

A Basic Outline of God the Trinity's Good News

Trinity

Whenever the Bible speaks of "God", it does NOT mean a single, solitary "old wise man" called "God". As Revealed in and by Jesus, the God Who created us is One Being and Essence of 3 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 Essence 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 close and intimate with each other, that when we see One Person of God, we really see the full Nature and Character of the other two Persons. This is why Jesus reveals that God is One and what we should mean when we say that there is only One God (Mark 12:29!)

In the Father, Son and Spirit Relationship, One means Oneness. To think of the three Persons of God as anything less than One is to betray God's Union and Intimacy! God IS Love, as there must be two Persons for Love and a Spirit between Them. This 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 in Unity, Essence 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 mutually 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.)

Adoption

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 this Relationship to Himself! He's too good and too giving! Triune 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. Triune God 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!) Adoption means that someone outside of a relationship is brought into that relationship and made a very real and permanent part of that Relationship! This is what the New Testament means by the words "Adopt" or "Adoption" (Gal 4:4-7, Eph 1:3-6, Rom 8:15-17, 23.) Triune God was intent on including all of Humanity and Creation in every part of His Relationship and Life and Humanity's Adoption through Jesus is God's first and only reason for creating Everyone and Everything! Just think of God's Good News as Plan "A" for "Adoption!"

Incarnation

Because the Father, Son and Spirit existed before there was any Creation (John 1:1-5), They were going to have to make Creation in order to Adopt Humanity, but the fact arose: How could Creation and Humanity get into Triune God's relationship unless Triune God brought creation into that Relationship, Himself? After all, if you are not God, then you can't somehow become God! Something created CANNOT become something uncreated! Somehow God the Trinity would have to become a Creature, and remain a Creature (while also remaining God!), if He was going to get Humanity into

His Shared Relationship and keep us there, permanently. This is where the Incarnation of Jesus, the God/Man, comes in! God the Son becoming flesh as Man means that we have nothing to do with trying to get ourselves into a relationship with God. Triune God has graciously received all of creation 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 Adopt all of Humanity into His Relationship through Jesus, in the Communion of the Spirit, freely, is called "grace" (Eph 1:2, 2:4-7, II Peter 3:18.)

Triune God's plan for our Adoption in Jesus meant that the Son was coming to Adopt us even if we had never sinned! Triune God created us in order to adopt us! That's the Plan! God did not create us to save us from sin, even though 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, we were all saved in Jesus (I Tim 4:9-10!) Triune God settled this purpose of our Adoption before we were even created, and He fulfilled this Adoption in the Literal Humanity of the Son of God and Son of Man, Jesus! (Gal 4:4-7, Eph 1:3-6, Rom 8:15-17, 23.)

Secret & Education

This plan of the Father to Adopt all of Creation 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 let us know about our Adoption and Inclusion in the life of God (John 16:5-15.) Through the Education of God the Holy Spirit, Who has come upon all flesh (Acts 2:17, Joel 2:28-29), and through People who Believe and Embrace this truth (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 Embrace and Experience 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 about who we are in Jesus that we can begin to see how sinful and blind we are and begin to acknowledge the Truth of Who Jesus is and who we are 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 (I Tim 2:1-8!) The Gospel is the Good News of God's Grace in Jesus, and one day all will know it (Acts 20:24, Heb 8:10-12!)

Summary Thoughts:

In the Light of the Person of Jesus, it is not our mission as the Church to get people "saved" because Jesus has already done that (Luke 19:9-10, John 19:30!) We want to help people see Who Jesus is and who they already are in Him! In short we want Each Person to Embrace and Experience that they are The Father's Adopted Child; that they are part of the Unique, Distinct and Collective Children whom the Father has always wanted! We want them to Be Assured that they already Belong to God and have their Identity in Jesus Christ! We want them to Be Confident in the fact that God the Trinity, in Jesus, has Embraced them in such a once-for-all way that He will never let them go! We want them to know that they have been Baptized in the Holy Spirit and that He shares with them the Very Life of Jesus, Empowering and Encouraging them to Believe, Be Saved, and Be Who they Really are in Him!