

**God's Staggering Good News About Your Life!**  
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Have you ever wondered, "Who am I?" "Why do I exist?" "Why am I here?" "What am I supposed to be doing?" or, "What will happen to me after I die?" Of course you have!!! Here is a basic, practical, real life, Christian response to those questions (that you already know deeply within your soul by God's grace **(I John 2:20-21!!)** After all, we can only be "lost" if we already **KNOW** we have a home! Like a drunk staggering around in his own hometown, we get confused IN God's Life when we don't see ourselves according to Christ **(Col 2:8-10!)**

The Triune God Who created us is a Union of 3 Distinct or "Different" Persons – The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit. The Father is not the Son, and the Son is not the Father. The Holy Spirit is not the Father or the Son, and the Father and the Son are not the Holy Spirit. The Being of God has distinct personalities but the same motives, intentions and love – the same Essence and Being **(Gen 1:26, Matt. 28:19, Luke 3:21-22)** The thing that is so amazing about Triune God is that the 3 Persons of God give themselves to each other so freely, openly and willfully that God is in total unity! He is so close and intimate in His Being, that when you see one Person of God – you really see the other Persons. This is why He reveals that He is only One God and what we should mean when we say that there is only One God! The distinct Persons of God actually live IN each other!

To think of the three Persons of God as anything less than One is to betray God's Union and Intimacy! In other words, the three Persons of the One God share every thing AND every thought He has. The Father, Son and Spirit have no secrets from each other, and never do anything behind each others backs. This is why God is sometimes called "The Trinity" or "The Triune God." Trinity and Triune both mean "Three in Unity." To know one of the Persons' of God the Trinity, is to know the others, that is how intimate and close He is in His One Being! **(Mark 12:29)** Isn't that beautiful? This Triune God created everything that exists and that is why you and I long for such relationships ourselves! Haven't you ever noticed that even your pets can't stand being alone??? This relational God created them, too! **(Gen 1:1-26, Job 38, 39, 40:1, Heb 11:3)**

Whenever the Bible speaks of "God", it does NOT mean a single, individual "old wise man with a pointy beard and hat" called God. Sometimes we do call God the Father, "God," but we understand that He is equal in relationship with the other two Persons of God – the Son and the Spirit. When we say "God" we are always talking about 3 distinct Persons – The Father, The Son and The Spirit, Who are in unbreakable union! It is kind of like understanding the words "family" and "team" (One unit with multiple, yet equal, members.) This doesn't mean that there are three Gods, because there is only One God, but it does mean 3 distinct Persons in the ONE BEING of God **(I Cor 12:4-6, II Cor 13:14.)** "One" in the

Godhead means "Oneness". This Triune God is so loving and giving in His relationship that God has always been completely fulfilled and has never needed a thing. Triune God has never needed anyone or anything else in order to be completely satisfied, happy and filled with joy (Acts 17:24-25.) There never was, never is, and never will be anything negative, bad or "dark and shady" in Triune God's relationship (I John 1:5.) There always has been, and always will be a Spirit of Love and Sharing in God's relationship that is positive and good (I John 4:16.)

God the Trinity enjoy such a perfect relationship that He decided He was not going to keep this Relationship to Himself. It's too good! As we might say on the "street", God's relationship is "all that plus a bag of chips!" God wanted to share His life freely with, and give it to others as a pure gift. **That is where you and I come in!** Triune God wanted to adopt others into His union so that others could experience His EXACT relationship. This is what the bible means by the term "Adopt" and this is what the New Testament means by the word "Adoption." Triune God is intent on including us in every part of God's life (and have already done it in Jesus - Eph 1:3-5!) Because God the Trinity existed before there was anything called a Creation, He was going to have to make creation in order to adopt it. The first thing He decided was that He was going to make distinct beings who could share His life with Him, but the fact arose: **Creation could not get into Triune God's relationship unless Triune God brought creation into that relationship!** After all, if you are not God, then you can't somehow become God! Something created CANNOT become something uncreated! Somehow God the Trinity would have to become a Creature, and remain a Creature (while also remaining God), if God was going to get other Creatures into His One Relationship and keep them there, permanently. **That is where Jesus, the God/Man, comes in!**

Triune God decided that God the Son would make and always sustain creation (Eph 3:9-11.) Because the Son would make and always sustain creation, it meant that from the very beginning, creation would ALWAYS be connected to God in the Son. There is no such thing as any part of creation, including you, being truly separated from God!! Because we exist in the Son (the one who would become Jesus Christ), there can NEVER be a true separation between God and His creation! (Good Gravy! Most of my life, I thought I really was separated from God. I suffered unnecessarily trying to get "close" to God. Don't let that happen to you! Embrace God's Good News! You are permanently in union and close to God, in God the Son!! (Acts 17:26-28.) You have union! Live in it! You don't have to try and get it!) Triune God decided to become part of creation in the Son (Col 1:19, 2:9.) God decided that The Son would become a man named Jesus. This would mean a few IMPORTANT things, so pay attention:

