a Relational Being (I John 4:16.) Because of this Truth about God, God is called "The Trinity" or "The Triune God." Trinity and Triune both mean "Three Persons in One Unity; One in Substance and Being." When we say "God" we are always speaking of 3 Distinct Persons Who live in One another – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Matt 3:16-17, 28:19.) It's similar to how we understand terms like "family" or "team" EXCEPT the three Persons of God inexist, indwell and interpenetrate each other; God is "Trinity in Unity" and "Unity in Trinity". This does NOT mean that there are three Gods, because there is only One God (1 Cor 8:4-6), but it does mean 3 Distinct Persons in the ONE Being of God (I Cor 12:4-6, 2 Cor 13:14.) (Please see the Athanasian Creed)

Adoption

2. The Father planned to Include and Adopt us into His Love and Life, through Jesus, and by the Spirit, and this brought Him great pleasure!

God the Father, Son and Spirit enjoys such a Perfect and Overflowing Relationship of Love in His Oneness that He decided He was not going to keep His Relationship to Himself! He's too good, giving and Relational by nature! The Father-Son-and-Spirit God wanted to Adopt others into His relationship of Love, through Jesus, so that others could Experience and Enjoy His Abundant Life forever as a Free Gift, in the Spirit. God the Trinity wanting to share His Joyous Life with others is the reason behind all of Creation, and the reason for our existence as Human Beings (Psalm 8, Heb 2:5-8, Colossians 1-4!) Adoption means that someone outside of a relationship naturally is brought into that relationship and made a very real and permanent part of that Relationship, by Grace! This is what the New Testament means by the words "Adopt" or "Adoption" (Gal 4:4-7, Eph 1:3-15, Rom 8:15-17, 23.) The Father-Son-and-Spirit God was intent on including all of Humanity and Creation in every part of His Relationship and Life. Humanity's Adoption through Jesus Christ is God's first and only reason for creating Everyone and Everything! Think of God's Good News as Plan "A" for "Adoption!"

Incarnation

3. The Father's Son, Jesus, accomplished God's plan 2000 years ago, uniting our humanity fully with God so that we can be, through him and the Spirit, the Adopted Children the Father always wanted!

Because the Father, Son and Spirit existed before there was any Creation (John 1:1-5), He was going to have to make Creation in order to Adopt Humanity, but the fact arose: How could Creation and Humanity get into God's relationship unless God got creation into His Relationship, Himself? If you aren't God, then you can't somehow become God because something created CAN'T become something uncreated! So God Father, Son and Spirit decided He would assume our human flesh/nature and remain in it forever (while also remaining God!), so that He could get our Humanity into His Shared Relationship and keep us there, permanently! That is why God the Son became Incarnate or flesh! God the Son becoming flesh as Man means that we have nothing to do with trying to get our humanity into a relationship with God. God the Trinity has graciously received our humanity into His Relational Life and Love in Jesus, the Son of God as Man. The only way for Creation to get into Triune God's Relationship was for God to humble Himself in Jesus and get Creation into Himself by getting Himself into Creation through a free and willing act of His own. This act of God the Father to get our Humanity into His Relationship through Jesus, in the Fellowship of the Spirit, freely, is called "grace" (Eph 1:2, 2:4-7, II Peter 3:18, Colossians 1:15-2:15.)

The Father-Son-and-Spirit God's plan for our Adoption in the Son meant Jesus was coming to Adopt us even if we had never sinned! God created us to adopt us! That's Life's Plan! God did not create us to save us from sin, but God DID Plan to save us from sin if it occurred! Jesus Christ is NOT Plan "B" or an afterthought of God. He is not simply a band-aid covering up our sin! The staggering truth is that Jesus is the Father's first and ONLY Plan for getting us into His Relationship! Jesus is the fulfillment of Plan "A" from before the Foundation of the World (Eph 1:5-6, Rev 13:8!) Jesus came to Adopt us into God the Trinity's Relationship as God had originally planned, and nothing, not even our sin, was going to prevent that from happening! Because of sin, Jesus saved us from it in his human Life, Suffering, Death, Resurrection and Ascension (I Tim 4:9-10!) Triune God settled this purpose of our Adoption before we were even created, and fulfilled it in Jesus the God/Man! (Gal 4:4-7, Eph 1:3-6, Rom 8:15-17, 23.)

Secret & Education

4. God the Holy Spirit was poured out into human flesh 2000 years ago, by and through Jesus, so we might believe this Good News and, in believing, receive, experience and freely share it!

This plan of the Father to Adopt Humanity into His Life and Love in Jesus used to be a Secret (Col 1:24-29). However, once Jesus ascended into Heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit of Truth to teach us all things. (John 16:5-15.) Through God the Holy Spirit Being Poured out on flesh (Acts 2:17, Joel 2:28-29), and through Believers in Union with Jesus by the Spirit (Eph 1:11-14), this Secret is becoming made known all over the World (Col 1:3-6!) When this truth is kept Secret we cannot Receive and Embrace its Liberation; instead we believe lies and experience all kinds of negative and relational problems (Rom 3:9-20, 5:12-19!) It is only when we know the Truth in Union with Jesus by the Spirit, and who we are in Jesus, that we can begin to see how sinful and blind we are and come to acknowledge the Truth of Jesus is and us in him (Matt 25:31-46, John 14:20, II Cor 5:14-16, Eph 4:6!) The Father wants everyone to know Who Jesus is and who we are in Him so that we might be who we already are in Him (I Tim 2:1-8!) The Gospel is the Good News of God's Grace in Jesus, and one day all will know it by the Spirit (Acts 20:24, Heb 8:10-12!)

Summary Thoughts:

In the Light of the God Revealed in Jesus, it is not our mission as the Church to "GET" people to "make Jesus their Lord", or "GET people saved" because Jesus is already Lord and Savior and does that! (Luke 3:25-35, Acts 2:36, I Tim 4:10!) We want to help people see Who Jesus is and who they are in Him; To Receive and Trust Him, and BE saved - saved FOR a life of participation with Jesus in His Relationship with the Father in The Holy Spirit and with all Humanity, and Creation. To be saved FROM sin and its ultimate consequences (death, hell, the grave and broken relationships with God and Everyone else!) All of God's Good News is from the Father, through the Son and in the Spirit, and in the Spirit, through the Son and to the Father for His glory and our eternal enjoyment!