

The First Angel's Message – Imad Awde

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<https://youtu.be/7Qe6CAcUosI>

The title of today's study is "The First Angel's Message." Many of us believe we are living in the last days. Out of all the humanity that ever lived on planet earth, our generation is the closest to the second coming of Christ. Now we know that God desires that all of us shall be with him in heaven, for the scripture says He is not willing that any should perish. He also desires that we should know the truth, for the scripture also says Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. That is God's ultimate desire. We also know that many will not be set free, because they will not accept the truth. The question is why won't they receive the truth?

We read in Revelation 12:9, **"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."** So, the Bible tells us the great dragon is Satan and he deceives the whole world. The reason why many will not receive and accept the truth, is because they have received a deception, and so they are deceived.

Now notice what else will happen in our day. Revelation 13:3, 4, **"And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast."** Who wondered after the beast? The whole world. (4) **"And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"** So, the whole world is worshipping the dragon and the previous verse said, the dragon is Satan. God is saying that in His word.

God gave the vision to John, that in the last days, the whole world, or a large number of people, so large that to John it seemed like the whole world, are worshipping Satan. And the last days are talking about our day. This is serious because the Bible says that in the last days, many will reject the truth and receive deception. Satan will use deception to deceive God's people into worshipping him instead of worshipping God.

Now because God is not willing that any should perish, out of His love and mercy, He sends a message to the world in the last days,, to warn them. What is that warning called? It's called the three angel's messages. We read the first angel's message and it says, Revelation 14:7, **"Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."** This was the first message and then there is a second, followed by a third message, and these messages (warnings) come in order.

Understand this, the first angel's message comes, and as a result of rejecting the first angel's message, the second angel's message comes and says, Babylon is fallen. So, why did Babylon fall? Because it rejected the first angel's message and believed false teachings instead. Then a third angel follows saying, fire and brimstone to everyone having the mark or his number. Why does fire and brimstone come? Because Babylon is fallen. Again, why did Babylon fall? Because they rejected the first angel's message. So, the first angel's message is the foundation for what comes next.

Therefore, in this study we will be looking at the first angel's message, and see what God has to tell us. God, in His wisdom, knew in the last days, people would be worshipping a false god, worshipping

Satan. So, He sends a message, Fear God and worship HIM. Why is God pointing us to worshipping Him in the last days? It is because the deception is about WORSHIP, and the deception has caused the whole world to worship Satan. God says, I love the whole world and I want none of you to perish. Listen to Me, you are worshipping a false god. We are to fear God, give glory to Him and worship Him.

In Malachi 4:5, It says, **“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:”** This prophecy met its literal fulfillment with John the Baptist, and the first coming of Christ. But it will also meet its second fulfillment just before the second coming of Christ. God will send Elijah, or the message of Elijah, to the world before the second coming of Christ. This is the three angel’s message, because the first angel’s message is, ‘Fear God, give glory to Him and worship Him, for the hour of His judgement is com. What was the message of Elijah? Remember what Elijah said on Mt. Carmel in 1 Kings 18:21, “**How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD [be] God, follow him: but if Baal, [then] follow him. And the people answered him not a word.**” This is type and antitype. It is interesting because the Bible says that Elijah came unto, how many people? All the people, and that’s the type. The whole world is worshipping a dragon. God’s people were worshipping Baal. The people are worshipping Satan in the last days, which is the antitype.

Elijah comes to all the people and says, if the Lord be your God, follow Him, if Baal follow him. In other words, Elijah’s message to the people was to fear God, give glory to Him and worship Him. Don’t be deceived, you are worshipping a false god, return to the true God. What does the first angel’s message really say? “Fear God, give glory to Him and worship Him.” You are worshipping a false god. Turn around and worship God. Do you see the type and antitype?

Question: How can we give the first angel’s message to the world if we don’t know it? Do you think that Elijah could have gone to all the people and pointed them to the true God, if he didn’t know who the true God is? No, and it is silly to think that. Then do we think, that we as a people in the last days, are going to be able to give the first angel’s message, if we don’t know who the first angel’s message is talking about? No!