1. The Son becoming man meant that Triune God, in the Son, would always be 100% God AND always be 100% Man. We call this the Incarnation, or

"God in the Flesh." This is an amazing, mysterious and crucial Truth (Eph 2:13-16.) If Jesus ceases to remain Man, we have no one upholding our New Humanity (remember we all failed at it!)! If Jesus ceases to be God then He is of no help in getting humanity into God's relationship. Jesus IS the Son of God as Man – permanently!! In Colossians 1:19 the word "dwell" means "**to house permanently**"!

2. The Son becoming Man meant that God's creatures and creation would ALWAYS exist because they would be upheld in God the Son's existence. Being God, The Son is eternal and can never die! He is the Eternal God/Man! The Man part of Jesus did die for a short time (3 days and 2 nights), in order to kill and bury our death, but then He raised His Man body (and ours) forever, never to die again!

3. The Son becoming Man meant that whatever happened to Jesus Christ would happen to all Creation, which has life ONLY in Him! He is the Creator AND Sustainer of All ! All things live, move and have their being in the Son (Acts 17:28)

4. The Son becoming Man means that you have nothing to do with trying to get into a relationship with God! To see God as a Man in Jesus is to literally see God and man already reconciled! This is why we say that Jesus Christ, the Person, IS Himself the Self-Revelation of God! He is the Word of God. Triune God has graciously brought all of creation into His relationship in the Son, Jesus. The only way for creation to get into Triune God's relationship was for God to stoop, in Jesus, and place creation into that relationship by a free and willing act of His own. This act of Triune God's freedom to include others, and to favor them whenever and however God wants, is called "grace" (Eph 1:2, 2:4-7, II Peter 3:18.)

5. The Son of God becoming Man for our adoption BEFORE the foundation of the world meant that **God was going to become a man even if we had never sinned!** Triune God created us in order to adopt us! Jesus Christ is NOT Plan "B" or an afterthought of God. He is not just a band-aid patching up our problem of sin. Jesus is God's first and ONLY thought for getting us into His relationship! He is Plan "A" from before the creation of the world. We were saved because God was intent on fulfilling His plan of Adoption! Salvation supported the plan of our Adoption! When the Son became human, He was taking us, creation, into Himself and His relationship with the Father in the Spirit. This is called "Adoption" and this is God's only plan for His creation. Triune God settled this purpose for us, in Jesus, before we were even created. Just think of it as Plan "A" for "Adoption" (Gal 4:4-7, Eph 1:3-6, Rom 8:15-17, 23.)

If you are finding this Good News a little shocking it may be that you have only heard others urge you to "make a decision for God and get saved!" The truth is, IN JESUS, your entire life has been adopted and objectively saved (Titus 3:4-7!) You had a connection with Triune God, in Jesus, as soon as you were born! You

do NOT need to make a decision to get into Christ. Your decision to believe cannot save you, because you are already reconciled in Jesus, BUT your decision to believe this truth allows you to experience your reconciliation and salvation.

Jesus takes all of the responsibility out of your hands of trying to "save yourself." This is why He says "Come unto me all of you that labor and I will give you rest" (Matt 11:28-30, Heb 4:10-11.) This is one of the most serious points to consider in this booklet! Did you know that there is not one passage in the bible instructing us to "GET saved?" Seriously!!! The writers of the bible instruct us to "BE saved!" (Mark 16:16, John 3:17, Acts 2:21, 4:12, Rom 10:10) They also speak in terms of "being saved" and "are saved." (I Cor 1:18, I Cor 15:1-2) To "Get" is to receive something we don't yet have! To "Be" is to BELIEVE and embrace that which is already ours!! God's desire is NOT that all "GET saved" but that they "BE saved", and come to the knowledge of the truth (**come to know that which is already true**, NOT make it come true - I Tim 2:4!)

