

ETERNAL TRINITY

Genesis 1:1-3 ... "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 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. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light."

Even mature followers of Christ sometimes make the mistake of thinking of God as someone who has evolved over time. A new or immature believer might think that God was created by another being, because it is quite difficult to conceive of someone who has always existed. Science and its theories of how the universe was created and grew over time, contributes to this misunderstanding. Science believes that everything must be explainable. Because of this, scientists often find it hard to believe in God...because they cannot explain him.

Believers often conclude that Father God existed first, followed by Jesus and, later, the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, many Catholics are left with this impression by naming Mary as the "Mother of God." Catholicism does not teach that Jesus did not exist prior to his birth as a baby, but confusion leaves many Catholics with that impression. Others find Jesus' promise to his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit to take his place after he returned to Heaven, as the basis for believing that the Holy Spirit did not exist prior to that.

However, the Bible demonstrates that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit have always existed simultaneously. They were not created sequentially, one after the other. The Father did not create the Son, and the Son did not create the Holy Spirit. The first three verses in the Bible, illustrate the Trinity: Gen. 1:1 refers to Father God. Gen. 1:2 refers to the Spirit of God. Gen. 1:3 refers to the voice of God – Jesus – who is affirmed in John 1 as the Word of God.

If, in faith, you can accept that God the Father has always existed, then it is no more difficult to accept that all three "persons" of God have existed for eternity – no beginning and no end. The three persons of God are equally important and equally powerful. If God did not include Jesus, he would not be God. If God did not include the Holy Spirit, he would not be God. It is important to understand the Trinity because God does not reveal himself to us directly. He does that through Christ and through the Holy Spirit. Our access to God is also through Christ and the Holy Spirit: Ephesians 1:18 ... "For through Him [Jesus] we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."

Copyright © 2017 Datu Wali Mission Foundation