So, when the Bible says, “Fear God and give glory to Him”, who is it talking about? We will find out in this study. This will be a brief Bible study and the evidence, and the answers must be founded in the Bible.

But first there is this question. Who is the god who is being worshipped today? We know the god that was worshipped by God’s people in Elijah’s day was Baal. So, who is the god who is being worshipped by God’s professed people today? There will be a few statements from Ellen White which will harmonize with Scripture, but they are not being used as the authority, the Bible is the final authority.

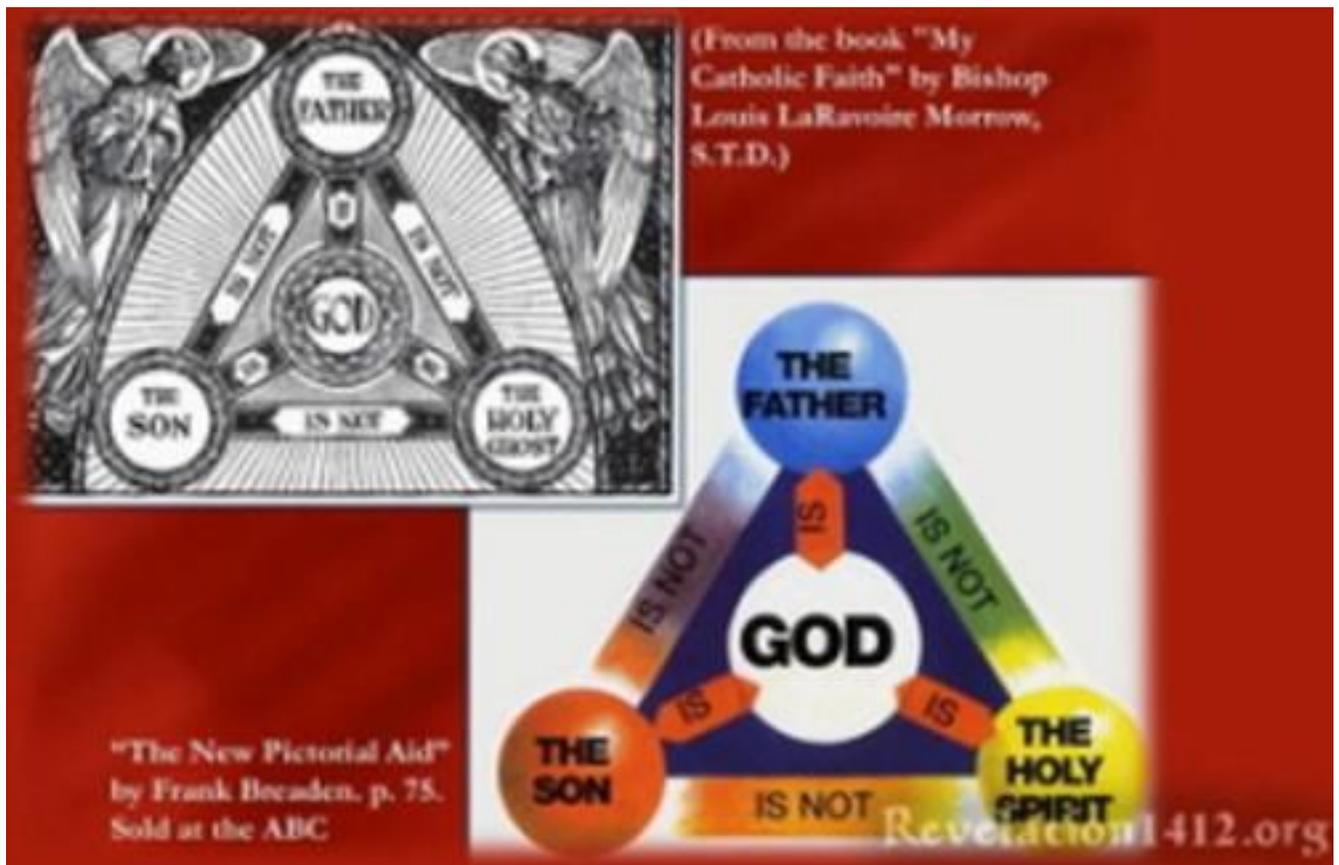
Here is a statement from the Fundamental Beliefs of the SDA Church, Fundamental Belief #2: **The Trinity - No. 2. “There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons.”** That is the god that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is worshipping today. Question: Is a trinity, the one god that is being worshipped today, a unity of three persons, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, together one substance, the God of the Bible? That’s what they say.