Have you ever seen someone involved in a sports game that wasn't playing up to their potential, and maybe you or someone else encouraged him/her to "get in the game," or to, "get your head in the game?" The person was REALLY in the game but something was so obviously wrong in their mind and game play that we actually made the accusation that they weren't in the game (even though they really were!!) That is exactly what is going on in scripture (Rom 7:25-8:1-8!) We are encouraged to "BE" who we already are in Jesus! Jesus came to "seek and save that which was lost" and that is exactly what He did (Luke 19:10, John 3:17!) You either BE(lieve) this Truth or you Be(lieve) something else, but you cannot undo what Jesus has done to and with YOU and Creation in Himself! We have all been found and carried home to Triune God in Jesus!! Believe it and BE saved!! Get your head in the game!! Be transformed in the renewing of your mind! (Rom 12:2)

In essence, Triune God said "I Am going to adopt others into our Relationship of Oneness, but first I Am going to have to create them in order to adopt them. I Am then going to bring creation right into the thick of Our relationship, and am going to make sure they are brought here in the Son, who will become human for their sake. If they do not sin, and always believe the best about Me, then they will come to Me with ONLY the experience of pleasure. If they sin, and believe lies about Me, they will STILL be brought to this Relationship, but unfortunately, it will come with the cost of pain. However, that is a sacrifice I Am willing to make because even with pain and devastating consequences, creation is STILL coming to Me in Jesus the God/Man, and NOTHING will prevent that!!! Our response to creation's rejection of Our truth will ALWAYS be "Hell, NO!" and "Heaven, YES!" There is nothing too hard for Me (Gen 18:14!) Because creation is distinct from Me, Creatures might believe lies FOREVER, BUT, they will always be adopted and in union with Me! The Good thing is, because of their permanent

union with Me in Jesus, they will forever be reminded of their adoption in Me!!” (Please read the “Parable of the Sprinting Father” in this light (Luke 15:11-32!!) It teaches us that no matter where we go, to either the “pig pen” of lies or the “backyard” of self-righteousness, God will be “in our face” reminding us that all of His things are ours (Luke 15:31-32!!) God is our Father! We ARE all God’s Children! Period! There’s no escaping that fact whether we are “dead” or alive in it! (Rom 14:7-14)

In Triune God’s permanent connection with us in Jesus (Col 1:19), God will always be urging us to turn and believe the Truth about ourselves in Jesus. In fact, there can be no pain, or “hell”, without being connected to the Triune God! Pain is a violation of the Truth of who we REALLY are in our union with God, in the Son, and that is why pain hurts so badly! The union is real, therefore, so is the pain when that union is contradicted! The only reason we experience the heat of fire on our bodies is because we are “wired” with nerves. The only reason we experience the pain of hell or rejecting God is because we are ALREADY hooked up to God and “wired” in the Son (Col 1:15-17.) In fact this is why we have struggles of any kind. We struggle and become anxious in life because we KNOW that something is out of whack with who and what we really are! But how do we KNOW it? We KNOW it because the Holy Spirit, in His union with us in Jesus, is always sharing this Truth with us (Acts 2:17, Eph 3:4-6!) We ONLY know “bad” because we already KNOW something about “Good” and that is why we are so troubled by the “bad”!! The more we grasp this basic point of life, the more we will see how the Triune God has been in union with all of us, our entire lives, in a very intimate way (Psalm 139!!)

Here is a good human analogy of what we should understand about God. If God the Son was a “cup”, and He created creation to be “water” inside the “cup”, then whatever happens to the “cup” necessarily happens to the “water” in the “cup!” That is a good picture of how our connection with God actually works. Jesus created us in Himself and sustains us in Himself. When the cup (Jesus) became human and lived, that is when the water in the cup (creation) actually became what it really should have been and REALLY lived. When the cup went into the grave, the water inside the cup went into the grave with it. When the cup came out of the grave, the water inside the cup came out of the grave, too! When the cup (Jesus) went back and ascended to the Father and the Spirit, the water inside the cup (creation) ascended to the Father and the Spirit in Him! Whatever happens to the Cup MUST happen to the water inside the cup!! It is unavoidable! That makes sense, doesn’t it? That is what the Apostle Paul understood so well and explained in the scriptures! (II Cor 5:13-21, Eph 1, 2, Col 1, 2)

One thing should be pointed out in this analogy, though. We are NOT so swallowed up in everyone else that we have no distinction. That would be New Age philosophy! We are our own distinct selves connected to the rest of creation

in Jesus! You will always be distinctly you, AND, you will always be in union with God. That is how God is, and that is how we are!! God does not create things in opposition to How He is as Father, Son and Spirit! (Gen 1:31, Matt 19:17, James 1:17)

This is a wonderful and exciting Truth! In fact, it is the greatest truth there is!! It is the Truth of all Truth's! God the Trinity loves us so much that He decided He would become what we are, and remain what we are, so that we can live in His relationship! It can actually be said that God loves us more than God loves Himself!! This must be true because God not only became a human being; God the Son still remains a human being in Jesus, on our behalf! There is a good chance that you have probably never really thought deeply about this but there are many bible scriptures that speak of Jesus STILL being a man – permanently (Luke 22:18, Acts 1:11, Col 1:19, Rev 1:7, 22:1-5!) Isn't this "Crazy" love? Isn't this astonishing? Isn't this inspiring? Isn't this Good News? Yes, it is!!

