

Questions About How Jesus and the Father Can Be One or Are They Separate

By Pastor Ed Anderson

How can God be two persons—Father and Son—if they are One?

Answer:

God is **one in essence** (Deuteronomy 6:4), but **reveals Himself as more than one person**—specifically, as **God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit**. This is what Christians call the **Godhead** (or Trinity)—*three divine persons, one eternal God*.

Helpful Bible Texts:

1. Jesus Prays to the Father

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You.” — John 17:1

This shows **Jesus speaking to the Father**, not Himself—proving they are **distinct persons**.

2. At Jesus’ Baptism – All 3 Are Present

“The heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove... and suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son.’” — Matthew 3:16–17

Jesus is in the water

The **Holy Spirit** comes down

The **Father** speaks from heaven

Three persons—One God.

3. Jesus Is Called God, Yet Submits to the Father

“In the beginning was the Word... and the Word was God... and the Word became flesh...” —John 1:1, 14

Jesus (the Word) *is* God.

“The Father is greater than I.” —John 14:28

Jesus is **equal in divinity**, but **submits in role**—like a Son to a Father.

4. Two Witnesses Confirm Each Other

“I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.” —John 8:18

Legally, this proves **two distinct persons**, both divine.

5. The Disciples’ Baptism Formula

“Baptizing them in the name of the **Father**, and of the **Son**, and of the **Holy Spirit**.” —Matthew 28:19

One *name*—but three persons—**equal, eternal, united**.

Simple Analogy (Not Perfect, But Helpful)

Think of **music in harmony**: Three notes, one chord.

Each note is distinct, but together, they form **one sound**.

Likewise, the **Father**, **Son**, and **Holy Spirit** are **distinct** but always in perfect **unity**—**One God**.

Why It Matters

Because God is **love** (1 John 4:8). And **love requires relationship**.

Before the universe existed, the **Father loved the Son** (John 17:24).

That's why the Gospel is so powerful—the **Father gave His Son** (John 3:16) so we could be adopted into that eternal relationship of love.

Let Rosa know she's asking a great question that shows she's truly seeking to understand God's heart. You can tell her this:

God isn't just powerful—He's relational. That's why He reveals Himself as **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**. Not three gods—but **One God who exists in perfect love and unity**—so we could know Him, love Him, and be loved forever.