Now, here is another statement: **“The one God whom we worship is a unity of Three Divine Persons.”** Is there any real difference in these two statements? No. It’s the same thing. A unity of three coeternal Persons, and a unity of Three Divine Persons. The SDA Church made the first statement and

the second statement was from Pope John Paul II, given in New Orleans, LA, USA, Saturday September 12, 1987.

So, the God of the Roman Catholic Church, and almost all Christian denominations, with few exceptions, agree to the Nicene Creed, which teaches this same thing. Almost all Christians worship the trinity which is three persons in one substance, and the SDA Church has the same god. That alone should raise a red flag, that there is something wrong, because Adventists, just like all the reformers that came before them, Martin Luther and all the others, believed that the Catholic Church system is the anti-Christ system. It's not limited to Adventism, all the reformers believed it.

So, the question is, how is it that God's people are worshipping the same god as anti-Christ? Do you think that Anti-Christ is worshipping the true God? And if he is worshipping the true God, then why is he called anti-Christ?



This is from New Pictorial Aid, A Seventh-day Adventist Publication. This is how the SDA Church understands the trinity on the right, and on the left is from the Catholic Church. It is the exact same thing except the Catholic version has angels around it. This is sad, because we are seeing Baal, the god of the heathen, the god of the Gentiles back then in the days of Elijah, and the Gentile god was being worshipped in Israel. We are seeing the same thing today. A pagan god is being worshipped, in what's meant to be what Adventists believe, spiritual Israel. It is sad to see that a pagan god is in God's church.

Now we will get into our Bible Study. First question: How many Gods does the Bible say we have? Old Testament: Deuteronomy 6:4, "**Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God [is] one LORD:**" Jeremiah 10:10, "**But the LORD [is] the true God, he [is] the living God, and an everlasting king:**

at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.” So, the LORD is the one true and living God. New Testament: James 2:19, **“Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.”** 1 Timothy 2:5, **“For [there is] one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”** So, how many Gods is there according to the Old and New Testament? One God. So, this one God could be the trinity, three in one, or this one God could be someone else. We will let the Bible speak and settle the matter. Now we saw that the one LORD is the true and living God. Does the Bible tell us who is the true and living God? John 17:3, **“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”** So, the only true God is not Jesus Christ. According to Jesus’ own words, the only true God is the Father. 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, **“For they themselves show of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; (10) And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, [even] Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”** These verses tell us the living and true God is the Father and that He has a Son. So, the true and living God is not Jesus, the true and living God is the Father of Jesus. That is the Bible speaking.

Now who did the disciples believe this one God is? 1 Corinthians 8:6, **“But to us [there is but] one God, the Father, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [are] all things, and we by him.”** So, the author Paul is qualifying who this one God is, identifying Him as the Father, and He’s telling us why He is the one God. It’s because ‘of Him’ everything comes. The reason why the Father is the one God of the Scriptures is because He is the source of all things, and we have one Lord, Jesus Christ.

Notice what James says in James 3:9, **“Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.”** God the Father is the God of the Scriptures. Paul again in Ephesians 4:4-6, **“[There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; (5) One Lord, one faith, one baptism, (6) One God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all.”** Who is the one God of the Scriptures that you are seeing over and over again? It is God the Father.

Now, who did Ellen White believe God is? **“God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son.”** {CCh 76.5} So, who is God? The Father. Is she in harmony with the Bible? Yes! They did not believe what He said and accused Him of blasphemy.

Who is Jesus? John 10:36 **“Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?”** Who did Jesus claim to be? He said He is the Son of God. They did not believe what He said and accused Him of blasphemy.

