

The Father

and

The Son

Collected Studies
by Rachel Cory-Kuehl

A Trinity Questioned

- Introduction -

compiled by Rachel Cory-Kuehl, 1996
Scripture is from New King James Version unless otherwise noted.

Each believer must decide for himself what he will believe, based upon his own study of Scripture with prayer. The writings, questions or commentary of other Christians should be valued as stimulating thought and growth. No human being should set himself up as the expositor of absolute truth in the things of God, and it is not my intent to do so in this study. We all “see through a glass darkly.” I offer my opinion, with supporting arguments - nothing more.

I want to make it very clear that I believe Christ our Lord is divine and worthy of worship. He is not a created being. He was “begotten” - not created. I do believe that Christ had a beginning, meaning that He has not always existed. He was begotten before He created time. He was begotten as a Being with an identity or self, separate from that of His Father, yet the two are “one” because they share a common spirit.

A human son is of human nature, and is of the same DNA substance as his human parents. Just so - before His incarnation, Christ was of the same nature (divine) and substance as His Father. As such, Christ could then, and can now, be called God (meaning divine being).

“Who has ascended into heaven, or descended?

Who has gathered the wind in His fists?

Who has bound the waters in a garment?

Who has established all the ends of the earth?

What is His name, and what is His Son’s name, if you know?”

Proverbs 30:4 NKJV

A TRINITY?

1. **There is no statement in Scripture that there are three coequal, coeternal divine beings (tritheistic- Trinitarianism). There is also no statement that God is one divine being who manifests in three ways - as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost (monotheistic-Trinitarianism).**
2. **Scripture never uses the word Trinity when referring to God.**
3. Christ referred to God as “the Father.” The New Testament writers refer to “God our Father” many, many times, but no Bible writer, ever referred to Christ as “God the Son,” or to the Holy Spirit as “God the Holy Spirit.” Christ is divine (*John 1:1-3*). He is a divine being because He was begotten from the Father who is divine. The Son of God was to be worshiped by angels (*Heb. 1:6*) and by men (*Phil. 2:10*). The Father of course, is called “God our Father” (*Rom. 1:7, 1Co. 1:3, 2Co. 1:2, Eph. 1:2, Phi. 1:2, Col. 1:2, 1Th. 1:1, 2Th. 1:1, 2Th. 1:2, 1Ti. 1:2, Phm. 1:3*).

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT WORSHIPED

4. I have found no command in Scripture that we are to exalt, glorify, give thanks to, pray to, or in any other way “worship” the Holy Spirit. There is no account of any created being offering worship to the Holy Spirit by name. We are to worship the Father “in spirit and in truth” (*John 4:23*).

Revelation 5:13 “And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth . . . I heard saying, ‘Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!’”

In the New Testament Scriptures, two divine beings are worshiped - the Father and the Son.

CHRIST NEVER PRAYED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

5. Christ prayed only to His Father, and never spoke to another divine being by name. He instructed His disciples to pray to the Father, in the name of the Son (*Matthew 6:10, John 15:16, John 16:23*).

6. We are to pray *for* the spirit, never *to* the spirit. The Holy Spirit is the gift.

Luke 11:13 “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Acts 2:33 “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He [Christ] poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Christ “received” the Spirit of the Father, which enabled Him to then pour out this power and presence upon the waiting disciples. They experienced the presence as Christ Himself. He was “with” them.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS “HIS SPIRIT”

7. Singular pronouns indicating possession, source, or relation, are used extensively with the word spirit throughout Scripture. The Holy Spirit is called “**His spirit**,” “**My spirit**,” “**the spirit of the Lord**,” “**the spirit of God**,” “**the spirit of Him**” or “**Your spirit**.” This suggests that the Holy Spirit is the omnipresence and power of the Father and/or of Christ. In Matthew 12:18, Luke 4:18, and Romans 8:11, the Spirit is “the Spirit of the Father.” 1 Peter 1:10-11 refers to the “Spirit of Christ” as the inspiration of Old Testament prophets.

THE FATHER IS THE SUPREME SOVEREIGN GOD

8. Jesus called His Father “**the only true God**” (*John 17:3*).
9. Paul said, “**There is One God, the Father, of Whom are all things**, AND One Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom are all things” (*1 Corinthians 8:6*). He also wrote, “**one God and Father of all, Who is above all, and through all, and in you all**” (*Ephesians 4:6*).
10. **We were created by the Father, through the Son** (*1 Cor. 8:6, Eph. 3:9, Col. 1:12-16, Heb. 1:1-3*).

The family is named after the Father.

Ephesians 3:14,15 [Paul writing] “For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ’ of Whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.”

Those who enter the heavenly mansions will have the name of the Father AND of the Son written in their foreheads (Rev. 14:1, Rev. 3:12). Why not also the name of the Holy Spirit?

“HE IS GOD” - NOT - “THEY ARE GOD”

11. In Scripture, God is referred to using singular pronouns such as He, His or Him. “Fear God, and give glory to *Him*, for the hour of *His* judgment is come” (*Revelation 14:7*).

THE GOD OF CHRIST

12. **The Father is the God of Christ** (*Jn. 20:17, Rom. 15:6, 1Cor. 11:3, 2Cor. 1:3, 2Cor. 11:31, Eph. 1:3, Eph. 1:17, Col. 1:3, Heb. 1:9, 1Pet 1:3, Rev. 1:6*). The following statement was made by Christ to John, many years after Pentecost 31AD.

Revelation 3:12 “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name”

THE FATHER’S WILL IS SUPREME

13. “There is one Lawgiver . . .” (*James 4:12*).

14. “The head of Christ is God” (*1 Cor. 11:3*).

Christ will be subordinate to the Father for all eternity (*1 Corinthians 15:24-28*).

The kingdom of heaven, was called by Christ, “My Father’s kingdom” (*Matthew 26:29*).

There is no mention of “the Spirit’s kingdom.”

“Our Father ... **Thine is the kingdom**” (*Matthew 6:13*).

The last like the first sentence of the Lord’s prayer, points to our Father as above all power and authority and every name that is named.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO THE FATHER

15. **We are reconciled to the Father through the Son** (*Col 1:19-20*).

16. He said, “If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father” (*John 14:8-9*).

*He did not say, “You have also seen the Spirit” because the Spirit is the power and presence of the Father. The Father is Spirit, but also appears in a form which can be “seen” by His created beings. He “sits” on a throne. He holds a scroll in His right hand (*Rev. 5:1,7*).*

17. **Christ was “sent by the Father”** (*John 5:23, 5:30, 5:36, 5:37, 6:39, 6:44, 6:57, 8:16, 8:29, 8:42, 10:36, 12:49, 17:21, 20:21, 1John 4:14*).

Never did Christ say that He was sent by the Spirit.

The Father glorified Christ, the Father gave Christ authority, the Father is the “Only True God,” the Father sent Christ, the Father was glorified by Christ, the Father assigned Christ His work, and Christ existed with the Father [*no special mention of the Spirit also*] before the world existed (*John 17:1-5*).

THE FATHER GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON

18. “For God so loved the world that *He* gave *His* only begotten Son.” (*John 3:16*).

1 John 1:3 “Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of the Father, in truth and love.”

Why call Him “the Son,” if He was not really a Son at all, but simply took the role of a son, or was manifest as a son - but was not in fact, “begotten.”

CHRIST WAS THE LITERAL SON OF THE FATHER

19. There is strong indication in Proverbs 8:22-30 that this passage is Christ Himself speaking of His existence with His Father, prior to His incarnation. The passage is a corollary on wisdom, but Christ is called “the wisdom of God” (*1 Cor. 1:24,30*). The “word” of God in John 1:1-3 is the same concept to a Hebrew as “the wisdom” of God. This is the revelation of Himself, which God has sent. The speaker of Proverbs 8 says, “I was brought forth.” This the same Hebrew expression used to say “I was born.” (*Also see: Job 15:7-8.*)

John 16:27 [Christ said] “I came forth from the Father and have come into the world.”

John 17:8 [Christ prayed] “I came forth from You [Father]
and they have believed that You sent Me.”

Matthew 16:16-18 [Peter] “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God,”
[Jesus replied] “Upon this rock I will build my church.”

The church (congregation) is built upon the identity of Christ - upon the fact that He was and is “the Son of the living God. The church was NOT built on a man named Peter!

ONLY ONE MEDIATOR

20. "There is only one mediator between God and men" (1Timothy 2:5).

*If we say that God the Father communicates with us through Christ, who then communicates with us through the Holy Spirit (who is also God), then Christ no longer mediates **between** man and God. This arrangement puts the Holy Spirit as mediator between Christ and man.*

If we say that the Father, the Son, and the Spirit are three manifestations of the same Divine Being then there is no mediator at all between God and man.

SALVATION BELONGS TO THE FATHER AND THE SON

21. Revelation 7:10 "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"

TWO DIVINE BEINGS - THE FATHER AND HIS SON

22. We "abide in the Son and in the Father" (1John 2:24).

23. "Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son" (1John 1:3).

Jesus said, "I and My Father are one" (John 10:30). He prayed that those who believed would also be "one" with the Father and Himself (John 17:11,21,22,23). Christ did not say that He was also "one" with the Spirit, or that we would ever be "one" with the Holy Spirit, as if to say the Spirit is a third divine being.

24. The Father forgives (Matt 6:12,14,15). Christ also forgives sin, because He received all authority from His Father, (John 5:22, 27; Matt 28:18) but nowhere in Scripture do we read that we are forgiven by the Spirit.

25. John 17:1 & 3 "Jesus spoke these words lifted His eyes to heaven, and said: 'Father [first person] the hour is come. Glorify Your Son [second person] that Your Son also may glorify You [first person], . . . And this is eternal life, that they may know You [first person], the only true God, and Jesus Christ [second person] Whom You [first person] have sent.'"

26. If Christ was not a separate being from His Father, then He prayed to Himself to be delivered from death (*Luke 22:42*). When He said, “Not my will but Yours be done.” Does this not signify that there were two individual wills, and therefore two separate beings? He said, “I came down from heaven not to do my own will, but the will of Him that sent me” (*John 6:38*).
27. All of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are found in the Father and the Son (*Col. 2:2-3*).
28. Ten times in the New Testament, Paul wrote “**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**” It is hard to believe that it was an oversight on his part, not to have mentioned the Spirit also in these passages, if the Holy Spirit is indeed a third divine being.

THE FATHER ONLY - NOT THE SON

29. Christ stated that no one, not even the Son Himself, knew the day or the hour of His return to earth, but the “Father only” (*Matt. 24:36*).

How could the Son not “know” if He was a manifestation of one divine being who is omniscient? How could the Spirit not have known - if He is a third co-equal divine being?

NOTE: This statement was true at the time it was spoken. I am quite sure that the Son NOW knows.

THE TRINITY IS CONFUSING.

30. “God so loved the world that He [singular] gave His [singular] only begotten Son” (*John 3:16*).

If “God” is one divine being who manifests in three ways, then HE could not have given HIS “begotten” Son. He could manifest as a begotten Son. He could give part of Himself (or a manifestation of Himself, but HE could not give His only begotten SON.

If “God” is three co-equal divine beings, then one of that Trinity could assume the role of a Son, but you could not say that a Father “gave His Son.”

Did the Apostolic writers intend to mislead? I think not! I understand the Bible as it reads. Jesus Christ was and is the begotten Son of God our Father. That is who He is. That understanding is the foundation of our faith.

IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS

Perhaps no one section of this study, by itself, would convince the reader that God is, or is not a Trinity. It is the cumulative weight of all the arguments together, which I believe urges the view.

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COUNCILS AND CREEDS

- A SHORT HISTORY -

The disciples of Christ, scattered by persecution, spread the gospel of the kingdom. In Egypt, these missionaries found a ready acceptance of the new religion and as usually happens, the growing numbers of believers began to gravitate toward certain charismatic leaders. The two most famous of these men were Arius and Athanasius, both of Alexandria.

