

BIBLE TRUTH

You must have enough gumption to learn the simple language of the Bible, that when the Word says “repent” it means a certain thing. When it says “justified” it means a certain thing. When it says “born again” it means a certain thing. Find out what it means. It would not take very long to do so, and from that time on, until you die, you will know exactly what you mean when using that language.

Some truths are self-demonstrating. That is, they demonstrate themselves. God says man sinned and fell. Where is the evidence? The evidence of this is all around us. You can pick up a newspaper, watch a news report and see the evidence of man's sinfulness. Present day society is plagued with greed and avarice and arrogance. Sin is here. Scripture says so, and this truth demonstrates itself.

The basic tenets of Christianity declare that man's moral revolt alienated him from God and banished him from the presence of God forever. The wedge between God and man is simply sin. That is what the Bible teaches.

Anybody ought to know this and believe it and stand for it. Man is the fallen creature. We are not what we should be and not what we were. Sin is here and hate and insanity and impermanence and criminality and war. They are all here in the world. That is a fact.

This presupposes another fact. That redemption of man is an accomplished act. And this was done by the Godhead. Only the Godhead could visit this fallen man, redeem him, and restore him. It is without human collaboration.

Redemption was the work of the Trinity. The fall was a work wrought by man alone, but redemption was a work wrought by God alone. Christ, the Son, through the Holy Spirit, offered Himself to God, the Father.

Redemption is not a solo act. It involves the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In teaching about the Trinity, we often separate them, but they are absolutely inseparable, particularly in this area of redemption.

The early church fathers recognized this, and said we are not to divide the substance, though we are to recognize the three Persons. The Father the Son and the Holy Ghost are consubstantial. They are of one substance and cannot be separated.

It is impossible to think of the Father over here, doing a work and the Son out there, doing another work and the Holy Spirit across there doing yet another work. The Spirit and the Son and the Father always worked together in whatever is being done.

The Bible teaches that the Father created the heaven and the earth, then turns around and teaches that the Son created the heaven and the earth, and then says that the Spirit created the heaven and the earth. And it is not contradictory, because the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit worked together in creation. And they work together in redemption too.

You will notice how the Trinity worked together when Christ was incarnated at the Annunciation. The angel came and said that “the Holy Ghost will come upon You and the power of the highest shall overshadow you. Therefore, also that the Holy Thing which shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God”. There were three Persons in the incarnation and at the baptism.

Many of the cults today call into question the doctrine of the Trinity. To do so a person must disregard certain parts of the Scripture. For example, the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. The Father spoke out of heaven, the Son stood on the bank of the river and the Spirit came as a dove from the Father to alight upon the Son. And the Father said: “You are my beloved Son and put the Spirit upon Him”. You have three Persons at the baptism of Jesus.

Look at the Scriptures that detail the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Prominent in these activities are all the Persons of the Trinity. Jesus said: “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up”. There was a declaration that the Son would raise Himself up. Then He said: “This is the Father's will which has sent me, and of all which He has given me I should lose nothing but raise it up on the last day”.

It is always taught that the Father raised the Son. Romans 1:4 teaches us that the Holy Spirit raised the Son. We have at the resurrection all three Persons of the Trinity, working in perfect harmony to do the work of God.

Good health is not contagious. Sickness is contagious. If you just wait around to catch good health, you will not catch it. You might catch a cold. It is not good health that is contagious. It is disease. And so it is in the world.

If you're going to know the truth, you're going to have to pull the weeds out so that the truth can grow. Let's look at some of the weeds that have grown up in the spiritual garden. After clearing the weeds away, we will see where the truth grows.

Some say that Christ the Son differs from God the Father. The misconception is that Christ is for us, and God is against us. Never was there any truth in that at all. Christ, being God, is for us. And the Father, being God, is for us. And the Holy Ghost, being God is for us. The Trinity is for us.

It was because the Father was for us that the Son came to die for us. The reason that God is for us is why the Son is at the right hand of God now pleading for us. The Holy Spirit is in our hearts. He is our advocate within. Christ is our advocate above. And all agree. There is no disagreement between the Father and the Son over man. Some say Christ is loving and kind whereas God is stern and just. The Scripture just does not endorse any such belief.

