

Intro June 7 Trinity

EXODUS 34:4b-6, 8-9

Early in the morning Moses went up **Mount Sinai**

as the ***LORD** had commanded him,
taking along the two stone tablets.

Having come down **in a cloud**,

the ***LORD** stood with Moses there
and proclaimed his name, "***LORD**"

Thus the ***LORD** passed before him and cried out,

"The ***LORD**, the ***LORD**,

a merciful and gracious God,

slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity."

Moses at once bowed down to the ground in worship.

Then he said, "If I find favor with you, O Lord,

do **come along in our company**.

This is **indeed a stiff-necked people**;

yet pardon our wickedness and sins,

and **receive us as your own**."

PSALM DANIEL 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers,
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever;

And blessed is your holy and glorious name,
praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory,
praiseworthy and glorious above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blessed are you who look into the depths
from your throne upon the cherubim,
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Glory and Praise **some versions**

Scott Brunell w guitar by Owen Alstott
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9nAcY5_vkI 2:15

Glory and Praise Forever by Timothy R. Smith with words and NOTES/Chords
@ I can't get this melody out of my mind. The verses are basically Gelineau {I explained before}
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2H8ReeZTBWE> 3 min
{a different melody}

Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore, MD June 2017 w organ video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gJBZI7Ccn0> 3:15

Paul in his 2nd Epistle to the Corinthians gives us the **EARLIEST CLEAR** statement of the TRINITY. Corinthians is dated by most at 56-58 AD. Another step for US to understand that

“God” is more than the “**One Who IS**”, יהוה. Yahweh is a **TRINITY**.

[As an aside: There is a book put together by JEWISH Scholars called, Jewish Annotated New Testament. (JANT for short). In it Jewish scholars maintain that the idea of “The Word of God” and the “Holy BREATH or WIND and God’s WISDOM as ‘manifestations of Yahweh’ are present in the OT. So they say that these NT ideas of the Trinity are ROOTED and present in the Old Testament. One of the contributors is a prof from WVU]

Paul greets them: . . . **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God**

-----and the ***fellowship** of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

* **‘one-ness together’** Κοινωνία Literally “Together + ONENess” (plural of ONE)

so **WE share in the **TOGETHERNESS**, the **ONENESS** of the TRINITY!

That is why this formula from Paul is often used at the beginning of Mass.

It is the oldest written formula, statement, of the TRINITY.

The Gospel Acclamation, from the Book of Revelation,

shows the **continuity** between the Old Testament and New Testament. It **summarizes** GOD’s continuing MESSAGE. It does NOT predict the Covid pandemic or anything else. It was written NOT by John the Evangelist, but by another John of Patmos, as he says. It is written to give **HOPE** to the Early Xtians who see their Church assembly crumbling under persecution. John goes back through the OT to give them **HOPE**, showing that God will continue to protect them as he has ALWAYS DONE.

1st Α and last Ω letters of Greek Alphabet

The entire verse from Revelation is: v8 “I am the Alpha Α and the Omega Ω,” says the ***Lord God**, “the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty.” A 3-part affirmation of a TRI-UNE God. ***Lord God = The LORD YAHWEH / יהוה**

Finally the 3rd Epistle of JOHN tells us the XT has revealed more about who GOD, יהוה, is. Now we know—He is the **One who SAVES**. That is the meaning of **Jeshua!** **Yahweh-SAVES**. **Jesus** came to save us. And did, IF we are open to it.

Gospel John 3:16-18

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life.

For God did not ***send** his Son *into the world to condemn the world,*
but that the world might be saved through him.

Whoever believes in him will not be condemned,
but whoever does not believe has already been condemned,
because he has not believed **in the name** of the only Son of God.

Who hasn’t heard this quoted?
Yet how many don’t understand it!

Here in John 3:16 The Father continues to share who HE IS, HIS NAME! As He did with Moses on Mt. Sinai. He shares HIS WORD (Jesus) who gives us more than just The YAHWEH of Exodus. Through his life and teaching—and disciples—the Word of the Father, XT, gives us a deeper understanding of the MEANING if the name: יהוה GOD, now revealed as Three-in-One. And sends the Promised Spirit to remain with us.

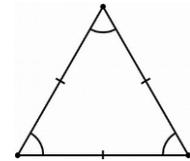
This section from John 3 is overused and misused. It is seen by fundamentalists as a Guarantee of THEIR salvation; but, at the same time, they reassure themselves that those who do not accept Jesus (as they think it should be done!) are **NOT saved**. They are Excluded! Into Hell with them. Conveniently skipped over are these words: *God did not **send** his Son into the world **to condemn** the world.* John is writing this for the people of his time who should have accepted Him, who HAD seen, HAD heard, but HAD rejected HIM and His message. That is how a fundamentalist mis-uses SS. Not looking at the WHOLE of SS.

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How to understand the Trinity? Maybe it isn't important? Just say, OK, so what. There is a "static" explanation emphasizing: 3 + equal + distinct sides or angles.

Some have explained it as a triangle: 3 sides all equal, 3 angles all equal. That is one way of trying to "see" it; but a limited way.

"Thee Persons in ONE God." all equal (sides and angles) making one triangle. —still of one TRIANGLE, one 'being'.



NOT 3 gods; not 3 ways of imagining God as a Hindu does: Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva.

Another "static" but more "living" explanation **St. Patrick a Shamrock is living** **St Patrick** used the **shamrock**, according to the story.

Actually the Celtic Goddess had 3 "roles" as Morrigan:

1 Childbirth; 2 Sex and Reproduction; 3 DEATH

So the Irish Celts had a THREE concept already. Interesting.

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There is also the **Biblical Understanding of the TRINITY**. It is based on HOW God revealed Himself, gradually through SS.

The Orthodox especially emphasize knowing the 'nature of WHO God is' through SCRIPTURE: starting with Genesis through XT ending in Revelation. This is what today's Mass Readings show: the progressive, revealing by God of Him self to His People through SS.

1) God the Father ***sent** (note the word from John)

2) His Word (the Word reveals what GOD IS). And from the Father through the Son, Jesus from Nazareth, who lived with us in Israel, we have been given

3) The SPIRIT of God's LOVE, who remains with us.

So as God is a Union in **Love** of 3 Persons, WE share in that united **LOVING**.

The TRINITY is the PERFECT **Koinonía / together + oneness**

Catholics explain it: The Holy Spirit is from the Father **and** the Son. (true)

Orthodox using a more biblical way of looking at it: The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father **THROUGH** the Son. . . , as God was revealed in SS. (also true and more biblical) Why do we even think we should try to explain it? I think human PRIDE makes more of the different approach than is needed.

Remember Augustine couldn't fill his hole in the sand w the waters of the Mediterranean.

We still end up with a Trinity-God and are humbled that we can't really EXPLAIN it, Right?