Arius (c.250-336) held that Christ is the Son of God, and that because He is the Son He therefore had a beginning. “It is a necessary condition of the filial relation,” He wrote, “that the Father must be older than his Son.” The Father and the Son are of “like substance” (or nature) and therefore Christ is divine and worthy of worship. (A century before Arius, another believer named Novation of Rome held a similar view.)

Athanasius, the Bishop of Alexandria, headed the opposing party which held that the Father and the Son are of “one substance,” and are coeternal. They asserted that the doctrine of Arius lowered the Son making Him less worthy of worship than the Father. It is worth noting here that the Egyptians had worshiped a triune God (Isis-Horus-Set, otherwise known as Amum-Maut-Khonso) for thirty centuries.

Such heated debates took place between these two factions that the citizens of Alexandria amused themselves with theatrical satires and plays depicting the protagonists, and not many years went by before it could be said that nearly every Christian man or woman had an opinion concerning the nature of Christ. The Jews and Pagans freely insulted Christianity with their mocking derision.

The emperor Constantine was at first very amused by all the squabbling. It kept the people occupied. But as the controversy dragged on and on, he finally called a council of nearly 300 bishops to settle the matter. **The first ecumenical council of the Christian church took place in Nicaea (now in modern Turkey) c.325 - 294 years after the death of Christ.** The presence of the emperor added to the vehemence of the arguments. He would listen to all sides and then rule. His verdict would decide truth.

As to the main point, **the Son was declared to be of the “same substance” with the Father.** Arius was branded a heretic and banished to one of the remote provinces of Illyricum. “I am persecuted,” He cried, “because I have taught that the Son had a beginning and the Father had not.”

The ruling of the Emperor was clear. He quickly issued letters denouncing Arius and ordered that anyone found with a copy of his writings must burn it or be put to death.

Concerning the nature of Christ, the first Nicene Creed reads: **“The Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church anathematizes those who say that there was a time when the Son of God was not; and that before he was begotten he was not, and that he was made out of nothing, or out of another substance or essence, and is created, or changeable, or alterable.”**

At the Council of Nicaea, the debate was over the nature of Christ (begotten vs unbegotten). The nature of the Spirit was not an issue. It would be another fifty-six years before the church would decree worship of the Holy Spirit.

Now the Emperor Constantine was a base and vile criminal. He had murdered his son Crispus, his nephew Licinius, and suffocated in a steam bath his wife of twenty years - Fausta, mother of three of his sons. The public abhorrence of his deeds could not be concealed. A plaque comparing his reign to that of Nero was affixed to the palace gate. Constantine threatened to massacre the Roman populace who had insulted him.

This is the same Constantine who feigned a “conversion” to Christ, but not wanting to antagonize the pagan element, waited until he lay on his death bed to be “baptized” (just in case there is indeed a judgment). He is the same who decreed that Christians and pagans should “rest” on the same day - Sunday.

The favorite sister of Constantine, a supporter of the disrepute teacher, prevailed upon her brother and barely three years after the date of the council Arius was restored to favor. He was treated by the whole court with the respect which would have been due to an innocent and oppressed man. His faith was approved by the synod of Jerusalem; and the emperor seemed impatient to repair his injustice. He issued a royal command that Arius should receive the holy communion in the cathedral of Constantinople, but on the same day which had been fixed for His triumph, Arius died very suddenly and under strange circumstances. The opponents of Arius said that God had answered their prayers and saved the church from the worst of her enemies. The three principle leaders of the Catholics - Athanasius of Alexandria, Eustathius of Antioch, and Paul of Constantinople were deposed, accused by numerous councils; and were afterwards banished to distant provinces. The believers were left to choose what they would believe with regard to the death of Arius - be it miracle or poisoning.

The council which took place in Nicaea (c.325) was only the first of nine “world” councils in early church history. Creed followed creed. The seventh ecumenical council, the second to take place in Nicaea (c.787) was convened by the Byzantine empress Irene to rule on the use of saints’ images and icons in religious devotions. The council declared that the veneration of images was “legitimate” and the intercession of saints “efficacious,” yet their veneration must be distinguished from the worship due to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

THE NICENE CREED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

Regarding the Holy Spirit, the original Nicene Creed stated simply: **“We believe in the Holy Spirit.”**

This was later modified by the Council of Constantinople (c.381) to read: **“We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who spoke through the prophets.”**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' creed is not the work of the Apostles themselves. It had its origin in the form of a confession of faith recited by the candidate before baptism. It is based on a formula current in Rome (c.200) although its present form did not appear before the 6th century. It is used by Roman Catholics and many Protestant churches but has never been accepted by the Orthodox churches.

The “Apostles' Creed” reads:

“I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.”

THE ATHANASIAN CREED

The first clear reference to this writing was made during the 6th century, therefore Athanasius himself is unlikely the author. It is Latin in origin, and during the Middle Ages was regularly used in church services. Since the Reformation its use in worship service has been confined to the Roman Catholic church and the Anglican Communion, although it is now infrequently recited.

“We worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confounding the Persons nor dividing the substance. We distinguish among the persons, but we do not divide the substance. For the Father is a distinct person; the Son is a distinct person; and the Holy Spirit is a distinct person. ... The Father is eternal, the Son is eternal, the Holy Spirit is eternal. Nevertheless, there are not three eternal beings, but one eternal being. Thus there are not three uncreated beings, not three boundless beings, but one uncreated being and one boundless being. ... Thus the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. But there are not three gods, but one God.”
From the Athanasian Creed

References:

1. *History of the Intellectual Development of Europe, Volume 1*, Draper, John William M.D., LL.D.1876. Chapter 6, part 2; Chapter 9, part 1 and 2;
2. *The Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia* (see Nicaea, councils of; Arianism; creed)
3. *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Gibbon 1845, part 4

“For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in Him,
should not perish but have everlasting life.”
John 3:16 KJV

THE STORY OF GOD OUR FATHER AND JESUS HIS SON

Before the beginning ----- God was.

God became “the Father” when He beget a Son in His express image (*2John 1:3, Heb. 1:1-3*). The Son was “begotten” before time was created, therefore one could say that the Son exited from eternity, while also saying that He began to exist. This was “the beginning” (*John 1:1-3, Prov. 8:22*). The Son of God was a divine being exactly like His Father - all knowing, all powerful, and everywhere present. The Father and the Son - though they existed as Spirit - manifest in a form which could be “seen” and “heard” by created beings. Their presence and Their power would pervade the created universe.

The Son carried out His Father’s will and plan in the creation of angels, of the earth and of every living thing (*Heb. 1:2, Eph. 3:9, 1Cor. 8:6*). The Son was called “the Word of God” (*John 1:14*) because He represented the Father to all created beings. He was worshiped by angels, and was the commander of the angels of Heaven (*Heb. 1:6, Rev. 12:7*).

Lucifer, the highest *created* being became jealous of God’s Son. He refused to be under Christ’s authority any longer and “there was war in Heaven.” Lucifer the Light Bearer, became Satan the deceiver. He was cast out of Heaven with those angels who had followed him in rebellion (*Rev. 12:7*).

Satan deceived the woman and the man on a planet called earth, speaking to them through the mouth of a beautiful flying serpent (*Gen. 3*). They believed His lies and insinuations about the Father. When Adam and Eve rebelled against the Father - stealing the fruit which the Father had expressly forbidden, they were separated from Him and from Heaven. Satan now used the earth as his base of operations. He would continue the war against the Father and the Son.

Adam and Eve were separated from God the Father because of their rebellion. The Father withdrew His presence (Spirit) from the earth. Christ the Son became the Mediator and His Presence preserved the earth from ruin. He would try to win the man and the woman and their descendants back to the Father. He would try to bring about a reconciliation (*Col. 1:19-10*). The Spirit of Christ spoke through all of the Old Testament prophets telling the people of the power and love of God. He told the people of a Savior to come (*1Peter 1:10-11*).

God had promised that one day “the seed” of the woman would crush the Serpent’s head (*Gen. 3:15*). I believe that the Father’s action, in sending His Son as mediator was based upon His promise that this same Son would one day take human nature, to be tested by Satan. He would endure every test which the most evil mind could invent.

Christ and the angels under His command kept up a constant connection between Heaven and earth, until the time came for Christ to become a man. He came to earth, as a man to reach men. He came to represent the Father and to tell of His love. “*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*” (*John 3:16*). Satan had caused men to live in fear of God, to believe that God is an avenging destroyer. Christ came to sweep away the lies. He spoke of God as a Father who cares deeply for every created son and daughter.

When the Son of God incarnated, He could not longer be omnipresent in Spirit. But now, because the Son of God had become a man, the Spirit of God the Father was restored to the earth (*John 6:44; John 5:17; John 20:22; John 7:39; Matt. 6:6, 18*). The Spirit of the Father flowed through His Son, enabling Him to heal the sick and raise the dead (*Acts 2:22, John 14:10*). Christ said, “*For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself*” (*John 5:26*). Through Christ, the Father would pour out His love for the world.

Men controlled by Satan and his evil angels crucified the Son of God, but the Father raised Him to life again and took Him back to Heaven (*Gal.1:1, 1Pet. 1:3*). The Son asked the Father to restore to Him the glory He had once shared with the Father, before He became a man - before the earth was created (*John 17:1-5*). This the Father did in the gift of His Holy Spirit (*Acts 2:33*). The Spirit of the Father became also the Spirit of the Son. This Spirit restored to the Son His capacity to be omnipresent.

Before His death Christ had promised His disciples, “*I will pray the Father and He will give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you*” (*John 14:16-18*).

Who is this Comforter, Who stood “with” them even as He spoke, but would soon “be in them?” Who could take the place of their beloved Jesus?

No one could take His place! *“And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son, into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’”* (Gal. 4:6). The Spirit of the Son, the vital presence of their master, would be with them always. The Holy Spirit is Jesus - in spirit. He is *“Christ in you, the hope of glory”* (Col. 1:27).

Jesus said, *“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you”* (John 14:18). *“And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world?”* (Matt. 28:20). *“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them”* (Matt. 18:20).

“The first Adam became a living being. The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit” (1Cor. 15:45). Christ the man, became Christ the Holy Spirit. *“Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty”* (2Cor. 3:17). *“He who descended (into the grave) is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things”* (Ephesians 4:10). The Comforter is Christ Himself - not Christ in body, but Christ in spirit. He is with us and in us!

Through Jesus, the Father has poured upon us His Holy Spirit (Titus 3:4-5, 1John 4:12-13, 1John 3:23-24). This is the Spirit which “proceeds from the Father” (John 15:26), through Christ, to men. Jesus said, *“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”* (Luke 11:13).

Christ has received from the Father the gift of His Spirit. This gift has enabled Christ to baptize us with His own Spirit (Matt. 3:11, John 20:21-22). Every spiritual gift is given to us by the Father, through Christ the Son (Acts 2:33, Eph 4:7-8). We are strengthened by the Spirit of the Father in our inner being, that Christ may dwell in our hearts, (Eph 3:14-18) and through this gift we become the extension of Christ in this world..

The Father has given this world into the hands of Christ. He is the only Mediator between God and man (1Tim. 2:5). When the great war between good and evil finally comes to an end, when every enemy of God is either reconciled or destroyed, then Christ will deliver to His Father the kingdom He has won. Then Christ Himself will be subject to His Father, *“for the Head of Christ is God”* (1Cor. 11:3). For eternity to come, God Our Father will be all in all (1Cor. 15:14-18).

“And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth
and under the earth and such as are in the sea,
and all that are in them,
I heard saying: ‘Blessing and honor and glory and power
be to Him who sits upon the throne,
and to the Lamb, forever and ever!’
(Revelation 5:13).

TWO DIVINE BEINGS

1. “Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son” (*1John 1:3, 1John 2:24*).
2. All “the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in the Father and the Son” (*Col. 2:2-3*).
4. “Not My will but Thine be done,” Jesus prayed (*Luke 22:42*).

“I came down from heaven not to do my own will, but the will of Him that sent me” (*John 6:38*).

“My will” - “Thy will.” Two beings? Or was Christ praying to Himself?

THE FATHER GLORIFIED

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Romans 15:6 “. . . that ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” KJV

Galatians 1:4-5 [Christ] “who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3: 14-15 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.”

