

1 John 4:7-12

- ♦ 7 Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God.
- ♦ 8 He who does not love does not know God; for God is love.
- ♦ 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.
- ♦ 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.
- ♦ 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
- ♦ 12 No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

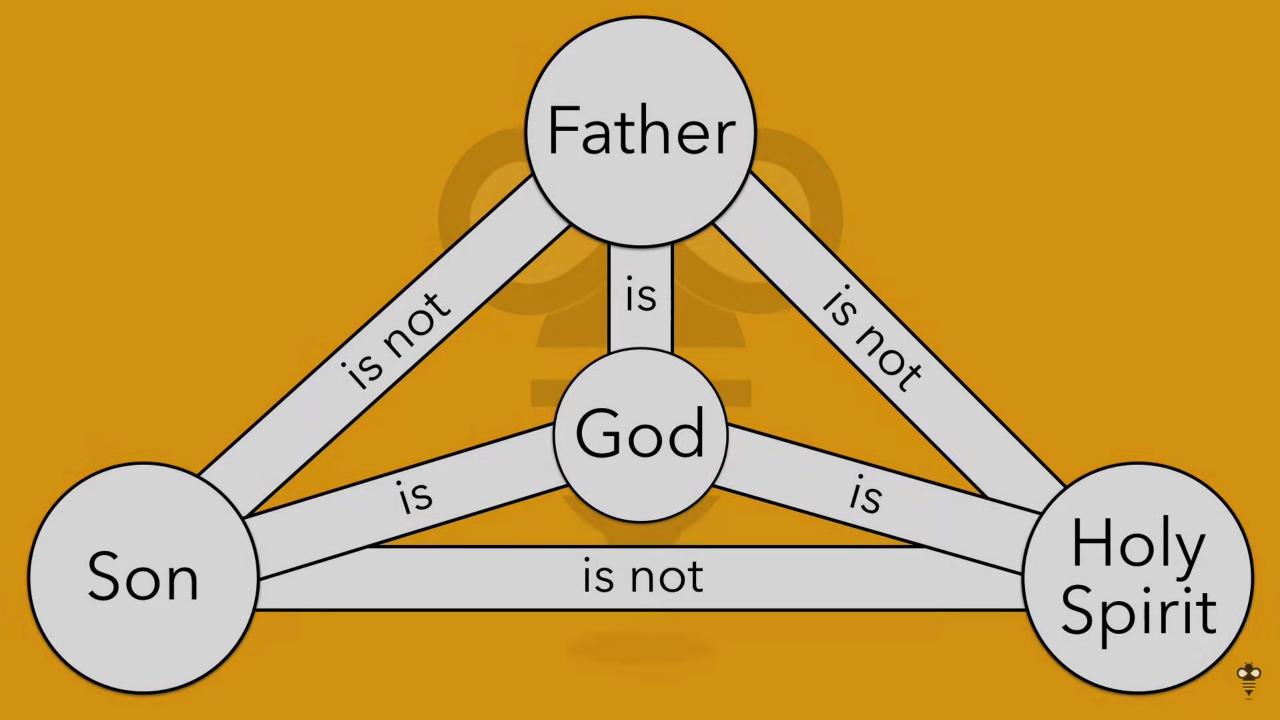
For God is Love

Hint: The Holy Trinity

<u>Understanding the Holy Trinity</u>

- God the Father
- The Son of God
- The Holy Spirit of God

Three persons with one divine essence - Perfectly united together in love

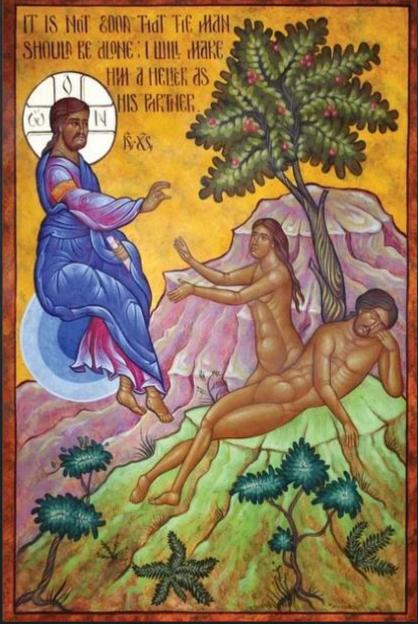


Christ is fully God and fully Man

Terms to Know

- Hypostasis Person (i.e. Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
- ♦ Ousia Essence (i.e. divine, human)
- ♦ Homoousios Same essence
- ♦ Trinity rooted in "three" and "united"





The Holy Trinity as seen in the Old Testament

- ♦ Genesis 1:26: "And God said, Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness."
- ♦ Genesis 3:22: "And the Lord God said, Behold, Adam is become as one of us, to know good and evil."
- ♦ Genesis 11:6-7: Prior to the confusion of tongues at the building of the tower of Babylon, the Lord said, "Let us go down, and there confound their language."

Revelations of the Holy Trinity

- 1. Creation. By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth (Ps. 33:6). God the Father creates through His Word or Logos (the second person) and through His Breath or Spirit (the third person). The 'two hands' of the Father work together in the shaping of the universe. Of the Logos it is said, all things were made through Him (John 1:3); of the Spirit it is said at the creation He brooded or moved upon the face of the deep (Gen. 1:2). All created things are marked by the seal of the Trinity
- 2. Incarnation. At the annunciation the Father sends the Holy Spirit upon the Blessed Virgin Mary, and she conceives of the eternal Son of God (Luke 1:35). So God's taking of our humanity is a Trinitarian work.
- 3. The Baptism of Christ. The Father's voice from heaven bears witness to the Son, saying, This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased; and at the same moment the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, descends from the Father and rests upon the Son (Matt. 3:16-17).
- 4. The Transfiguration of Christ. The same relationship prevails between the three persons as at the Baptism. The Father testifies from heaven, This is my beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased; hear Him (Matt. 17:5), while as before the Spirit descends upon the Son, this time in the form of a cloud of light (Luke 9:34).
- 5. The Eucharistic Epiclesis. The same Triadic pattern as is evident at the Annunciation, the Baptism and the Transfiguration, is apparent likewise at the culminating moment of the Eucharist, the epiclesis or invocation of the Holy Spirit.