Back in the days of Noah, Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. As we read in the Psalms, the Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great mercy. Grace is an Old Testament quality and judgment is a New Testament quality. Read the 23rd chapter of Matthew. Read the Book of Revelation, Jude, and Second Peter and see what they tell about the terrible judgments of God coming upon the world. New Testament judgments.

God is a God of judgment and a God of grace. Both judgment and grace are in the New Testament. Both judgment and grace are in the Old Testament. God has always been the same, without change. Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Father so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. And it was the love of the Father that sent the Son to die for mankind. The Father and Son were in perfect, harmonious agreement that the Son should die for the sins of the world.

The truth is that all three Persons of the Godhead had a part in redemption. The Father received the offering at the hand of the Holy Ghost. And what offering was it? It was the Son, who was offered as a Lamb without spot and without blemish.

All three Persons of the Godhead had a part in redemption, though the Son paid the redemptive price to the Father through the Spirit. "Oh, the depths

the heights and the light of darkness and the cataracts of love that flowed down from the heart of the God through his Son to mankind by the Spirit”.

Redemption is an objective thing outside of you. Redemption is something that took place on a cross. But salvation is something that takes place inside of you. And so when I have appropriated redemption, I have made it subjective. I have taken that which is external to me, redemption, and made it internal within me. That is salvation, redemption appropriated.

And all three persons of the Godhead call the lost to salvation. The Son said: “Come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden”. He also said: “No man can come unto me except the Father which has sent me draw him”. In Revelations it says: “The Spirit and the Bride say come”. The redemption wrought for us by the three Persons of the Trinity becomes salvation when we heed the call of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and we come.

When Jesus sat down with sinners to eat bread, He knew why He was there. Others saw him with sinners and said how was it that he eats with sinners? He was there for the same reason that the Salvation Army girl goes into a saloon. She's not going in there to get a drink. She's going in there to give the water of life. Jesus ate that way with sinners. He sat down with them everywhere, not that he enjoyed their wickedness, but that he wanted to help them.

Jesus told three powerful parables recorded in Luke 15, but there was really just one parable. Once there was a shepherd with a flock of sheep. Ninety-nine of them were safe in the sheepfold, but he looked around and said there is one missing. He left the ninety-nine safe, and looked everywhere until he found the lost sheep.

Once there was a woman with a beautiful piece of jewelry composed of 10 pieces of silver. It broke and the jewelry scattered all over the floor. She searched everywhere to find them. When she had picked them all up, she said: “There is one missing”. She got her candle and went searching everywhere, and finally she found it. “Oh”, she cried out “I found it”. Everybody was glad that she had found the missing piece.

The third parable in the trilogy is about the father and the lost son. One of his sons was a young delinquent and said: “Father give me my share of the inheritance. I don't want to wait until you die. You may not die yet for years,

Give me my share". The father gave him his share and he took it and went away and spent it foolishly. He wound up lying around, dirty, ragged and smelling of the pig pen and said: "What a fool I've been. Back home there are servants that are properly dressed, clean and fed. Here I am lying in a hog pen. I know what I'll do. I'll go back home".

On his way home, he composed his little speech. He said I'll tell my father "I am not worthy to be called your son. I have sinned in your sight. Please make me one of the hired servants". When he returned the father saw him, ran to him, greeted him, gave him new garments, killed the fatted calf, and had a feast in his honor.

These three parables all represent the redemption of the human race. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost were all looking for the lost. The father was waiting for his boy to come home. The son was looking for his sheep. And the woman was looking for the lost a piece of jewelry. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are all busy searching for lost treasures.

As a born-again Christian, you have an answer to all the heretics and all the people who want to moralize you and write silly stuff. "I know what I believe, Sir. I believe that man fell, and God redeemed him and in redeeming him all three Persons of the Trinity were engaged in the holy act of redemption. The Father received the sacrifice. The Son gave it, and the Holy Ghost conveyed it. Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, the divine Trinity is engaged in saving mankind".

I pray that we may be wise enough to know it and turn our eyes to Him. Follow this call today, for the night is coming when no man can work.

The manifest, conscious presence of God is a result of collaborative effort of the Trinity. It is a harmony between the Trinity and the man redeemed by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. God desires to reveal himself to us, more than we desire to experience His presence.