Philippians 2:11 “... and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 4:20 “Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 4:9-11 “Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: ‘You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

GIVING THANKS TO THE FATHER

Matthew 11:25 “At that time Jesus answered and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.”

John 11:41 “Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, ‘Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.”

2 Corinthians 11:31 “The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.”

Ephesians 5:20 “. . . giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ . . .”

Colossians 1:3 “We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,”

Colossians 1:12 “. . . giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.”

Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Ephesians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”

1 Peter 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”

CHRIST HONORED AND GLORIFIED

Revelation 5:8-12 “Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb ... Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!”

John 5:23 “. . . that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.”

Philippians 2:11 “. . . that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Hebrews 1:6 “But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: “Let all the angels of God worship Him.”

2 Peter 3:18 “. . . but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”

Luke 24:50-52 “And He [the risen Christ] led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy . . .”

Note: There is no Scriptural command to thank the Holy Spirit.

We thank the Father for sending us His Spirit.

We pray in the Spirit, but are never instructed to pray to the Spirit.

THE FATHER CREATED ALL THINGS - THROUGH HIS SON

1 Corinthians 8:6 “ ... yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.”

Revelation 4:9-11 “Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: ‘You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

Ephesians 3:14-15 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,”

Ephesians 3:9 “ ... and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;”

Hebrews 1:1-2, 8, 10 “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person [singular], and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,”... “And: [to the Son He says] ‘You LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands;’”

John 1:3 “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

John 1:10 “He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.”

Colossians 1:12-16 “ ... giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.”

Proverbs 8:27-31 “When He prepared the heavens ... When He established the clouds above ... When He assigned to the sea its limit ... Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him, rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight was with the sons of men.”

NOTE: Proverbs Chapter Eight is “wisdom” speaking. The Son of God is speaking. The One who was begotten. The One who acted as the “master craftsman” - as the agent of the Father - in the creation of all things.

THE FATHER’S WILL IS SUPREME

Ephesians 4:6 “... one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Luke 11:2 “So He said to them, ‘When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven” (Matt. 6:10).

Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

Matthew 12:50 “For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother” (Mark 3:35).

Matthew 18:14 “Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”

Matthew 26:42 “Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, ‘O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

Luke 22:42 “... saying, Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”

Mark 14:36 “And He said, ‘Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”

John 4:34 “Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me . . .”

John 5:30 “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

John 6:38-39 “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.”

Hebrews 10:7 “Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come -- In the volume of the book it is written of Me -- To do Your will, O God.’”

John 6:40 “And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Galatians 1:4 “ ... who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,”

Ephesians 1:11 “In Him [Christ] also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will [the Father],”

NOTE: The entire first chapter of Ephesians is a praise to God the Father, Who foreordained, and purposed that we would someday be adopted as His sons and daughters, through Christ His son. He planned this before the earth was created. The creation of this earth, and the salvation of those who would accept His Son, was ultimately and originally the will, idea and plan of God Our Father.

Hebrews 13:20-21 “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

*NOTE: The Father raised Christ from the dead (1Peter 1:3, Gal 1:1)
The Father works His will - in us - through Christ.*

Revelation 4:11 [To the One who sits on the throne] “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

NOTE: The Bible does not say that Christ came to do the will of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:11 “But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”

NOTE: After reading the above references, would you say that “He” refers to the Father or to a “third person of the Godhead” called the Holy Spirit?

1. *“And there are diversities of gifts, but it is the same God who works all in all” (1 Cor. 12:6).*
2. *“Every good gift is from the Father . . .” (James 1:17).*
3. *“ . . . how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” (Lk. 11:13).*
4. *“God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth, for the Father is seeking such to worship Him” (John 4:23).*

HIS FATHER AND HIS GOD

John 20:17 “Jesus said to her, ‘Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’”

Romans 15:6 “ ... that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 11:3 “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”

2 Corinthians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,”

2 Corinthians 11:31 “The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.”

Ephesians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,”

Ephesians 1:17 “ ... that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”

Colossians 1:3 “We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,”

Hebrews 1:9 “You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness [the Holy Spirit] more than Your companions.”

1 Peter 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,”

Revelation 1:6 “ ... and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 3:12 “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.”

SENT BY HIS FATHER

1 John 4:14 “And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.”

John 5:30 [Christ] “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me” (*John 5:23, John 5:37*).

John 5:37 [Christ] “And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form” (*John 8:16*).

John 6:39 [Christ] “This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.”

John 6:44 [Christ] “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

John 6:57 [Christ] “As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.”

John 8:16 [Christ] “And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me.”

John 8:29 [Christ] “And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”

John 8:42 “Jesus said to them, ‘If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.’”

John 10:36 [Christ] “Do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God?’”

John 12:49 “For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.”

John 17:21 [Jesus last prayer to His Father] “ ... that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”

John 17:25 “O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.”

John 20:21 “So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

RAISED FROM THE DEAD - BY HIS FATHER

Acts 3:15 “ ... and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.” (*Acts 4:10*)

Acts 13:30 “But God raised Him from the dead.”

Acts 17:31 “ ... because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Romans 4:24 “It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead.”

Romans 6:4 “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Romans 8:11 “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”

Romans 10:9 “ ... that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Galatians 1:1 “Paul, an apostle not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead.”

Ephesians 1:17-20 “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,”

1Thessalonians 1:10 “ ... and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

1 Peter 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” [See also Romans 6:9, Romans 7:4, Colossians 2:12]

GREETINGS AND BENEDICTIONS

Romans 1:7 “To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 1:3 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Corinthians 1:2-3 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,”

NOTE: He is the God of Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.

2 Corinthians 13:14 “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.”

NOTE: God Our Father gave His Son, and sends forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts (Gal. 4:6). This indwelling of the “Spirit of His Son” results in sweet communion between fellow believers.

Ephesians 1:2 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 6:23 “Peace to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 1:2 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 4:19-20 “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Colossians 1:2-3 “To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colossi: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,”

1 Thessalonians 1:1 “Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Thessalonians 1:1-2 “Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Timothy 1:2 “To Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Titus 1:4 “To Titus, a true son in our common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.”

Philemon 1:3 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 John 1:3 “Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.”

Jude 1:1 “Jude, a bond servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:”

Revelation 1:4-6 “John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits [*angels Rev. 8:2*] who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

*Conclusion: **Thirteen times** Paul greeted the disciples of Christ in the name of the Father and the Son. **Once** He prayed that the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Spirit would be with the followers of Christ. The weight is on the side of two divine beings, not three.*

THE DIVINE SON OF GOD

- Worthy of Worship -

Matthew 1:23 Christ is called "Immanuel" - "God with us."

1 Timothy 3:16 "God was manifest in the flesh."

Colossians 2:9 "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead (divinity) bodily."

Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

1 Corinthians 15:47 "The Second Man is the Lord from heaven."

John 20:26-29 Thomas called Christ "My Lord and My God." (*Christ did not correct him.*)

THE ONLY "BEGOTTEN" SON OF GOD

Matthew 1:18,20,23 Mary was His human mother and God in heaven was His divine Father.

Luke 1:35 "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."

Hebrews 1:4-6 "Being made so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they." (*Angels are created beings. Christ was "begotten."*)

John 1:14 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 1:18 "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have ever-lasting life."

John 3:18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

1 John 4:9 “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

HE WAS BEGOTTEN (or brought forth) - FROM GOD HIS FATHER,
LONG BEFORE HE WAS BORN
IN HUMAN FORM - WITH HUMAN NATURE.
HE WAS THE SON OF GOD.

Proverbs 8:22-25 “The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old. I have been established [anointed] from everlasting, From the beginning, before there was ever an earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, When there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills, I was brought forth;”

This passage from Proverbs is from an allegory on wisdom. Solomon was inspired by the Spirit of Christ to write these words. They are the words of Christ concerning Himself, and His existence with His Father prior to His creation of “all things,” and prior to His incarnation. Paul was alluding to this passage when he wrote, “...Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1Cor.1:24) and “...Jesus Christ, who of God is made unto us wisdom...” (1Cor.1:30).

The Hebrew word in this passage translated “brought forth” means “to be born.” In the Septuagint translation (300BC) from the Hebrew, the Greek word “gennao” was chosen. This is the same word which Paul uses in Hebrews 1:5, speaking of Christ.

*NOTE: “Gennao” is Strong’s #1080, gennao {ghen-nah'-o}.
Meaning: to beget, to bring forth.*

Proverbs 8:25 “before the mountains were settled, and before all hills, he begets me.” (LXE)

NOTE: The LXE is an English translation of the Septuagint by Sir Lancelot C. L. Benton, 1844.

John 17:5 [From Christ’s last public prayer at the last supper] “And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began”

John 17:8 “I came forth from You [Father] and they have believed that You sent Me.”

John 16:27 “I came forth from the Father AND have come into the world.”

Matthew 16:16-18 [Peter said] “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
[And Jesus said] “Upon this rock I will build my church.”

Was Jesus, was Paul, were the disciples trying to mislead? A son - in any language - is one who was begotten by a Father. Why call Him the Son of God, if He was not really a Son at all? Did He simply take the role of a son, when He incarnated? I don't believe so. Proverbs presents Him as begotten before anything was created. And Christ shared the glory of the Father, "before the world was."

I know someone is going to ask, "Who was His mother?" We understand that both Adam and Eve were made "in the image of God." God can beget from Himself alone.

**Was Christ simply a different manifestation of one divine being
Who also manifests as "the Father" and as "the Holy Spirit?"**

Luke 22:42 [Christ prayed] "Not my will but Thine be done."

*How could there be "my will" and "Thy will,"
if Christ and His Father are two manifestations of the same divine being?*

JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE SON OF GOD.

John 5:18 "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the Sabbath, but said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God."

As a son - when grown - may be the equal of his father, so Christ the Son WAS equal with His Father, before His incarnation into human nature (See Philippians 2:6-7). He did not seek to retain that equality, but rather "emptied Himself" of divine power, to "take the form of a servant."

John 10:30-33 [Christ speaking] "I and my Father are one..." [The Jews answered Him, saying] 'For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.'"

Christ was not saying that He and the Father were two manifestations of the same divine being. In John 17:20-23 Christ prayed that His followers would also be "one" with the Father and Himself.

CHRIST FORGAVE SINS COMMITTED AGAINST GOD

Mark 2:7 "Who can forgive sins but God alone." (Job 14:4, Isaiah 43:25)

Daniel 9:9 "To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness,..."

Luke 5:24 [Christ] “But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins’; He said to the man who was paralyzed, ‘I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.’”

Luke 7:48-49 “And He [Christ] said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven.’ And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, ‘Who is this who even forgives sins?’”

Mark 2: 5-12 “...He [Christ] said to the paralytic, ‘Son your sins are forgiven you.’..... ‘But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins’ -- He said to the paralytic, ‘I say unto you, arise, take up your bed, and go your way to your house’” (Matt 9:6).

This story illustrates that forgiveness is not just a legal maneuver; blotting out a mark against our name in a book in heaven. Forgiveness includes healing. Only God can forgive sins because only God can heal. No mere human being can forgive sin.

JESUS WAS GIVEN THE AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SIN Who gave Him this authority?

Matthew 6:12 In the model prayer, we are to pray to the Father for forgiveness, in the name of the Son. God the Father has given to His son authority to forgive sin.

John 3:35 [Christ speaking] “The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.”

John 5:22 [Christ speaking] “For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son.”

THE SON OF GOD “WILL BAPTIZE YOU - WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

Matthew 3:11 [John the Baptist] “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Mark 1:8 [The Baptist] “I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Luke 3:16 [The Baptist] “John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

John 1:33 [The Baptist] "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'"

John 20:22 [Christ] "And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

GOD HAS COMMANDED MEN AND ANGELS TO WORSHIP CHRIST.

Philippians 2:10-11 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (*Notice that only two divine Beings are worshiped.*)

Hebrews 1:6 "But when He again brings the first born into the world, He [God the Father] says: 'Let all the angels of God worship Him.'"

Matthew 2:11 Wise men directed of the Holy Spirit "worshiped" the infant Jesus.