Here is another one. John 5:18 **“Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.”** Since Jesus claimed to be the Son of God, they reasoned that He was claiming to be equal with God, and so the Jews sought to kill Him. As a child of a human being, the child is also human, because it inherits the parent’s nature. Since Jesus is the Son of God, then He inherited Divinity, the God nature.

What was the Father’s witness about His Son? The Father only spoke from heaven 3 times. The first one in Matthew 3:16-17, **“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." When God the Father speaks, humanity needs to be silent and listen. When God spoke, He said this is My beloved Son. So, who should I believe Jesus is? The Son of God the Father.

The second time the Father spoke was on the mount of transfiguration. Matthew 17:5, **"While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."** So, again the Father spoke and said this is My Son, Hear Him. Believe what He says. Okay Lord, so who are you? I am the Son of God. Both the Father, said this is My Son, and Jesus, said I am the Son of God. Why is there such debate about it? It must be because the dragon deceives the whole world.

Who did the disciples believe Jesus was? Matthew 16:16 **"And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."** Now listen, these are the disciples that walked with Jesus for three and one-half years. If there are any people that should have understood what Jesus taught, it should be these people. Some of these people wrote the Scriptures in the New Testament.

Who did Paul say Christ was? Acts 9:20, **"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."** When Paul met Jesus on the way to Damascus, he was blinded. After he received his sight, his first sermon was to teach his listeners that this man Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God. Another one from Paul, 1 Corinthians 1:9, **"God [is] faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord."**

And what about Martha, sister of Mary and Lazarus? John 11:27, **"She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."**

And the apostles when they were in the ship and Peter walked on water. Matthew 14:33, **"Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God."**

What about the fallen angels, who did they believe He was? Luke 8:28, **"When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, [thou] Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not."** Don't forget who's talking here. It wasn't the man speaking, it was a fallen angel, that knew Jesus in heaven before he was cast out with Lucifer and all the other fallen angels.

So, God the Father, Jesus Christ, the disciples, Martha, the apostle Paul, and even a demon, all testify that Jesus is the Son of God. That's who He is. One wonders where the church today gets their theology. Is there anyone else in the Bible referred to as the Son of God? Yes, the angels are referred to as sons of God. How are they sons of God? By creation. Post-fall Adam is referred to as a son of God. How? By adoption. We also are referred to as sons of God by adoption. By what special term does the Bible call Jesus the Son of God? 1 John 4:9, **"In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."** Question: Who did God send? His only begotten Son. In other words, Jesus did not become begotten when He was born into the world, Jesus was the only begotten Son, long before He was sent into the world. What did Ellen White say on this subject?

"A complete offering has been made; for "God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,"-- not a son by creation, as were the angels, nor a son by adoption, as is the

forgiven sinner, but a Son begotten in the express image of the Father's person, and in all the brightness of his majesty and glory, one equal with God in authority, dignity, and divine perfection. In him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." {ST, May 30, 1895 par. 3} What is she saying? She said He was begotten in the express image of the Father's person, and in all the brightness of his majesty and glory. Question: When Jesus was born of Mary, was He born in all the brightness of God? No, because if He did, humanity near Him would perish. His Divinity was veiled in humanity. What was she talking about? A time when He was begotten in all the brightness of God. Sister White did not write this statement in Greek or Hebrew. She wrote it in plain English, where the word begotten means born. Begotten does have another meaning, it could mean adopting, but she said not a Son by adoption. It could also mean begotten or raised from the dead, but that is not what she was talking about. God had to have a Son before He could have sent Him.

Joh 3:16-17, **"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. (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."** God sent His Son, which means He had to have a Son to send.

Notice what the Bible says in Proverbs 30:4, **"Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what [is] his name, and what [is] his son's name, if thou canst tell?"** So, this is talking about creation in the Old Testament, long before the incarnation in the New Testament, and it is speaking about two Beings, and is identifying them by relationship, a Father and a Son.

Daniel 3:25, When the three Hebrew worthies were thrown in the fire, the Scripture reads, **"He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."** How did the king know that God had a Son? It is because Daniel and his three friends were evangelists. They told him about the God they worshipped and that the God they worshipped had a Son.

