



called the *triquetra*. It is intended to illustrate the distinct yet inseparable nature of the three persons of the Godhead. Another ancient symbol demonstrated that while none of the three persons of the Godhead are the

other three, all three are “God.” While each of these illustrations may have merit, they undoubtedly fail to give us a full and complete picture of the nature of Deity. As Christians what we must do is simple:

- Oppose any teaching about the nature of God (the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit) that is contrary to Scripture. Yet also...
- Affirm that which is revealed in Scripture longing for the day that those things that have not been revealed to us about God’s nature may be fully manifested in the second coming of Jesus, our Savior.



Faithful Sayings Issue 13.26 June 26, 2011

4700 Andrews Ave.
Amarillo TX 79106
806-352-2809
www.olsenpark.com

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

- Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

13.26

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

June 26
2011



Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Steve Dixon
Pat Goguen
Jack Langley
Neil Ledbetter
Brady McAlister
Walker McAnear
Lance Purcell
Rusty Scott

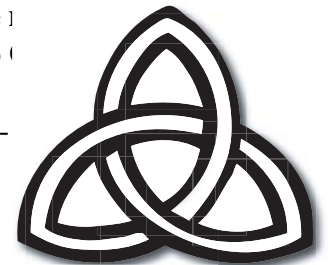
Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Jason Garcia

God in Three Persons

By Kyle Pope

Then God said, ‘Let Us make **in Our image, according to likeness...**’ (Genesis 1:26 NKJV). Thus begins the record of Deity’s conversation with itself regarding the creation of man. This account reveals a staggering and often challenged truth about the God of the Bible that must be accepted and affirmed—*There is One God, composed of three Persons.*



Jesus is God

The gospel of John in describing Jesus as the “Word” reveals the very nature of God’s Messiah. John 1:1 declares, **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”**The *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* put out by the Jehovah’s Witnesses’ Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society denies the impact of these verse,

rendering it “the Word was a *god*” (emphasis mine). This is impossible for us to accept in light of the totality of Scripture! Of Jesus the following is clear:

1. The New Testament reveals that creation was accomplished through Jesus, even though the Old Testament always identifies God as the Creator (John 1:3; Hebrews

1:2; Colossians 1:16). The logical conclusion we must draw is that Jesus is God.

2. Jesus is identified as the “**express image**” of God (Hebrews 1:3), the “**Image of the invisible God**” (Colossians 1:15) and One in whom “**dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily**” (Colossians 2:9).
3. Scripture refers to Jesus as “**God**” (John 20:28; Titus 2:13).
4. The prophetic name of the Messiah (*Immanuel*) means “**God with us**” (Matthew 1:23).
5. The Old Testament prophesied that the Messiah would be called “**Mighty God**” (Isaiah 9:6). Thus if we are to accept what Scripture reveals to us we must accept the Deity of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit is a Person

A second fact evident in Scripture is that the Holy Spirit is not simply a manifestation of God or of Jesus but a third person of the Godhead. Consider the following proofs of this fact:

1. The Holy Spirit possesses a distinct and separate will from God the Father. When Jesus promised the coming of the Holy Spirit He declared, “...**He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak...**” (John 16:13).
2. The Holy Spirit is referred to with the masculine pronoun “He.” Jesus says, “**He will speak**” (John 16:13).
3. The Holy Spirit could not come until Jesus returned to Heaven. In John 16:7 Jesus said, “...**If I do not go**

away, the Helper will not come to you...” If the Holy Spirit was simply a manifestation of Jesus He would have been present with them when Jesus said this!

4. In Jesus’ baptism the triune nature of Deity was demonstrated: the Son was baptized, the Father spoke from heaven and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove. If the Holy Spirit is not a third person of the Godhead then we see in essence the Father both speaking and descending, which is not what Scripture says (Luke 3:21,22). Thus, if we are to accept what Scripture says we must accept that the Holy Spirit (like Jesus) is God, but a distinct person from God the Father.

has been revealed. Men have constructed illustrations to help us grasp God’s nature. Some say, “Just as a husband and wife become ‘one flesh’ the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one.” Others say, “Just as we are body, soul and spirit so God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” The logo adopted by the Thomas Nelson Publishing Company for their

New King James Version is an ancient symbol

Visualizing This Concept

This is certainly a difficult concept to grasp. *How can there be one God composed of three persons?* The difficulty of visualizing this concept unfortunately leads many people to reject it altogether. What we must consider is that as “**stewards of the manifold grace of God**” (I Peter 4:10) our duty is not to figure out what has not been revealed to us about the indescribable nature of an eternal God, but rather to uphold and affirm what