CHRIST IS WORSHIPED

Matthew 14:33 "Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

This scene took place just after Jesus walked on the water during a terrible storm, after He invited Peter to walk out to Him on the water and then rescued Peter as his faith failed and he began to sink. The men who "worshiped Him" were "His disciples" (Matt. 14:22). They were the ones in the boat, caught in the storm. There is no indication that Christ corrected this worship of Him.

Luke 24:51-52 "Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,"

Revelation 5:13 "And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!" (*Two divine beings are worshiped here.*)

IF CHRIST WERE NOT OUR GOD,
WE COULD NOT WORSHIP HIM
AND STILL KEEP THE FIRST COMMANDMENT.

Exodus 20:3-6 “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” “Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them.”

NOTE: I explain in the study titled “[The Mediator - Christ thru the Old Testament](#),” my belief that the earth was cut off from God the Father by the sin of Adam. The Son then became the mediator - the representative of His Father to our world. As such, HE became God of this world - Yahweh to Israel. He was worshiped as Yahweh. He gave the Ten Commandments. His taking this role of Mediator was predicated upon His promise to submit Himself to the temptations of Satan, while in human form and nature. Only when the Son incarnated, was the rupture between mankind and God the Father partly closed. The Father was not yet physically present, but the Spirit of the Father was restored to earth, when the Son became a man.

Matthew 8:2 “And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, ‘Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.’”

Jesus received worship while on this earth (Matthew 14:33, Matthew 28:9, Revelation 5:8-14).

THE BIBLE FORBIDS - THE WORSHIP OF CREATED BEINGS

Colossians 2:18, Revelation 19:10, Revelation 22:8.9

NOTE: Does Revelation 3:14 refer to Christ as a created being?

The word “beginning” is “arche,” which can also be translated correctly “head” or “chief.” Christ is the creator, the ruler, the head, the chief over all of creation. Christ refers to Himself as the “Alpha and Omega”- the beginning and the end - the first and the last. (Rev. 21:6, Rev. 22:13)

NOTE: John was a Hebrew, and probably did NOT write in Greek. The “alpha and omega” actually should have been left untranslated, as the “aleph and tav” - the first and last letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This aleph and tav appear in (they were inserted into the margin of) key verses of prophecy concerning the messiah. Most importantly, the prophecy of Isaiah 9:6 contains the “aleph tav” insertion. This prophecy names HIM “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Everlasting Father” and “Prince of Peace” Jesus was telling John the Revelator, “I am THAT aleph and tav.”

CHRIST EXISTED - LONG BEFORE THIS WORLD WAS CREATED.

John 8:58 [Jesus speaking] "Before Abraham was, I AM" (*Exodus 3:14*).

Micah 5:2 "But thou Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: Whose goings forth [origins] have been from old, from everlasting."

John 17:5 [Christ prayed] "And now, O Father glorify, Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."

2 Corinthians 8:9 "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor..."

Hebrews 3:3 "He [Christ] who hath builded the house, hath more glory than the house."

As Yahweh, the Son of God "built" the Tabernacle. He communicated the instructions for its construction. He gifted the artists who made the ark, the alter of incense, the lamp stand, and the table of shewbread.

John 6:38 "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of Him that sent me."

Christ was SENT by His Father. Here again we see two individual wills.

John 1:1-2 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

John 1:15 "John [the Baptist] bore witness of Him, and cried out, saying. This was He of whom I said. He who comes after me is preferred before [is greater than] me: for He was [existed] before me."

Philippians 2:5-6 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men;"

Proverbs 8:22-30 "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before his works of old. I was set up [anointed] from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was." . . . "Then I was beside Him, as a master craftsman; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before Him;" (*v. 24-30*).

THE EXPRESS IMAGE - OF GOD HIS FATHER

Hebrews 1:1-3 “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,”

Prior to His incarnation into human flesh, the Son of God upheld the worlds by His power, and was the express image (exact copy) of His Father’s person. He emptied Himself of this divine power when He came with human nature. Jesus said, “God is Spirit” (*Jn 4:24*), speaking of “the Father.” Yet we know that He “sits on the throne” (*Rev 5:13, 7:10*). He has a “face” (*Rev. 20:11*) and two hands (*Rev. 5:1,7*). We were made in His image, but we are not the “express image.”

“God is Spirit.” He is omnipresent as Spirit, yet He manifests in a form which can be seen by created beings. If this is true of the Father, then it was also true of the Son, prior to His incarnation. And we find exactly that. He “appeared” in human form to Abraham, to Joshua, to Ezekiel, and to Daniel (*Gen. 18, Josh. 5, Ezek. 1:26, Dan. 10:5, Dan. 12:7*). He “saw” Him. Yet “the spirit of Christ” inspired the prophets of old (*1 Pet. 1:10-11*).

Now that Christ has ascended to the Father’s throne, He has been “glorified” with the glory that the shared with the Father before the world was (*John 17: 5*). The Father has infused His Son with His own spirit. The two have now become “one” in this shared spirit, which is poured out to us as the presence of Christ. This spirit is our comforter, and “our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ” (*1 Jn 1:3*).

*NOTE: The text does NOT say that our fellowship is with the Spirit. It is “through the Spirit” (*Gal. 5:5, 1 Pet. 1:22*). I do not have a conversation with my cell phone. I converse WITH the person whose voice I hear by means of that form of energy.*

COMPARE Psalm 45:6 WITH Hebrews 1:1-10.

LOOK FOR THE RELATIONSHIP

BETWEEN GOD THE FATHER AND HIS DIVINE SON.

Psalm 45:6-8 [David writing of Christ in his humanity.] “Thy throne, O God is forever and ever; the scepter of Thy kingdom is a right scepter. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God [the Father], hath anointed Thee [Christ] with the oil of gladness [the Holy Spirit] above Thy fellows. All Thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of ivory palaces, whereby, thy have made Thee glad.” (KJV)

*The writer of the Book of Hebrews quotes this Psalm as the words of the Father to His Son, and then goes on to quote the Father as saying to His Son, “You LORD in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth and the heavens are the work of Your hands” (*Hebrews 1:8-10*).*

JESUS CLAIMED
THAT HE WAS HIMSELF THE SUBJECT
OF ALL THE OLD TESTAMENT WRITERS, WHEN HE SAID:

John 5:39 “You search the scriptures [Old Testament] for in them you think you have eternal life: and these are they which testify of Me.”

1 Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”;

This statement applies with equal force to Old Testament times. See study “The Mediator.”

John 1:18 [Christ said] “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him” (Jn 5:37; Jn 6:46).

How then could it be said that the Lord “knew” Moses “face to face” and spoke with him “face to face, as a man speaks to his friend?” (Deut. 34:10, Ex. 33:11)

John 6:46 “Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.”

Exodus 6:3 “And God spoke to Moses and said to him: ‘I am the Lord’ ... ‘I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as God Almighty...”

Moses was speaking with the Son.

THE WORD WAS GOD

John 1:3 “The Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

What are our options for understanding this passage?

The word translated “God” simply means “divine being,” in the Greek.

“The Word [Christ] was with “divine being” [the Father] and WAS “divine being.”

We could understand that “God” is one divine being who manifests as two (or as three), OR we could understand that the Father is one divine being, and the Son is another.

If we take the second option, that the Father is God, and beget another divine being out of Himself - so that there were TWO, then how do we then understand the passage which says “God is one (or the only)?” (Deuteronomy 6:4). How do we understand the command to “have no other gods before (ahead of) Me?” (Exodus 20:3).

My personal belief is that God the Father is one divine being, and is the one and only God Supreme. He is above all. He is above Christ (*1 Cor. 11:3, 1 Cor. 15:27*). When we worship the Father as supreme, we fulfill the first commandment.

God the Father beget a Son in His exact image (like a clone, if you will excuse the word). Just as the son of a human father is a human being, so the Son of The Divine Father was Himself also divine. The only difference between the Father and the Son was that the Son was begotten and had not always existed. As the Father is all-knowing, so was the Son before His incarnation. The Son was also all-powerful, and omnipresent. At the incarnation, when the Son assumed human form, He emptied Himself of divine power. He would live as a man among men.

One could say that the Son existed from eternity because He created all things. He created time. He existed before time - therefore He existed from eternity. This does not preclude His having “come forth from the Father.”

In a sense, the Son of God WAS/IS our “everlasting Father” BECAUSE He created us. He is our Father, and HIS Father is our divine Grandfather. There is no word in the Hebrew for Grandfather. All of the male ancestors are simply called “father.” (*John 8:56 “Your Father Abraham rejoiced to see my day.”*) We must not be confused because the Son of God is called “Father.”

The Father sent His Son into the world, to live and die, to effect a reconciliation with all who would be won. Paul makes it clear that we are reconciled to the Father - through His Son (*Col. 1:19-20, 2 Cor. 5:18-19*).

Until the incarnation of Christ, human beings were separated from God the Father. The Son of God acted as the agent of His Father. Because the Son represented His Father to human beings, He took the name of His Father - Yahweh. He stood in place of His Father. He acted as God to human beings. Yet His Father is supreme. His Father is called the God of Christ (*John 20:17, Romans 15:6, 1 Corinthians 11:3, 2 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 11:31, Ephesians 1:3, Ephesians 1:17, Colossians 1:3, Hebrews 1:9, 1 Peter 1:3, Revelation 1:6, Revelation 3:12*).

God the Father is the ultimate source of life (*1 Corinthians 8:6*) and it was by His will that all things were created (*Revelation 4:9-11, 1 Corinthians 15:24-28*). The whole family in heaven and earth is named after the Father (*Ephesians 3:14-15*).

The Father’s will is recognized in Scripture as supreme (*Ephesians 4:6, Luke 11:2, Matthew 7:21, Matthew 12:50, Matthew 26:42, Mark 14:36, John 5:30, John 6:38-39, Galatians 1:4, Ephesians 1:5, Ephesians 1:9, Ephesians 1:11, Hebrews 13:20-21, Revelation 4:11*).

I believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son, begotten out of His divine Father, before the foundation of the world. As such He is worthy of worship. We worship the Son because the Father has commanded us to worship Him. Yet we recognize the Father as The Supreme Being who is without beginning.

Then comes the end.

The Son will subject Himself - to God His Father

1 Corinthians 15:24-28 “. . . then the culmination, when he [Christ] hands over the Kingdom to God the Father, after having put an end to every rulership, yes, to every authority and power. For he [Christ] has to rule until he puts all his enemies under his feet [defeats all enemies]. The last enemy to be done away with will be death, [in the lake of fire], for ‘He put everything in subjection under his feet.’ But when it says that ‘everything’ has been subjected, obviously the word does not include God [The Father], who is himself the one subjecting everything to the Messiah. Now when everything has been subjected to the Son, then he [the Son] will subject himself to God [the Father], who subjected everything to him; so that God may be everything in everyone.” CJB

When Christ has completed His mission as Mediator, to reconcile earth with the Father, then He will present this Kingdom to His Father as a perfect offering - cleansed and restored. The Holy City New Jerusalem will descend from Heaven to Earth. God and the Lamb are the Temple of that City.

Revelation 5:13 “And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!”

Two divine beings are worshiped here.

THE FATHER CREATED ALL THINGS - THROUGH HIS SON

John 1:1-3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him; and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

Colossians 1:15-17 “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

1 Corinthians 8:6 “yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.”

John 1:10 “He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not.”

Genesis 1:26 "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." "God...Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" (*Heb. 1:1-3*).

Hebrews 1:8,10 [God the Father speaking to His Son]

v. 8 "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom".

v. 10 "Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands. [Christ is addressed as creator by His Father.]

THE ANTICHRIST DENIES THAT CHRIST IS LITERALLY THE SON OF GOD

1 John 2:22-23 "Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is Antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also."

THE FATHER AND THE SON

1 John 1:3 "and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ."

1 John 2:24 "you also will abide in the Son and in the Father."

1. The prophecies call Him God.
2. The Father called Him God.
3. He is called the **only** "begotten" Son of God.
4. He claimed preexistence with God.
5. He existed before the creation..
6. He created this earth and "all things."
7. He received worship.
8. He baptizes with the Holy Spirit.
9. He forgave sin, by authority given to Him by the Father.
10. He gives eternal life, and the power to overcome sin, to "whom He will."