God had a Son in heaven when Lucifer and the angels had not yet been cast out as we read the following, **"Angels that were loyal and true sought to reconcile this mighty, rebellious angel to the will of his Creator. ... They clearly set forth that Jesus was the Son of God, existing with him before the angels were created; and that he had ever stood at the right hand of God, ..."** {1SP 19.1} So, the loyal angels were trying to convince the rebelling angels, that this Person they were rebelling against is the Son of God, and He has been with God before the angels came into existence. So, we see that the angels in heaven, knew that God had a Son. In the incarnation Jesus became the Son of Mary and was often referred to as the Son of man.

So, Christ was begotten in the days of eternity before creation. We don't know how He was begotten, but we do know when. Notice Proverbs 8. This is talking about Jesus under the title of Wisdom. We will not give any explanation of this in this study, but you can get a copy of an article titled "Wisdom and Proverbs 8" from revelation1412.org and you can download it and read it for yourself. Proverbs 8:22-25, **"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. (23) I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. (24) When [there were] no depths, I was brought forth; when [there were] no fountains abounding with water. (25) Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:"**

So, someone here is saying, before anything was created, I was brought forth, I was born, I was begotten. Now this is not talking about the attribute of wisdom, because if we were saying that, it would be saying that before that point God was not wise. That would not make sense. But what this is, is Jesus talking under the title of wisdom. Notice what Ellen White says, **“And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: “The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting. . . . When He appointed the foundations of the earth: then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.” Proverbs 8:22-30.”** {PP 34.1} She tells us that Jesus was speaking about Himself, and she quotes the passage we just read in the Bible. She is in harmony with what the Scriptures say. In the last days we must have a people who have the Bible and the Bible alone, as the rule of faith.

Now this is exactly what Jesus said when He was on earth. In the Old Testament He said, “I was brought forth”, which we just read. Let us look at what He said in the New Testament. John 8:42, **“Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.”** Now this was written in Greek and Jesus used three different terms; I ‘proceeded forth’, ‘I came from,’ and ‘sent me.’ Why. if all He’s trying to do is say the same thing? Why is He using three different terms? Because the words ‘proceeded forth, simply means; born’.

Here is what John Gill, well known and respected commentator of the Bible has written about ‘proceeded forth’. **“... for I proceeded forth and came from God; the former of these phrases is observed by many learned men to be used by the Septuagint, of a proper natural birth, as in Gen. 15:4; and here designs the eternal generation of Christ, as the Son of God, being the only begotten of the Father, and the Son of the Father in truth and love; and the other is to be understood of his mission from Him, as Mediator:”** John Gill.

So, he is telling us that ‘proceedeth forth’ is a proper natural birth and the other means, God sent Him on a mission. Now this commentator is a trinitarian. How can we harmonize what the Bible says, that Jesus was born in the days of eternity from God, with what trinitarians teach, that Jesus was co-eternal with the Father, that he was never really born of the Father? You can’t. But if you are trinitarian, and you want to hold to your pet trinity doctrine, what do you do? You come up with some philosophy and you call it the ‘eternal generation’. The eternal generation teaches that, yes, Jesus was born in the days of eternity, but it’s an eternal birth, throughout all eternity, and to all eternity, Jesus is continually being born of God. But you just did away with what we read in the Bible. It’s a human philosophy that attempts to harmonize what the Bible says, with the trinity. How about doing away with the philosophy and just believe what the Bible says?

In the word, Jesus said I was born of the Father in the days of eternity, and I came from God, and God sent me into this world. That is what Jesus is saying, how about we just believe it?

Now, this is not saying that Jesus is some lesser God, and it is not saying He doesn’t have the Divine nature because He was born of God in the days of eternity. Just as your son has the same human nature as you do, so, Jesus has the same Divine nature as His Father, because He was born of Him. Notice what Paul wrote in Hebrews 1:6-9, **“And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. (7) And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. (8) But unto the Son [he saith], Thy throne, O God, [is] for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness [is] the sceptre of thy kingdom. (9) Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, [even] thy God,**

hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.” Trinitarians will jump on these verses and say that the Father is calling His Son God, therefore He is God the Son, co-eternal and co-equal. Not so fast. He is calling Him God because He has the God nature. But in verse 9, He is saying that He is God over His Son where He says, ‘therefore God, [even] thy God’. So, yes Jesus has the God nature, but at the same time He is saying, I am your God. Why? Because as we read in 1 Corinthians 8:6, all things come from the Father. He is the source of all that there is, even His Son Jesus.

