

Following Jesus

Lesson 1 The God-head (Deity)- Understanding God in 3 distinct Persons

There is ONE God Expressed in Three Persons - God the Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Together they constitute the God-head (Deity). Each one of the God-head (Deity) was active in creation and is active in the re-creation of man.

Definition: Deity -> God; Creator, the Supreme Being, or Supreme infinite self-existing one.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

1. **God is a Unity of 3 Persons: They are One LORD:** *De 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.*

Literally, “**The Lord our God (Plural) is one Lord.**”

The Word “God” (Elohim) – is in a plural form, but the Bible makes it plain that Yahweh, which we call the LORD is ONE. So God is One – a Unit, a Unity.

In other words the LORD God is One LORD. The Lord is a unity. God is a unity of more than one person.

2. **In Creating Man God said, “Let ‘Us’ make man in ‘Our’ image.”**

Let us make man in our image:

Genesis 1:26 And **God** said, Let **us** make man in **our** image, after **our** likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Note: God is speaking to the other persons of the God-head (Deity). The words, “Us” and “Our” are plural words signifying more than one person.

God is a family. Notice he also mentions, “Let us make **man** ... and let **them**” Man is also considered a unit. So man here refers to the entire human family. Both Adam and Eve was called man. So man is the human family. God is a family – the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

The Word God – is in a plural form, but the Bible makes it plain that Yahweh, which we call the LORD is ONE.

**They are not Three Gods – only ONE God expressed in Three Persons:
The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Constitute God.**

Much like a Triangle that has Three sides but is one Triangle.

3. The Father is God:

Romans 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from **God our Father**, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. God spoke the World into existence:

Palms 33:6 **By the word** of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Note: God created the world by His Word. He spoke it into existence by his authority. His Son is called the Word – which made all things. See the Next Point.

5. Jesus is God the Son:

John 1:1. In the beginning was the Word, and the **Word was with God**, and the **Word was God**.

Notice the Word was God. In other words, the Son of God – the word is God. Jesus is called the Word because words express thoughts. Jesus' life and actions expresses God's thoughts toward us. The Bible tells us that "God is Love." 1 John 4:8. Christ's life and actions expresses God's Love toward us.

Even demon's cried out and recognized him as the Son of God:

Matthew 8:29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, **Jesus, thou Son of God**? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

Note: Demons were afraid of him because they recognized him as the Son of God who came from Heaven.

6. Jesus was active in Creation – He made the world:

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in **God, who created all things by Jesus Christ**:

7. Colosians 1:16 For by him (Christ) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

8. Jesus the Word that Created the World:

John 1:1-3. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2. The same was in the beginning with God.

3. **All things were made by him (Word- Jesus)**; and without him was not anything made that was made.

Note: Jesus is the **Word** who was with God and who was God in nature. He is the Son of God. Thus he shares in the same Divinity as the Father – just in the same way a child

shares in the same human nature as its family. God created the World by the Word who is Christ. God Spoke and Jesus made the creation.

9. **The Fullness of Divinity (God-ness) dwells in Christ:**

Colosians 2:9 For in him (Christ) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead (Deity->God-ness) bodily (In His body)

Note: All of deity-divinity-Godness – lives in Christ. He is completely Divine.

Jesus revealed that He and the Father are One:

Joh 10:30 I and my Father **are one**.

Note: For claiming to be one with the father the Jews wanted to stone Him because He was claiming to be equal with God.

John 10:31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.

John 10:33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, **makest thyself God**.

10. **God the Son – became flesh:**

John 1:14 And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Note: Christ is the Divine Word of God who became human and lived among us. He is the one from the father.

11. **Mystery of the incarnation – Christ revealed in the flesh:**

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the **mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

The Holy Spirit is also God – a part of the God-head (Deity)

12. **God the Holy Spirit:**

Acts 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to **lie to the Holy Ghost**, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Acts 5:4 ... thou hast not **lied unto men, but unto God**.

Note: The Holy Spirit is a Person and not a force – you lie to a person not a force. Annaias and Sapphira promised to sell their land and give all the money to the early church, but they went back on their promise and kept some of the money for themselves. Peter stated that They lied to the Holy Spirit who is God. So the Holy Spirit is God. (Acts 5:1-5).

13. **God the Holy Spirit was Active in Creation:**

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning **God created** the heaven and the earth.

Genesis 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. **And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.**

14. The God-head (Deity) – was involved in Creating Man:

Genesis 1:26 And **God said, Let us** make man in **our** image, after **our** likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Note: God said – let “**us**”, “**our**”. These are plural terms. God is **Three as One. Even the Hebrew word for God – Elohim is in a plural form.** This doesn't mean that God is so multifaceted that He is described in plural terms. God is One expressed in Three persons.

15. We are to Baptize in the 3 fold Name of God:

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the **name** of the **Father**, and of the **Son**, and of the **Holy Ghost**:

Note: The word “**name**” is singular not plural. It says baptizing them in the name not names.

16. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit were present at Christ's Baptism:

Matthew 3:16 And **Jesus**, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, **This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased.

Illustration: Like a Triangle – One triangle has three points. Like a three way light bulb, or an egg which has three parts; the shell, the white and the yoke. God is One but Expressed in Three Persons. Like water that has three forms, liquid, vapor and ice – no matter what form it is still water.

17. We cannot understand all of God's ways or even himself:

Romans 11:33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how **unsearchable** are his judgments, and **his ways past finding out!**

Note: The mystery of the Tri-une Godhead is very deep and no one can ever fully understand all there is to know about God – but we accept it by faith. Each member of the God-head (Deity) is active in also in man's **recreation and transformation.**

This is how each person of the God-head (Deity) – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is active in our Salvation.

18. The Father gave His Son to the world:

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that **he gave his only begotten Son**, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

19. The Father draws men to Christ:

John 6:37 All that the **Father giveth** me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the **Father which hath sent me draw him**: and I will raise him up at the last day.

20. The Holy Spirit Speaks of Christ:

John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, **he shall testify of me**:

Note: The Comforter is the Holy Spirit who tells us of Christ. John 14:26

21. The Holy Spirit invites to Salvation:

Revelation 22:17 And the **Spirit and the bride say, Come**. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

22. The Holy Spirit – Renews us – Makes us New:

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and **renewing of the Holy Ghost**:

23. Christ shows us the Father:

John 14:9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

Note: We see God through the life of Christ. His love expressed in healing, caring and loving us is God's way of showing us how much he loves us. Christ's acts of love are God's acts of love expressed personally to us.

24. Christ is the way to the Father:

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me**.

25. Christ Took on Human Flesh became a man and lived a sinless life and died on the cross as our substitute. He paid the penalty for our sins.

John 1:14 And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For **he hath made him to be sin for us**, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Note: The Holy Spirit points us to Christ, Christ points us to the Father and the Father directs us to Christ as the payment of our sins and the way of Salvation.

26. Do you understand and accept that God is expressed in three Persons? That He alone is God, Creator, Savior, and you desire to Worship Him as your Lord and Master?