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1:4 “And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, ‘Which,’ He said, ‘you heard of from Me, for John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’” (Luke 24:49)

Acts 2:33 “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He [Christ] poured out this which you now see and hear” (NAS).

John 20:21-22 “So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’ And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

*Christ received the Holy Spirit from His Father.
This enabled Him to pour out His Spirit upon His disciples.*

John 14:16 “And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.”

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who (or which) proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me” (John 15:26).

Luke 11:13 “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?” (NKJ)

Ephesians 3:14-18 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”

The Spirit of the Father - flowing through His Son, enables Christ to dwell in us. Both the Father and the Son live in us. We partake of their nature - and we are thus changed - and healed.

Romans 8:11 “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.” *The Father raised Christ from death (1Peter 1:3; Galatians 1:1; Ephesians 1:17-20).*

1 John 4:12-13 “No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.”

No man has seen the Father (John 6:46).

1 John 3:23-24 “And this is his [the Father’s] commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who keep his commandments abide in him, and he in them. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit which he has given us.” (RSV)

1 Corinthians 8:6 “Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.”

CONCLUSION: The Holy Spirit originates from God the Father.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS CALLED A “GIFT” - FROM THE FATHER

James 1:17-18 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

Romans 8:32 “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things [including the gifts of the Spirit]?”

Would not “all things” include the “spirit of Christ” which is given to us by the Father?

Ephesians 5:20 “. . . giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit is the gift. This gift originates with the Father, and is given to us by the Father, through the medium of Christ His Son.

1 John 4:12-13 “No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.”

*The one “no man has seen”
abides in us by the Spirit which He has given.
“This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior” (Titus 3:6 NRS).
“No man has seen the Father”(John 6:46).*

FROM THE FATHER - THROUGH CHRIST - TO MEN

Titus 3:6 “This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.” (NRS)

Acts 2:33 “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He [Christ] poured out this which you now see and hear.”

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who [or which] proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.”

*The Spirit of truth proceeds from the Father.
Christ would send this “Helper” - from the Father.
The presence or power of this “Helper” would “testify” of Christ.
It would be proof of the resurrection and identity of Christ.*

Matthew 3:11 “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me [Jesus] is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33).

Anything repeated four times in Scripture is absolutely foundational !!!
*Jesus would baptize His followers with the Holy Spirit.
He would “receive” this Spirit from His Father.*

John 20:21-22 “So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’ And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit is given to us by the Father, through His Son.

WHAT FORM OR PERSONALITY DOES THIS SPIRIT TAKE?
WHOSE PRESENCE DO WE EXPERIENCE?
WHOSE VOICE DO WE HEAR?

Galatians 4:6 “And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’” (NAS)

We “hear” the Son.

Ephesians 3:14-18 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”

The Spirit of the Father dwelling in, and flowing through His Son, enables Christ to dwell in us. This is why Paul said, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Phil. 4:13).

Romans 8:9 “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.”

The Spirit of God [our Father] dwells in us, and we experience the presence of Christ.

Philippians 1:19 “For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.”

John 17:23 [Jesus prayed to His Father:] “I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

Romans 8:10-11 “And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

The Father raised Christ from the dead (Gal. 1:1, 1Pet. 1:3).

It is His Spirit which “dwells in” us. That Spirit comes to us “through” Christ Jesus.

It flows from the Father, thru the Son to us!

The Spirit is life (Romans 8:).

Jesus will raise the dead because

“the Father has given to the Son to have life in Himself” (John 5:26).

The dead will come forth when they hear “the voice of the Son of God” (John 5:25).

HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYS TO THE CHURCHES

To hear the Spirit, is to hear the voice of Christ!!

To the church of Ephesus:

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” “These things says He who walks in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.” “To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life...” (Rev. 2:7, 1).

*It is the Son of Man, who walks in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks (Rev. 1:12-13).
He is our High Priest. This is ancient Tabernacle imagery.*

To the angel of the church of Smyrna:

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” “These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life:” “Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Rev. 2: 11, 8, 10).

And to the angel of the church in Pergamos:

“These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword (1:13,16):” ... He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna ...” (Rev. 2:12, 17).

A sharp two-edged sword comes from the mouth of the Son of Man (Rev 1:13-16).

And to the angel of the church in Thyatira:

“... “These things says the Son of God” ...“I am He who searches the minds and hearts. ... He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev. 2:18, 23, 26, 29).

And to the angel of the church in Sardis:

“These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God. ... He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father ... He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev. 3:1, 5, 6).

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia:

“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God ... He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev. 3:7, 12, 13).

And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans:

“To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. . . hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev. 3:14, 21, 22).

THERE IS ONE SPIRIT

Ephesians 4:4 “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you are called in one hope of you calling”

Ephesians 2:18 “For through Him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.”

THAT SPIRIT IS CALLED “THE ETERNAL SPIRIT.”

Hebrews 9:14 “How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

John 4:24 Jesus said, “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Jesus said, “God is Spirit” but He had just explained that “the Father is seeking” those who would worship Him “in Spirit and in truth.” God the Father is Spirit. (Yes - He also manifests in visible form sitting on a throne. He has hands and a face with eyes.) Jesus did NOT say that men would “worship” the Spirit. He said they would worship the Father.

Ephesians 4:6 “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

How is The Father “in” you? Answer: Through His Son.

ONE GOD - WHO IS SPIRIT

And Jesus called Him “Father.”

John 8:29 “And He who sent me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”

John 16:32 “I am not alone, because the Father is with me.”

John 15:15 “All things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.”

John 17:21 “You, Father, are in Me ...”

John 14:10 “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? . . . The Father who dwells in Me, He does the works.”

So then: That Spirit which is the Father, which dwelt in Christ, which was given to Christ without measure, is then given to us through Christ, and we experience Christ with us and in us. We are thus made “one” with them. As Jesus prayed, “that they also may be one in Us” (John 17: 21).

This is how we abide in the Father and the Son (1John 1:24).

This is how “we have fellowship with the Father and with the Son” (1 John 1:3).

John 14:23 [Jesus said] “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and Make Our home with him.”

THE RIVER OF LIFE

FROM THE THRONE OF GOD AND OF THE LAMB

Revelation 22:1 “Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.” (RSV)

John 7:38 “He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’ Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” (RSV)

We are “baptized” in water, and we are baptized with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:8).

Christ gives to us “living water” which cleanses our heart

and then flows out from us (John 7:38).

We are washed and made spiritually clean by “water and the word” (Ephesians 5:26).

The “early rain” and “latter rain” symbolize the outpouring of the Spirit (Hosea 6:3).

Water for Israel flowed from the smitten rock (Exo. 17:6).

We drink of the “water of life” (Revelation 21:6).

The “river of life” flows from “the throne of God and the Lamb” (Revelation 22:1).

The “river of life” is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which flows from the Father through the Son.

DIFFICULT PASSAGES CONCERNING THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 15:45 “And so it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being. The last Adam [Christ] became a life-giving spirit.”

This passage is not puzzling, when we know that the Spirit of the Father, given to us through Christ, comes to us as the Spirit of Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:17 “Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

Ephesians 4:10 “He that descended [into the grave] is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.”

ANOTHER COMFORTER

John 14:16-18 “Jesus said, ‘I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Comforter, .’”

Let’s look at the entire passage:

John 14:16-18 “And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Helper [Comforter], that He may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him for He dwells with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

First: Jesus asked the Father.

He did not ask the Spirit (as if the Spirit were a third divine being).

Second: It’s pretty obvious that Jesus was speaking of Himself as the Comforter who would come. He said, “I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

This is why Jesus could say, “Where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them” (Matt. 18:20).

Third: There are two Greek words, which are both translated into English as “another.” One is “allos,” (#243) meaning another exactly like the first - a duplicate (two dines). The other is “heteros” (#2087) meaning another which is not of the same class, kind, or nature (two coins). The word in John 14:16 is “allos.” God the Father would send another Jesus.

HE WILL GLORIFY ME

John 16:13 “However, when He the Spirit of truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority; but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine, and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.”

How could this “Spirit of Truth” be Christ Himself? Christ said, “He will glorify me” and “He will testify of me.”

First: Jesus spoke of Himself in third person more than once, calling Himself “He, the Son of Man.” (See Matt 13:41; Mark 8:38; Luke 18:31-33.)

Second: “I do not speak of my own authority” Jesus said (Jn 12:49; Jn 5:30; Jn 14:10). So... If Jesus did not speak on His own authority, we would not expect the Spirit to do this, IF we experience the Spirit as the voice of Jesus.

Third: He will “take of what is Mine,” Jesus said. He (Christ) had received the Spirit of the Father without measure. Therefore all of the knowledge and power of the Father now flow through Christ the Son - including prophetic knowledge. He could then tell us “things to come” - things which He did not Himself know before He was glorified. This He did when He spoke to the prophet John as “the voice of the Spirit.”

Fourth: In John 7:39, we read that “the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Christ was not yet glorified.” “Father, glorify me,” Jesus said in His last public prayer (John 17:5). How did the Father glorify Christ? - He filled Him with His Spirit - which Christ then poured out upon the believers - and they went out preaching and teaching with power - working miracles.

The Bible says “many wonders and signs were done by the apostles (Acts 2:43). And these miracles testified to/ or verified the truth of Christ’s resurrection. Romans 15:19 says, “Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.”

A witness (or that which testifies) may refer to a piece of evidence, not necessarily to a person (or divine being). “. . . the very works that I do-bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me” (John 5:36). He means that the “works” are evidence of His heavenly mission.

THE SPIRIT MAKES INTERCESSION FOR US

As Peter said, Paul wrote some “things hard to understand.”

Romans 8:26-27 “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind [intent and purpose] of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

First: Jesus said, “I am He who searches the minds and hearts” (Revelation 2:23).

Second: Jesus knows the Father. "...no one know the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him" (Mat. 11:27).

He knows the mind of God the Father - who IS Spirit (John 4:24).

Third: Jesus is the ONLY mediator/intercessor between God and men (1 Timothy 2:5). If you say that the Spirit is a third divine being, who is making intercession for us, then you have just introduced another mediator.

We have already said that the Father has filled Christ with His Spirit (given without measure). Christ then shares that Spirit with us. This puts Christ in between the Father and man. He is the mediator.

Christ - inspires our prayers, so that we will pray for that which is best (Eph. 6:18, Jude 20-21). He knows the mind of God. Thus inspired, we will pray "according to the will of God."

The intercession of Christ does not change the mind or will of the Father. His intercession helps us to pray for those things which the Father may gladly give.

Galatians 4:6 "And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba Father!'"

THE SPIRIT SEARCHES THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD

1 Corinthians 2:10-11 "But God has revealed them [the good things He has prepared] to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, even the deep things of God. For what man knows the things [thoughts] of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God."

Only the man himself knows his own deep thoughts, so only God knows His own "deep things." God the Father is Spirit (John 4:24), therefore the Spirit knows the deep things because the Spirit is God Himself.

Obviously this is not a proof text. But it does suggest that God is NOT three co-equal divine beings. Jesus once said, concerning the end of the age, "of that day and hour no man knows, not even the angels, but My Father only" (Matthew 24:36). If the Spirit is a third coequal divine being, wouldn't He know? But Jesus said, "My Father only."

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

James 1:17-18 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

Ephesians 5:20 “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things [including the gifts of the Spirit] ?”

Ephesians 5:20 “. . . giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons . . . But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He [God] wills.” (NAS)

Note: The “He” in this text might refer to the Spirit or to the “God who works all things.” “God is Spirit” - therefore I believe they are one and the same. Because this verse may be understood in more than one way - it is not a proof text.

Hebrews 2:4 “God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?”

Note: The Father’s will is supreme (Matt. 6:9-10).

Ephesians 4:7-8 “But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore He says: When He [Christ] ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.”

Conclusion: The “gifts of the Spirit” are given to us from the Father - by and through Christ.

SEVEN SPIRITS BEFORE HIS THRONE

Revelation 1:4 "John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne."