Now, how important is it to believe that Jesus is the Son of God? In 1 John 5:10 we read, **“He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.”** What is the record or testimony that God gave of his Son? He only spoke three times from heaven, so it’s not hard to figure out. Two of those three times He said, ‘This is My beloved Son’. So, if you do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God, you are making God a liar. God spoke from heaven and testified that this is My Son. And God inspired the apostles to say that Jesus is the Son of God. When Jesus was on earth He said, the words that I speak are not My own, whatsoever I hear I say unto you. And the Father spoke through His Son, and Jesus said, I am the Son of God. So, God speaking from heaven, and speaking through His Son, and speaking through the apostles, God gave a testimony and bore a record, that this is My Son. If you don’t believe it, you make God a liar. Is it important that Jesus is the Son of God? It’s only important if you think it’s important, not to call God a liar.

In 1 John 5:5, **“Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”** John tells us who will overcome the world with all its temptations and that is he that believes Jesus is the Son of God. Why is that? Is it because one attains to some theological height? No. Because the Bible says the love of God leadeth thee to repentance and genuine conversion. And how did God manifest His love? By sending His Son. If you play with the Sonship of Jesus, you are playing with the love of God, and if you diminish the love of God, then you diminish your own conversion. That’s why John said you will only overcome the world if you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, meaning you will only overcome the world if you understand that God loved you, and that led Him to offer His Son to save you. That’s what John was saying.

John 3:36 **“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”** Do you think that this is important? Do you think that it’s important to have everlasting life? If you believe it is important than believe on the Son.

What about the Holy Spirit? Who is the Holy Spirit? Is there a third God called God the Holy Spirit? How many Spirits are there? Ephesians 4:4, **“[There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;”** One Spirit, there’s only ONE Spirit. Again, in Ephesians 2:18 **“For through him (Jesus) we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.”** There’s only one Spirit that the Christians receive. Who is it? 1 Corinthians 3:16, “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” The Christians today receives something, and it’s called the Spirit of God. Who is the Spirit of God? 1 Corinthians 2:11, **“For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.”** The author is equating the relationship between man and his spirit, with the relationship between God and His Spirit. In other words, no one knows what’s in your mind except your own spirit. Is your spirit a different person than you? No. He is saying, even so, in like manner, in

the same way, no one knows the things of God, except the Spirit of God. So, the Spirit of God is not a different Person than God. Notice the difference, when Paul is talking about the spirit of man, the spirit which is in him. My spirit is in me. But when talking about God, the author does not say the Spirit that is in Him, that is because the Spirit of God is not limited to His physical form. God can be everywhere present through His Spirit. This attribute of God is called His Omnipresence.

Now if you study the term Spirit in the Scriptures, you will find it means life. This is an example where Jesus came and raised the ruler's daughter in Luke 8:55. **“And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.”** What came again to her? She was dead and when her spirit (life) came to her she arose. Her spirit is her life. The Spirit of God means the life of God. It's very simple and it's not complicated. This understanding is the foundation for righteousness by faith.

Notice what else we read; 2 Corinthians 3:17, **“Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord [is], there [is] liberty.”** According to Paul, who is that Spirit? The Lord is that Spirit. Who is the Lord Paul is referring to? God in His wisdom had Paul record something in 1 Corinthians 8:6, **“But to us [there is but] one God, the Father, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [are] all things, and we by him.”** One God the Father and how many Lords? One Lord Jesus Christ. So, in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, He said there is one Lord and that is Jesus Christ. In the second letter he said the Lord is that Spirit. Jesus is that Spirit. If Paul were to come back to life today and he was to tell you who the Holy Spirit is, he couldn't make it clearer than what he said in these two verses.

