THE TRINITY

WHAT IS THE TRINITY?

First of all, the Trinity is not a biblical term. According to Wikipedia, the <u>doctrine</u> of the **Trinity** defines <u>God</u> as three divine persons or <u>hypostases</u>: the <u>Father</u>, the <u>Son</u> (<u>Jesus</u>), and the <u>Holy Spirit</u>; "one God in three persons". The three <u>persons</u> are distinct, yet are one "substance, essence or nature". This has been a highly debated topic from the beginnings of the Christian faith and continues to be. Those who subscribe to this belief are called Trinitarians.

From the various references in the Bible, it would appear as if there are two or three persons in the Godhead, but is there really such a thing? The apostle Paul calls this a "GREAT MYSTERY." Please consider this, that if it is as it appears, then there is no mystery, as Paul states! So maybe it is not as it appears to be; and if not, how do we explain it? Well, for me that is very simple, because I teach that the Bible interprets itself.

The Bible speaks of God sending His Only Begotten Son into the world to redeem mankind and that the Son took on him the human form. This Son who is Jesus Christ, began speaking about His Father in every major discourse. After a while everybody was asking, who is His Father? Some were afraid to ask but it got to a point where one of His disciples could not take it anymore. He was tired of Jesus giving him a headache, and I am sure that he was speaking for others as well.

John 14:8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 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. 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.

Is not this explanation by Jesus sufficient to settle the doubts that there was not another person apart from the one that they were beholding? Apparently not. When Jesus gave up the ghost he committed His spirit into his Father's hand. So once again, show us the Father?

I will say this again, the answer is very simple without my oversimplifying the situation. One of the most profound statements is made by the apostle Paul in the first chapter of Romans.

Verse 19 "because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.

20 For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.

Beloved, there it is! Man is a direct replica of the invisible God. Man was made after His Image and Likeness, and man, likewise is triune being just as God is. We are Body, Soul and Spirit just as God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit but we are only one person. ME, MYSELF and I are one being. When the Lord revealed this mystery to me, I was floored, when I learnt how easy it was to explain this great mystery. God is not three persons as claimed by Trinitarians. There is no such thing as aTriniity. The Shema Deut.6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."

To be continued: Apostle Leroy A. Smith