I believe the "seven spirits" are mighty angels, who are called "spirits sent forth to those who shall be heirs of salvation" (Hebrews 1:7; Psalm 104:4).

Revelation 8:2 "I saw the seven angels who stand before God."

Through these mighty angels, Christ directs His war against the forces of Satan on the earth.

THE SPIRIT AT CREATION

Genesis 1:2 "The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

Note: Many read in this verse the action of a third divine being. Your understanding of this verse depends upon your viewpoint. The text says, "the Spirit of God." It does NOT say "God the Spirit."

"You send forth Your Spirit. They are created; and You renew the face of the earth" (Ps 104:30).

The Son of God was the creator, acting as the agent of His Father (Hebrews 1:1-3 & 8-10; 1 Cor. 8:6; Rev. 4:9-11; Eph. 3:14-15; Eph 3:9; John 1:3&10; Col. 1:12-16).

Before He incarnated into human form and nature, the Son of God existed in the "express image" of His Father. God is Spirit, therefore Christ also was Spirit - prior to His incarnation. Christ - as Spirit - was "hovering over the waters."

THE GLORIOUS DOVE

Luke 3:22 (John 1:32) "And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased"

Note: Your understanding of this scene will depend upon whether you believe that the Spirit at the time of the baptism was the manifest presence of the Father - a third separate divine being, or a third manifestation of one divine being. It is therefore not a proof text.

“THE LORD GOD - AND HIS SPIRIT - HAVE SENT ME.”

Isaiah 48:16 “Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God and His Spirit Have sent Me.” (NKJ)

[Compare.]

“And now the Lord God has sent me and His spirit” (*Isaiah 48:16*). ASV, NAS, RSV, NRS

Note: In the newer translations, God is noted as the sender of both “Me” [Christ] and “His Spirit.” When the Son of God incarnated, the communion between the Father and mankind was restored. With His Son, the Father sent His Spirit.

[Compare.] “And now the Lord God has sent me, endowed with His spirit.” TANAKH

Isaiah 42:1 “Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.”

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

Matthew 12:31-32 “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.”

Mark 3:29 “He who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation.”

Note: If God is three coequally divine beings, then blasphemy against the Father or the Son should be equally as serious as blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Speaking against the Holy Spirit must involve something more. The Spirit is the means by which we have fellowship with the Father and the Son (1John 1:3, John 14:23). To reject the Holy Spirit is to turn a deaf ear to the only source of saving conviction and power. To reject the Holy Spirit is to reject the Father and the Son.

RESISTING THE SPIRIT - GRIEVING THE SPIRIT - QUENCHING THE SPIRIT

Acts 7:51 “You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.”

Ephesians 4:30 “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed [aorist tense: are being sealed] for the day of redemption”

1 Thessalonians 5:19 “Do not quench the Spirit.”

Note: From the fall of Adam to the incarnation of Christ, the Holy Spirit was the presence of the Son of God (1 Pet. 1:11). He has always been the “one mediator” between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5).

While Christ was on earth, the Holy Spirit was the presence of the Father (John 6:44). At the incarnation, Christ had “emptied Himself” of divine power (Phil. 2:7). He must be “made like his brethren in all things” (Heb 2:17).

Now since Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is the vital presence of the Father and of Christ (Rom. 8:9-11) therefore to grieve the Holy Spirit is to refuse the pleading of God, thru His Son.

Ephesians 3:14-18 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”

The Spirit of the Father is given thru Christ the Son.

THE LOVE OF THE SPIRIT

Romans 15:30 “Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me” (Romans 15:30).
Amplified Version.

Note: If the meaning of the text changes, depending upon the reader’s personal doctrinal bias, then it is not a proof text. The example above is such a text. The love of the Spirit could be understood to mean that love which the Spirit Himself feels toward us, or that love which we experience in our own hearts when they are filled with the Holy Spirit. The same could be said of “the communion of the Holy Spirit” (2 Corinthians 13:14).

SANCTIFICATION OF THE SPIRIT

1 Peter 1:2 “Pilgrims of the dispersion . . . elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.”

Note: This is not a proof text, because your interpretation will depend upon your viewpoint. “Sanctification of the Spirit” could mean sanctification by the Spirit, or it could mean sanctification through the Spirit, or sanctification by means of the Spirit.

[Compare]

Jude 1:1 “Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ.”

Note: We are sanctified by the Father and the Son, Who dwell in us by Their omnipresent Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRED OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

2 Peter 1:21 “For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 28:25 “So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: “The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers.””

[Compare]

1 Peter 1:10-11 “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.”

THEY LIED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 5:3-4 “But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.’”

Acts 5:9 “Then Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.”

Note: Peter said, “You have lied to God.” He did NOT say, “You have lied to the third person of the Trinity.” Your understanding of this passage depends upon Whom you believe the Holy Spirit to be.

THE HOLY SPIRIT SAID

Acts 13:2 “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

Acts 15:28 “For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things:”

Acts 16:7 “After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.”

Note: Translations from older manuscripts say “but the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them.” The words of the Spirit ARE the words of Christ. (Read the messages to the seven churches in Revelation Chapter Three.) The words of the Spirit are the words of Christ Who speaks for His Father (John 16:13).

THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES

Luke 12:12 “For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”

Mark 13:11 “But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.”

[Compare a parallel passage.]

Matthew 10:19-20 “But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.”

Note: The Spirit of the Father is poured out to us through Christ, and we experience the voice of Christ. He is our Teacher.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS CALLED “HE.”

John 16:8 “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.”

John 16:13 “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”

John 16:14 “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

First: Christ referred to Himself many times in third person, as “He” (See Matt. 13:37, 16:27, 16:28, 20:18).

Second: The Comforter is Christ. Christ, not in bodily form, but in spirit, dwells with us and in us (1Cor. 15:45, 2Cor. 3:17, Eph. 4:10).

*“And because you are sons, **God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son** into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” (Galatians 4:6).*

WE ARE A TEMPLE FOR THE SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 3:16 “Do you not know that you are the temple of God
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

[Consider] *Christ called the Temple, “My Father’s house” (John 2:16).*

Ephesians 4:6 “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

ACCESS BY ONE SPIRIT TO THE FATHER

Ephesians 2:18 “For through Him [Christ] we both [Jew and Gentile] have access by one [and the same] Spirit to the Father.”

Jesus said, “I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). I believe this applies also to prayer. We come to the Father through Christ.

Christ is the one Mediator between God and men (1 Tim. 2:5).

Because of what Christ has done, the Holy Spirit has been restored to men. The presence of God Our Father dwells with us and in us. Christ said that both He and His Father would make Their home with the one who loves Christ (John 14:23). The Holy Spirit is not only the Son, but also the Father.

“For this reason

I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory,
to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,
that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith” (Ephesians 3:14).

“Yet for us there is only one God, the Father,
of whom are all things, and we for Him;
and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things,
and through whom we live. 1Corinthians 8:6 NKJ

A NEW TESTAMENT REVIEW

This compilation will be a walk through the New Testament looking at every verse which speaks to the Father and the Son.

Matthew 3:17 “And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (See also Matt. 17:5, Mark 1:11, Mark 9:7, Luke 3:22 and Luke 9:35).

NOTE: Jesus Christ is never called the “Son of the Spirit.” He is “the Son of the Father” in 2 John 1:3, and “the only begotten of the Father” in John 1:14.

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

We are never commanded to “glorify” the Spirit.

Matthew 5:45 “. . . that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 6:4 “. . . that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Matthew 6:6 “Pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.” (See also Matt. 6:18.)

This text implies that the Father is omnipresent - that He is Spirit. This fits well with John Chapter 4, where Christ told the woman at the well that “God is Spirit.” He also said, “the Father is seeking such to worship Him” implying that the God who “is Spirit” is also “the Father.”

Matthew 6:9-13 “In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

My contention is that there is one supreme divine being called God the Father. His will (singular) is supreme. There is a second divine being, who is the Son of God the Father. His will is subservient to that of His Father.

I do NOT believe that God is three co-equal, co-eternal divine beings. We read nothing of the “will of the Spirit.” When Christ prayed, “not my will but thine be done” this revealed two separate wills - therefore two separate individuals. At the final end of the sin conflict, “the Son Himself will also be subject to Him (the Father) who put all things under Him” (1 Cor. 15:24-28). This also reveals two divine beings, the Father and His Son. One is subordinate to the other.

The kingdom is ultimately the Father’s kingdom (Matt. 6:9-13, Matt. 13:43, Matt 26:29).

The Father is head of Christ, Who is head of mankind (1Cor. 11:3).

The Father has given to Christ, the kingdom - but under the Father (Lk. 22:29, Dan. 7:13-14).

Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

The Father’s will is presented in Scripture, as supreme.

Matthew 10:32 “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 11:25-27 “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, . . . All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.”

Matthew 12:18 “Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.”

The Father gave His Spirit to His Son. Again - Two divine beings.

Matthew 18:14 “It is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”

Matthew 18:19 “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.”

Matthew 20:23 “So He said to them, “You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.”

Here again - two wills are revealed. Positions within the kingdom were “not Mine to give” (not my will) but instead are awarded according to the will of “My Father.”

Matthew 23:9 “Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.”

Matthew 24:36 “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.”

If God is a Trinity is three simultaneous manifestations of one divine being, then how could one manifestation “know” something which the other “manifestation” did not know? Jesus said that He - at that time - did not know “that day and hour” when He would return (Mark 13:32).

Matthew 26:39 “He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, ‘O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”

The action of two separate wills, demonstrates two separate divine individuals - the Father and His Son. Christ said, “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me” (John 6:38). “I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me” (John 5:30).

Matthew 28:18 “Then Jesus came and spoke to them saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’”

NOTE: This is the same as saying that “all things are put under his feet” (1Cor. 15:25-28). And who gave Him this authority? The Father! “The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand” (John 3:34-35).

Mark 12:29 “Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

The Greek word “heis” (#1520) means “the numeral one” or the emphatic “only one.” “One jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law” (Matt 5:18). The lawyer who spoke to Christ was quoting from Deut. 6:4. “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!” The Hebrew word ‘echad (#0259) means “one, same, single, first, each, or once.”

While it is true that one nation may be composed of many individuals, the Hebrew word used here is not used most often to refer to units composed of parts. And the Hebrew word for unity is a different word altogether. The context of Moses appeal to Israel is that the God of Israel is the only God.

Zechariah employs the word with this meaning. “The Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be (the only) one, and His name (the only) one” (Zech. 14:9). This Lord Who will be king over all the earth is the Father, according to 1Cor. 15:24-28. Christ will deliver the kingdom to God the Father, and will then Himself be subject to His Father. The saved of earth will have written in their foreheads the name of the Father. He is the One Who sits on the throne (Rev. 22:3-4; Rev. 14:1).

Mark 12:36 “For David himself said by the Holy Spirit: “The Lord [Father] said to my Lord [Christ], ‘Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.’”
(Luke 20:42, Acts 2:34).

When Christ returns in the clouds, He will be “sitting at the right hand of the Power” (Matt. 26:64). This tells us that even when He returns in glory, Christ will still be subject to His Father. The Father is The Power, and Christ is at his “right hand,” meaning next in authority.

Revelation 3:21 “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

Mark 16:19 “So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.”

Acts 2:33 “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He [Christ] poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Ephesians 1:20 [The working of His mighty power] which He [the Father v.17] worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

The Father raised Christ from the dead (Gal 1:1; 1Pet 1:3).

Luke 2:49 And He said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?”

Luke 10 21-22 “In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, ‘I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, . . . All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is but the Father, and who the Father is but the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.’

Wouldn’t the Holy Spirit “know” who the Father is, and who the Son is - if indeed God is three co-equal, co-eternal divine beings ?

Luke 11:13 “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

The Holy Spirit is the gift, given to us by the Father.

Luke 12:32 “Do not fear little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”

*The Father gives the kingdom to Christ, who then shares it with us
(Matt. 6:9-13, Matt. 13:43, Matt. 26:29, Lk. 22:29, Dan. 7:13-14).*

Luke 22:29 “And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me.”

Luke 23:34 “Then Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.’”