Ellen White is in harmony with what Paul says. She wrote, **“We want the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ.”** {Lt66- (April 10, 1894) par.18} That's clear. If she were to come back to life today, and she was to tell you who the Holy Spirit is, she couldn't make it clearer than what she said in this letter. She said the Holy Spirit is Jesus Christ. Now, Paul said the Holy Spirit is Jesus Christ and Ellen White said the Holy Spirit is Jesus Christ, leaving no room to argue the fact.

Are we saying that Jesus became a Spirit? Yes, notice 1 Corinthians 15:45, **“And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit.”** So, Paul is telling us that the last Adam, Jesus, was made a quickening or lifegiving Spirit. The Scriptures are telling us that Jesus is the Holy Spirit.

Again, Ellen white says almost the same thing, **“Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof.”** {14MR 23.3} She is telling us that the Holy Spirit is Jesus Christ Himself, but without the human flesh. It is Jesus in His omnipresent Spirit. As Paul said, the second Adam was a life-giving Spirit. And Sister White is in harmony with the Scriptures.

Saying, Jesus is the Holy Spirit; how does that harmonize with what we read earlier in this study, that your body is the temple of God? But we said that the body is the temple of God the Father and now we are saying the Holy Spirit is His Son Jesus. We harmonize it by understanding that when we receive one, we get both. Notice what Jesus said in John 14:23, **“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come**

unto him, and make our abode with him.” This Scripture says WE, Father and Son, will make OUR abode in him. Not someone else.

In 2 John 1:9, we read the following, **“Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”** He doesn't have three and he doesn't have just one. He has both the Father and the Son. How can that be? We read why that is in 2nd Corinthians 5:19, **“To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”** Who was in Christ? God the Father. So, when you receive Christ, you also receive the Father. It's what Jesus said, it's what Paul wrote and it's what John confirmed.

Ellen White is in harmony with the Bible, notice what she says, **“All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So, in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life.”** {DA 21.2} So, she is saying that through Christ, we receive the life of the Father also. Why? Because God is in Christ and when you receive one you receive both.

Notice the terminology Paul uses in Romans 8:9-11, **“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (10) And if Christ [be] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin; but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness. (11) But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”** So, Paul is talking about the same Spirit and calls it the Spirit of God; calls it the Spirit of Christ; and calls it Christ; and calls it the Spirit that raised up Christ. Obviously Paul understood that when we receive the Holy Spirit, we are receiving the Spirit of God, the Spirit of His Son and we are actually receiving Christ, because God is in Christ. That's why Paul, talking about the same Spirit, uses all these terminologies. The Holy Spirit is the life of Christ, and that's what the Bible says.

Again, Ellen White is in harmony with the Bible, notice what she says, **“The impartation of the Spirit is the impartation of the life of Christ.”** {DA 805.3}

And again, **“Christ gives them the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life.”** {DA 827.3} What is the life of His own life? Is it another person? No. It's His life. It's Himself which makes it simple to understand. So, the Spirit that the Christian receives is the Spirit of Christ or life of Christ.

Remember what Paul wrote in the first letter to the Corinthians in chapter 3 and verse 16, **“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”** The Spirit of God dwells in us. Now look what he wrote in 2 Corinthians 13:5 **“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”** So, we see the Spirit of God dwelleth in you and in the verse that followed said Jesus Christ is in you. We know and understand that with the Spirit of God, we have the Spirit of Christ as well, because God is in Christ. Paul understood it and in Romans 8:10 he wrote, **“And if Christ [be] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin; but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness.”**

And in Galatians 4:6, he also said, “**And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.**” So, what does God send into our hearts? The Spirit of His Son. Is the Spirit of His Son a different person to His Son? When Jesus was on the cross and He said in Luke 23:46, “**Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.**” What was the Spirit that Christ gave up to the Father? His LIFE.

