

Knowing God ?

Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens above--what can you do? They are deeper than the depths below--what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea. Job 11:7-9



science

philosophy



**Believing
what God has revealed**

How did God tell us about Himself ?

(He gave the revelation to Moses for His people)



The nation starts out with the truth about God

God reveals the truth about himself

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1



**God is the one and only creator of everything
and stands outside of creation and time**

God reveals the truth about himself

.. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
Genesis 1:2

The SPIRIT of God was active in creation

The Spirit of God has made me;
the breath of the Almighty gives me life.
Job 33:4



God reveals the truth about himself

**God created by his WORD
(And God said ...)**

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their
starry host by the breath of his mouth. Psalm 33:6

God reveals the truth about himself



Right from the beginning
we see a complexity about God's nature

And

A suggestion of a plurality of persons in God's being

Genesis 1:26, 3:22 (these are not the 'royal plural')

The WORD walking in the garden

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

Genesis 3:8 -9



**God appears to them
in a physical form**

The WORD – the Angel of the LORD meets Abraham

The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. Genesis 18:1 -2

**The LORD
and two angels
in human form**



What is an angel ?



God ?, a spirit being ?, a human ?

The word means a “messenger”.

It's a description of the job not the nature of the worker



**Angel of the LORD
in the OT**

**He speaks as God,
He receives worship as God
He acts in power as God**

Some 'pre-Christian' Jewish writings
(translations/interpretations of OT) recognize a plurality of
persons in one God – whom they call the “Word”

There is Only ONE God

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:4 -5

THESE are NOT God !



But 'one' is not simple

$$1 + 1 = 1$$

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become **one** flesh. Genesis 2:24

$$1 + 1+1 + \dots = 1$$

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in **unity!** Psalm 133:1.

$$1 + 1+1 + \dots \text{Jesus' sheep} = 1$$

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be **one** as we are **one**-- I in them and you in me--so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

John 17:22-23



The word “Trinity” is not in the Bible

And neither is :-

“Agriculture” – but there are crops

“Ornithology” – but there are birds

“Theology” - but it's there

Trinity is a way of describing what we find in the Bible

God reveals Himself as :-

God - the Father of His people

But you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us or Israel acknowledge us; you, LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name. Isaiah 63:16

The Word (Angel of the Lord)

She (Hagar) gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me." Genesis 16:13

The Spirit of God

The Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the exiles in Babylonia in the vision given by the Spirit of God.

Ezekiel 11:24

Cf. Isaiah 63:7-14

The LORD appears in human form



Eg.

Abraham's visitors Genesis 18:13

Jacob's wrestling match Genesis 32:30

Joshua's commander Joshua 5:15, 6:2

How is it possible ?

God made Man in His image Genesis 1:27

God appears in human form - and there's more !

The Word **became flesh** and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14



Who Jesus claims to be ...

Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

John 14:9

**Sonship
is claim to deity**



For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

John 5:18

The Holy Spirit is a person !



And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever-- the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. John 14:16-18

**THE Personal – representative of Jesus
(in Greek HE is not an 'IT')**

The Holy Spirit is a person !

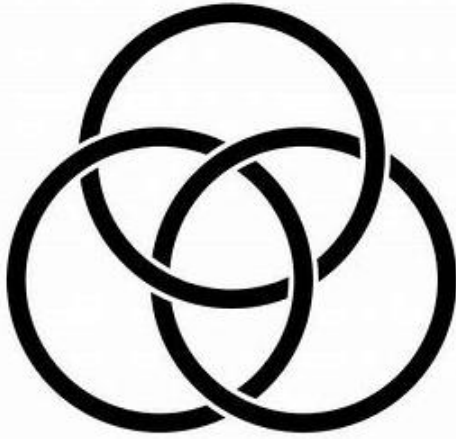
He is the revealer of God to believers

.. we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"-- the things God has prepared for those who love him-- these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:7 -10



The Divine Order ...



My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

John 10:29



"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

John 14:28

When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

1Corinthians 15:28

A human analogy of a family business :

Owner (Father), General Manager (Son), Chief executive(Spirit)
In full partnership

Why doesn't the angel of the Lord appear in the New Testament ?

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