In Scripture the Holy Spirit is never spoken of as forgiving sinners.

Luke 23:46 “And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ Having said this, He breathed His last.”

Christ never spoke to the Holy Spirit.

John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:18 “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

John 2:16 “And He said to those who sold doves, “Take these things away! Do not make My Father’s house a house of merchandise!

The Temple was the “Father’s house,” not “My [Christ’s] house,” or the Spirit’s house. The Temple was symbolic of Heaven. Christ said, “In My Father’s house are many mansions” (John 14:2). “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God” (Rev. 3:12).

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

2 John 1:3 “Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.”

John 3:18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

John 3:34-35 For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.

John 4:23 “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.”

Why did Christ never say that we are to worship the Holy Spirit ?

John 4:34 “Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.”

John 17:4 “Father (v.1), I have glorified You on the earth: I have finished the work which You have given me to do.”

John 5:17 “But Jesus answered them, ‘My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.”

*Why did Christ NOT say that the Holy Spirit had been working also, if God is **three** co-equal, co-eternal divine beings? He said, My Father and I - implying **two** beings.*

John 5:19-23 “Then Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.”

Note: Only two divine beings are spoken of here.

John 5:26 “For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself,”

While living on this earth as a man, Christ had only that power which was granted to Him by His Heavenly Father.

John 5:30 “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

John 5:36 "But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish -- the very works that I do -- bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me."

John 5:37 "And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.

John 5:43 "I have come in My Father's name."

John 7:16 "Jesus answered them and said, 'My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.'"

Could we understand from Christ's statement that "the law" is the Father's law?

John 6:27 "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."

John 6:37-39 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

*Christ said that He was sent by the Father, that He "came forth from the Father."
Here He plainly says, "I have come down from heaven."*

*Never did Christ say that He had come to do the Holy Spirit's will,
or that the Holy Spirit had sent Him.*

John 6:46 "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father."

John 6:57 "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me."

John 6:65 "And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."

John 7:16 "Jesus answered them and said, 'My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.'"

Here is an indication of two individual beings.

John 7:33 "Then Jesus said to them, 'I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me.'"

John 8:16 “And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me.”

John 8:18-19 “I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.’ Then they said to Him, ‘Where is Your Father?’ Jesus answered, ‘You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.”

John 8:26-29 “I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him.’ They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father. Then Jesus said to them, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”

*The Father was not bodily present. His glory would have consumed all mankind.
The Father (as omnipresent Spirit) was present with His Son.*

John 8:42 “Jesus said to them, ‘If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.”

“I have come down from Heaven” (John 6:38).

John 8:54-55 “Jesus answered, ‘If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word.”

Here again are two individual beings. The Father honors Me.

John 10:17-18 “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again . . . This command I have received from My Father.” (See John 14:31 - “I love the Father.”)

John 10:29-30 “My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand. I and My Father are one.”

He prayed that those who would believe might also be “one in Us” (John 17:21).

John 10:32 “Jesus answered them, ‘Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?’”

*Note: The power to do miracles, came from His Father.
“The Father who dwells in Me, does the works” (John 14:10).*

John 10:37 “If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.”

*Because God our Father is an omnipresent Spirit as well as a being who sits on a throne,
He could dwell “in” His Son, and Christ can dwell “in” us.*

John 12:27-28 “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name. Then a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.’”

Why did Jesus never pray to the Holy Spirit?

John 12:44-45 “Then Jesus cried out and said, ‘He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me.”

“He who has seen Me, has seen the Father” (John 14:9).

John 12:49 “For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.”

*The Father sent Me. The Father directs Me.
The Father gave me a command. The Father glorifies Me.*

John 13:1 “Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father,”

“Jesus, knowing that . . . He had come from God and was going to God” (John 13:3).

John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Note: We are reconciled to the Father through the Son (Col. 1:19-20).

John 14:7 “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also,”

John 14:9 “He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father.’”

John 14:10 “. . . do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.”

The Father could “dwell” in Christ because He (singular) “is Spirit” (John 4:24) as well as a physical being who “sits on a throne.”

John 14:11 “Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.”

John 14:13 “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

The Holy Spirit is never specifically glorified in Scripture.

John 14:20 “At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.”

When Christ said, you will know that you are “in Me,” He was NOT saying that we will be the same being as Christ, any more than He was saying that He and the Father are the same being, when He said that He was “in” the Father (John 17:21).

John 14:23 [Jesus answered] “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”

John 14:24 “He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.”

John 14:31 “But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do.

Only the Father seems to be directing Christ.

Christ loves the Father (John 14:31). The Father loves Jesus (John 10:17).

“The Father loved Me” (John 15:9). “The love with which You loved Me may be in them... (John 17:26). Father ... You loved Me before the foundation of the world (John 17:24).

The Scripture does not say that the Spirit loved Christ or was loved by Christ.

John 15:9 “I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in his love.”

John 15:15 “whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.”

John 15:23 “He who hates Me hates My Father also.”

John 16:23 “And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.”

*We are never instructed to pray to the Holy Spirit,
or to request anything of the Holy Spirit.
We are not even told to ask anything of Christ.
We are to ask the Father - in the name of Christ.*

John 16:25-28 “I will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.”

*Christ never said, “I came forth from the Spirit.”
He also never said, “the Spirit Himself loves you.”*

John 17:1-5 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

*The Father is “the only true God.”
The Father sent Christ. The Father gave Christ authority.
The Father gave Christ His work. The Son’s work was to glorify the Father.
The Son existed with the Father before the earth was created.*

John 17:7-11 “Father” (v.1) . . . Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

The disciples knew that Christ had come forth from God. Peter said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt. 16:16). They also knew that Christ had been sent to earth by His Father.

If believers are made “one” “as We are” (as the Son is One with the Father), then how can we describe that “way” in which the Son is “one” with the Father. They are not “one” in the sense of being one divine being. They are “one” in that they are in perfect agreement. And they share one spirit - the spirit of the Father, which indwelt Christ, and will also indwell us.

John 17:21-23 “ . . . that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

John 17:24-25 “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.”

John Chapter 17, is Christ’s last public prayer to His Father.

John 20:17 “Jesus said to her, ‘Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.”

Note: The Father is the God of Christ.

John 20:21 “So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

Romans 15:6 “. . . that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

God the Father is the God of Christ.

The Two cannot therefore be two manifestations of one divine being.

1 Corinthians 1:3 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 1:9 “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

1 Corinthians 6:14 “And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.”

1 Corinthians 8:6 “ . . . yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

The Father created all things through His Son (Rev. 4:9-11, Heb. 1:2, Eph. 3:9, Jn. 1:3, Col. 1:16).

“One is your Father, He who is in heaven” (Matthew 23:9).

“Jesus answered him, ‘The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one’” (Mark 12:29).

Christ called His Father “the only true God” (John 17:1-3).

“ . . . one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all” (Eph.4:6).

“Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen” (Philippians 4:20).

1 Corinthians 11:3 But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

1 Corinthians 15:24-28 “Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. For ‘He has put all things under His feet.’ But when He says ‘all things are put under Him,’ it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

The “head of Christ is God” (1 Cor. 11:3).

This is how it has always been. This is how it will always be.

There is no mention in this passage of the Holy Spirit as a third divine being.

The Father is the supreme God - “all in all.”

Let me write my interpretation of this passage:

Then comes the end, when Christ presents the kingdom to God the Father, when Christ puts an end to all rule and all authority and power (except that of the Father).

For Christ must reign until He has put all enemies under His own feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

For the Father has put all things under the feet of Christ. (The Father has given to the Son authority to subdue all authority under Himself.) But when the writer of Psalm 8:6 says “all things are put under Him,” it is obvious that the Father is excepted.

Now when all things are made subject to the Son, then the Son Himself will also be subject to the Father who put all things under Him, that the Father may be all in all.
(See also Hebrews 2:8, & Ephesians 1:22)

2 Corinthians 1:2 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Corinthians 1:4 “Blessed by the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

*Paul give the credit for our comfort to the Father. How does the Father comfort us?
He has given us “another Comforter” - the Spirit of His Son (Gal. 4:6, John 14:26, Luke 11:13).
John 14:16 [Jesus said] “I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Comforter.”*

2 Corinthians 11:31 “The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.

Galatians 1:1 “. . . through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead”

Galatians 1:4 “[Christ] who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever”

Galatians 3:20 “Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one.”

How can it be said of Christ that He is the “mediator between man and God,” if He is himself God (one manifestation of a Trinity)? For commentary on the word “one” see Mark 12:29.

Galatians 4:6 “And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’ ” (See also Luke 11:13.)

Ephesians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”

*Ephesians chapter 1, is a praise to God the Father.
It was His purpose and plan to adopt us into His Heavenly family,
through the saving work of His Son.
He planned this before the earth was created.
It was for this purpose that Christ was begotten.*

Ephesians 1:17 “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

It appears the Father was, is, and always will be “the God of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 1:(17),20,22 “the working of His mighty power, which He [the Father] worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places . . . And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church” (See 1 Cor. 15:24-28).

Ephesians 3:14-16 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;”

*God is the Father of the whole family both in heaven and in earth.
Every being owes his existence to the Father.
The Spirit of the Father dwells in us as the Spirit of the Son.*

Ephesians 4:6 “one God and Father of us all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Ephesians 5:5 “the kingdom of Christ and God”

Ephesians 5:20 “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,” *We are never told to thank the Spirit.*

Ephesians 6:23 “Peace . . . and love . . . from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 1:2 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 2:11 “every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” *We are never told to glorify the Spirit?*

Philippians 4:19-20 “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

*The Father is God, and He has a Son, whom He has commanded us to obey and to worship.
Thru His Son the Father will supply all your needs.*

Colossians 1:2 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Colossians 1:3 “We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

*Paul could have said, “We give thanks to our God, the Father of Jesus Christ.”
But he chose to say that the Father is also the God of Jesus Christ, thus showing hierarchy.*

Colossians 1:12 “giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,”

Colossians 1:19 “For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

*We are reconciled to the Father, through the Son.
All the fullness of divinity dwelt in the Son, because that is what pleased the Father.*

Colossians 2:2-3 “attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”

The “mystery of the Trinity” speaks of three divine beings in one God, but here we read that “the mystery of God” - “all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” are hidden in the Father and the Son. The word “both” implies two - not three.

Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

No recognition is given to the Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 1:1 “To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Thessalonians 3:11 “Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you.”

2 Thessalonians 1:1-2 “To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 “Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

1 Timothy 1:2 “Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.”

1 Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.”

1 Timothy 6:13-16 “I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ’s appearing, which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power.

1. *No man has seen the Father - who dwells in unapproachable light (John 6:46, John 1:18).*
2. *“As **the Father** has life in Himself, so **He has given to the Son** to have life in Himself” (John 5:26).*

The Father alone has immortality (life in Himself - underived), which He has given to His Son (by inheritance and by covenant). Christ then gives this immortality to us - by adoption.

2 Timothy 1:2 “Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Titus 1:4 “Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.

Hebrews 1:1-6 “God [*the Father*] who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He [*the Father*] has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He [*the Father*] made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory [*the Father’s glory*] and the express image of His person, [*the Father’s person - singular*] and upholding all things by the word of His power, [*the Father’s authority*] when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained [from His Father] a more excellent name than they.”

“For to which of the angels did He [*the Father*] ever say: ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You?’ And again: ‘I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son?’ But when He [*the Father*] again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: ‘Let all the angels of God worship Him.’ And of the angels He [*the Father*] says: ‘Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.’”

“But to the Son He says: ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God [*the Father*], Your God, has anointed You [*Christ*] with the oil of gladness [*the Holy Spirit*] more than Your companions [*angels and then men*].” [*Emphasis supplied.*]

When the Father addressed the Son, He said, “Your throne O God.”

On the other hand, when the Son speaks of the Father, He says “My God” (John 20:17, Rev. 3:12). Christ is divine, because His Father is divine, yet the Father is the God and Head of Christ.

Hebrews 3:1-2 “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house.”

Hebrews 5:5 “So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He [*the Father*] who said to Him: ‘You are My Son. Today I have begotten You.’”