Now notice what Ellen White says, “... **the holy Spirit is the Comforter, as the personal presence of Christ to the soul.**” {RH, November 29, 1892 par. 3} It is His personal presence because it is His Person, it is Himself. Elsewhere she wrote, “**Christ gives them the life of His life.**” {RH, January 5, 1911 par.6}

We need to say again, that this understanding, that the identity of the Holy Spirit, is the life of Christ, is the foundation, is the basis of the gospel and righteousness by faith. Why do we say that? If you study the Scriptures, you will find out that our natural condition is the following:

1. Nothing good in man: Romans 7:18, 3:10; Psalm 14:2, 3
2. All our righteousness's are as filthy rags: Isaiah 64:6
3. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God: Romans 3:23
4. We are by nature the children of wrath: Ephesians 2:3
5. Naturally we do not seek or receive the things of God: Rom. 3:11; 1 Cor. 2:14
6. Because of Adam's sin, many were made sinners and receive condemnation: Romans 5:18, 19

This is what the Bible says our natural condition is and we are doomed in our natural condition. If you think, realizing your condition, that you can make yourself better by changing your condition through keeping all the law, and by keeping the Sabbath perfectly, then you need to listen to Paul in Romans 3:20, “**Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin.**” So, you can be the last, best law-keeper on planet earth, it won't matter because you can't justify yourself. Why not? Because all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. In our natural condition, we are born at enmity with God, and all your good works cannot change your nature. Works do not save.

We are born from the first Adam on the wrong side. We are not born seeking God, we are not born seeking righteousness, and we are not born godly and we need to stop deceiving ourselves and study the Scriptures. Unless we realize that we are sick, we will not seek a physician for help. God loves every human being. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Not while we were righteous, no, no, while we were dead in sins. God loves every single human being including every human baby. So, we are talking about our natural condition. We are born on the wrong side.

Now we will look at one verse that solves the problem. It links the Godhead with righteousness by faith and solve our problem. 1 Corinthians 6:17, “**But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.**” If only we would understand this verse. Our problem is not our bad works, our problem is our bad life. And that is why the solution to our problem is not good works, rather the solution is a new birth. Why would we need to be born again if our problem was just behavior? Fixing the behavior and keeping the rules is not good enough. Why must we be born again? Because the problem is much deeper than our behavior. Our problem was in our original birth and our life. And when you become joined to the Lord, you become one Spirit or one life with Him. Why? Because when you are joined to the Lord, you receive His life. The problem is our life. The solution is a new life, the life of Jesus Christ.

Notice what the Bible says over and over. 2 Corinthians 4:11, **“For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.”** Whose life? Not my life, but Jesus' life.

Galatians 2:20, **“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”** Who is to live in us? Christ.

Colossians 3:4, **“When Christ, [who is] our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”** Who is our life? Christ. Jesus is the one who is to live His life in us and that is why it is important to understand the correct identity of the Spirit.

Listen, if our problem is behavior, then the trinity makes sense. Why? Because the trinity god the holy spirit, is to give one power to overcome sin, and do good works. The problem is behavior, the solution is good works.

But if the problem is deeper than behavior, if the problem is our own life because we were born that in that fallen condition, then the understanding that the first angel's message brings to us about who the Spirit is, fixes the problem. The Spirit is the life of Christ, and yes you receive a new life, and you have a change of life, because the problem is life. Notice where eternal life is found. 1 John 5:11, **“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.”** Life is not found in good works, life is not found in good doctrine, life is not found in words and thoughts and deeds and good behavior. Life is found in a Person and that is Jesus Christ. You receive Him, you receive eternal life. That's why Jesus said in John 5:24, **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”** When you receive Jesus, you receive His eternal life, you receive His own righteousness, you receive His own sanctified life, and you have already passed from death to life. There is no condemnation to you. There is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, that are after the Spirit and not after the flesh.

1 Corinthians 1:30, **“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:”** Christ is made unto us righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. So, to have righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, who should we receive? Jesus Christ.

In closing, we have seen the god that is being worshipped today that is a trinity, and we have seen that the first angel's message turns our attention to worship the true God, we have seen that God wants to set you free. Scripture says, You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.

This study has presented the truth and what you do with it is up to you. Our final Scripture is 1 Kings 18:21, **“How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD [be] God, follow him: but if Baal, [then] follow him.”**



(From the book "My Catholic Faith" by Bishop Louis LaRavoite Morrow, S.T.D.)

"The New Pictorial Aid"
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