Hebrews 5:7 “who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from [*out of*] death, and was heard because of His godly fear.”

*The Father did not save Him from dying,
but He did save Him “out of” death, when He resurrected His Son.*

Hebrews 13:20 “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

*The Father raised Jesus from the dead (1Peter 1:3, Galatians 1:1).
The Father works in you what is pleasing in His sight. He does this through Christ.*

James 1:17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

James 4:12 “There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy.”

1 Peter 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” *The Father raised His Son from the dead.*

2 Peter 1:17 “For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

1 John 1:3 “and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

1 John 2:22 “He is Antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.”

*The doctrine of God as Trinity, denies the Father-Son relationship,
teaching rather that Christ was simply a manifestation of the one divine being.*

1 John 2:23 “Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”

*Why is the Spirit not mentioned here if “He” is a third divine being?
- or even a third manifestation of the One divine being?*

1 John 2:24 “Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.”

1 John 3:1 “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.”

I know of no Scripture which says that the Holy Spirit loves us.

1 John 4:14 “And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.”

1 John 5:1 “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.”

2 John 1:3 “Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

Christ is always called the “Son of the Father,” never “the Son of the Spirit.”

2 John 1:9 “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”

*Why does he not also “have” the Spirit?
Is it because the Spirit is not another divine being?
Is it because the Spirit is not a third and different manifestation of One divine being,
but is rather the Spirit presence of both Christ and the Father.*

Jude 1:1 “Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:”

Revelation 1:4 “John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come [the Father], and from the seven Spirits [angels] who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him [Christ] who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 3:12 “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.”

Revelation 3:21 “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

Revelation 4:2,8 “Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”

The created beings say, “Holy, holy, holy” because “the One who sits on the throne” is God of the past, the present, and the future. He changes not.

Revelation 4: 9-11 The twenty-four elders worship “Him who sits on the throne” saying: “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

*It is ultimately by the Father’s will that we exist.
Christ carried out His Father’s will, when He created all things.*

Revelation 5:13 “And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: ‘Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!’”

Only two divine beings are worshiped in this scene.

Revelation 7:10 “and crying out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’”

Once again, we are saved by two divine beings!

Revelation 14:1 “Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads.”

Revelation 21:22-23 “But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. . . . for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light.

Revelation 22:1 “And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.”

Revelation 22:3-4 “And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.”

*Reading through these verses -
one after another, after another - leaves an impression
of the Father and His Son.*

DIFFICULT PASSAGES

A closer look at those passages which are sited most often to “prove” our God is a Trinity

CHRIST IS GOD

John 1:1-3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The Greek word “theos” meaning a divine being, is translated “God.” The Son is a divine being. He is God begotten from (or out of) God, who became “the Father” when He beget the Son (Pro. 8:22-30). John says that Christ was “begotten of the Father.” He was the Word of God, before He became flesh.

Christ is our “Everlasting Father” (Isa. 9:6) but God is His Father (Pro. 8:22-30, 2 John 1:3). He is our “Mighty God” (Isa. 9:6) but THE Father is “His God” (Eph. 1:17, Rev. 3:12, Rev. 1:6). We might say that God the Father is our divine Grandfather.

CHRIST - “THE ETERNALLY BLESSED GOD”

Romans 9:5 [Israelites] “of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.”

[Compare other translations.] “to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ. God who is over all be blessed for ever. Amen” (RSV).

The ancient Greek text contained no punctuation marks, and no upper/lower case letters. The meaning of the text changes depending on where you place a period - between sentences. In the NKJV Christ is God over all, but in the RSV God is over all. Of course Christ is God [divine] because He was begotten out of the Divine Father, and He is over all things to the congregation (Eph. 1:22). He is not however, over God His Father, who is “head of Christ” (1 Cor. 11:3).

From the sin of Eve and Adam, mankind was separated from the Father. This earth was in quarantine. Christ the Son, stepped in as Mediator. He became God in place of God. He led - as "the Angel of the LORD," appearing to Abraham, to Moses, to Joshua, to the parents of Samson and others. He spoke from Mt. Sinai. Finally - when He incarnated in human form and nature, the connection with God the Father was restored. His Spirit lived in Christ (a human being) and now flows through the glorified Christ to all who believe.

EQUAL WITH GOD

Philippians 2:5 [Christ] "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God."

NOTE: "robbery" [#725 - "harpagmos" - a thing to be seized]

The Son of God did not consider it a thing to be seized, to be equal with God His Father.

Christ existed in the form of God. This is plain. In Hebrews 1:3 we find that he was "the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His (the Father's) person." An "image" is a copy. An "express image" is an exact copy. God was omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent, therefore the Son inherited these powers. I believe this means that Christ the Son existed both in bodily form and as Spirit. He was present and omnipresent, matter and energy, visible and invisible - just like His Father.

Some have interpreted the phrase "did not consider it robbery" to mean that Christ did consider Himself equal with God. Other translations do not convey this meaning. Christ did not consider it a thing to be seized upon, to be equal with God. He was content with His position as the Son of God, and the representative or "Word" of God. Lucifer on the other hand, sought to seize equality with God. Philippians 2:5 seeks to contrast Christ with Lucifer. One maintained respect for the Father as "head" - the other did not.

Other translations of Philippians 2:6:

NIV "Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,"

NAS "who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,"

NAB "who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,"

While on this earth, Christ went out of His way to say that He did not consider Himself equal with God His Father. He said, “My Father is greater than all” (John 14:28). “My teaching is not mine, but His Who sent me” (John 7:16). I do “the works which the Father has given Me to finish” (John 5:36). “The Son can do nothing of Himself” (John 5:19). “I have come in My Father’s name” (John 5:43).

The Jewish leaders ignored all these statements and condemned Him as a blasphemer saying “You, being a Man, make Yourself God” (John 10:33).

John 5:23 “All should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.” NOTE: *The Spirit is not honored.*

The reason why all men were to honor the Son as they honored the Father (John 5:23) was because the Son spoke for the Father. When He spoke for His Father, it was as if the Father Himself spoke. According to Paul, God the Father is and always will be the Head, even of Christ (1Cor. 11:3, 1Cor. 15:28).

JESUS FORGAVE SIN - SOMETHING ONLY GOD CAN DO.

Matthew 9:6 [Jesus speaking] “But that you may know that the Son of Man has power [*authority*] on the earth to forgive sins.”

John 5:22 “For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son.”

John 5:30 “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

Matthew 28:18 “All authority has been given me, in heaven and in earth.”

John 3:35 “For the Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.”

The Son of God represented His Father to men, and as the representative of the Father, He was “given” the authority to forgive sins.

FROM ETERNITY

Micah 5:2 “But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.” NRS

Micah 5:2 “. . . whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.” KJV

The word translated “everlasting” in Micah 5:2 is cited by those who believe that the Son of God had no beginning, but instead, has always existed. They believe that He was one of three co-eternal divine beings (Tri-theism), OR they believe that He must is a second manifestation of the one divine being who has always existed (Mono-theism).

*The Hebrew translated “goings forth” in the KJV (Strong’s #4163) means “origin.” This would mean that Christ originated from something, someone, or somewhere. **“I proceeded forth and came from God” He said (John 8:42).***

The word translated “everlasting” (#5769) is from a root word meaning “to hide,” thus pointing to what is hidden in the distant future or in the distant past. When the word is used to refer to the past, such usages generally point to something that seems long ago, but rarely if ever refers to a limitless past.

In Deut. 32:7 and Job 22:15 it may refer to the time of one’s elders. In Prov. 22:28; 23:10; Jer. 6:16; 18:15; 28:8 it points back somewhat farther. In Isa. 58:12, 61:4; Mic. 7:14; Mal. 3:4, and in the Aramaic of Ezra 4:15, 19, it clearly refers to the time just before the exile. In 1Sam. 27:8; in Isa. 51:9 and 63:9, 11, it refers to events of the exodus from Egypt. In Gen. 6:4, it points to the time shortly before the flood. None of these past references has in it the idea of endlessness or limitlessness, but each points to a time long before the immediate knowledge of those living. The above explanation is found in The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament by Harris, Archer, Waltke who give the meaning of “everlasting” as simply “most distant times.”

My personal understanding is that “eternity” defines that which existed before time began. “Time” is a created dimension. It was therefore created by the Son of God (Jn. 1:3, 1 Cor 8:6, Eph. 3:9, Col. 1:19). Since He existed before time, He could be said to have existed from “eternity.” That does not preclude His having been “begotten” from God the Father. “In the beginning” the Word was (Jn. 1:1). I believe His begetting WAS “the beginning.”

“LET US MAKE MAN.”

Genesis 1:26 “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.’”

Genesis 3:22 “Then the Lord God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil.’”

Genesis 11:7 “‘Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.’”

Isaiah 6:3 “Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: ‘Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?’”
“Us” is more than one, but not necessarily three. God the Father spoke these words to His Son.

BAPTIZING THEM - IN THE NAME

Matthew 28:19 “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.”

Scholarly work by those familiar with the ancient manuscripts has revealed no Greek manuscript older than the time of Constantine, which contains Matthew 28:19. The page containing Matthew 28:19 was torn from every pre-Constantine Greek manuscript. One Aramaic manuscript survives. In that manuscript, Matthew 28:19 reads, “baptizing them in my name.” In other words, Christ commanded them to baptize in HIS name. And many other passages confirm that the disciples did just that.

Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 8:16 “For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 19:5 “When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Romans 6:3 “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”

Galatians 3:27 “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

NO OTHER NAME

Acts 4:12 “by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone. Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Revelation 4:8 “The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”

Isaiah 6:3 “And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The thrice repeated “Holy” is not necessarily a praise of three co-equal beings. The created beings cry “Holy, Holy, Holy” because the Lord God Almighty “is and was and is to come.” He is God of the past, God of the present, and God of the future. He is the same “yesterday, today, and forever.”

THREE THAT BEAR WITNESS IN HEAVEN

1 John 5:7 “For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.”

*These words are **not found** in any Greek manuscript older than the 16th century. Almost all modern translations make note of this. They are believed to have been added to two later Greek manuscripts by followers of the Catholic church, zealous to settle the controversy over the doctrine of the Trinity. Jerome, under threat of dire punishment, then translated the passages from these doctored Greek manuscripts, into Latin.*

OUR GOD IS ONE

Deuteronomy 6:4 “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!”

“Sh'ma, Yisra'el! ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad” (CJB)

Mark 12:29 “Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.”

Hebrew “echad” (Strong’s #0259) meaning “one,” “only,” or “first”

Greek - heis (Strong’s #1520) meaning “one”

I am fully convinced that God our Father is the One and only Head of all. We worship Him as such. We worship Christ also BECAUSE God the Father has commanded us to do so, (Phil. 2:10-11, Heb. 1:6, Lk. 25:51-52), but we do NOT worship Christ as THE “One who sits on the throne” - the source of all life (Rev. 4:11). We recognize Christ’ position as second to God His Father. He is “the Lamb.” He now sits “at the right hand of the Father” (Rev. 3:21) because the Father has placed Him there. Christ will in the end, “be subject to” the Father, “that God may be all in all” (1 Cor. 15:28).

John 10:30 “I and My Father are one.”

Was Christ saying that He is a manifestation of One divine being? Was He saying that He and the Father are NOT two separate beings, each with an individual will? How you understand this text will depend upon your personal belief, and your study of other relevant texts.

John 17:11 “Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.”

A man and a woman are said to become “one” in marriage (Gen. 2:24). All mankind were said to be “one” before the LORD separated them into different language groups at the tower of Babel (Gen. 11:6). The word in that context might mean “unified.” Jew and Gentiles were to become “one new man” (Eph. 2:14). Israel and Judah will become “one nation” in the kingdom of Messiah (Eze. 37:22).

If we may be “one” just the Father and Son are “one,” then this cannot mean that we are absorbed into ONE entity, so that we no longer exist as individuals. It means that we may all share one spirit, so that we will love one another, and be in harmony and agreement with one another. We will be unified in our worship and obedience of the One Supreme Being - the Father who is “Head” of all, just as Christ taught us.

***We pray this study will prove a blessing.
Rachel Cory-Kuehl
prophecyviewpoint.com***