What's really great is that I do not have to wonder whether this is REALLY Good News or not. I KNOW that it is Good News to us, deep down, because I KNOW we have all been created by Triune God, and "wired up" in Jesus to believe this one and only fundamental Truth!! It may seem that I have gone too far in my enthusiasm in saying that God loves us more than He loves Himself BUT, God did say through the Apostle Paul that we should "esteem others better than ourselves" (Phil 2:2-5.) How is it possible to esteem others better than ourselves unless God shares (Phil 2:1) this kind of love with us? If God shares this kind of love with us, then God the Trinity must have this type of love in His relationship, too! Triune God actually demonstrates this type of love in the life of Jesus!! Do you understand this marvelous Truth?? It will blow your mind and excite you the more you think about and believe it!!

Sometimes this Good News seems so unbelievable because we human beings think and act so poorly toward one another, and toward God, but Triune God assures us that His character never changes (Mal 3:6, Heb 13:8!) Triune God has never changed and Triune God never will! The biggest lie we have ever believed is the lie of believing that we are separated from God and that God's face toward us has changed! Believing that lie has actually done GREAT damage in our lives! We have all believed it for so long, we can hardly believe the Truth. But the truth of the matter is, when we believe lies, we experience lies. When we believe Truth, we experience the Truth (even in the middle of a pack of lies! John 8:32) I can pretty much guarantee that if something in your life is not good and right, it stems from you and others believing lies instead of believing the Good News that we are, and always have been, secure and adopted in God the Son!! That's a fact in Jesus!

I urge you to rethink and believe this Good News! Believing this truth allows us to experience the greatest longing we have in our lives....ASSURANCE!! Deep

down, you want to KNOW that you are unconditionally loved, liked, accepted, celebrated, and wanted, and that is EXACTLY how God the Trinity thinks and feels about YOU now, and always will!!! (Romans 5:6-11, 8:31-39) Deep inside you already know this! (John 1:3-5)

Here is another example from daily life that kind of describes our connection with Christ:

Have you ever seen a remote control car, boat or plane? A person controls the vehicle with a controller and guides it wherever he/she wishes. It appears that the vehicle is driving itself and has no connection to the controller, but the vehicle is NOT driving itself and it DOES have a connection with the controller. In fact, if there were no connection between the controller and the vehicle, there wouldn't be any way for the vehicle to have guidance or power to go. The invisible connection between the remote control and the vehicle is by what are called radio waves. You cannot see these waves but they are there, nonetheless, AND, they ARE connected to the vehicle, giving it guidance. It appears as if the remote and vehicle are "separated", but the truth is that they are absolutely connected by the radio waves. The connection is VERY REAL, even if that connection cannot be seen with the naked eye (John 4:24.)

Jesus, by analogy, is kind of like the remote control. He made us and sustains and guides us all! We can't even breathe without him! (I Cor 8:6) The "radio waves" are similar to the work of the Holy Spirit EXCEPT that the Holy Spirit is a Person with a distinct personality, and He is not a thing or a radio wave (John 16:12-15!) In history, He has been referred to as the "Go Between" Person of God (Rom 8:26-27.) All created things are something like the vehicle, in that they have no power or ability to move apart from Jesus and the Spirit. This analogy falls a little short of a fully accurate picture because Triune God does NOT control our every move. We are distinct and have a real freedom to participate in His Truth with understanding and with freedom to choose and make decisions like Triune God. We are made in God's image (Gen 1:26.) However, just as the vehicle has no power of its own to move and get around, we, too, only "live, move, and have our being" in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Acts 17:28.)

It is one thing for the remote control to guide the car from a distance, but what if the controller could actually get inside the vehicle and start guiding it even more personally? Wouldn't that make the connection with the controller and the vehicle even more intimate and "up close and personal?" That is something of what God the Son did. He decided not only to be connected from a "distance", per se, but also to get "up close and personal" and become what we are! He decided to get into human flesh and make the connection between Himself and creation even stronger than it already was!! Astoundingly, Jesus not only got in the "car", but is still in the "car" and will always be in the "car", sustaining and

guiding all of Creation in His Divine/Human Body (Matt 28:18!) Think of how stupendous this is!! If you had created monkeys, and you wanted the monkeys to be able to relate with you forever, would you consider becoming a monkey in order to make that happen? An even larger question is; would you REMAIN 100% monkey, FOREVER, so that the monkeys could share in who you are forever?? If you said that you would, I would NOT believe you!! I wouldn't either (John 2:23-25!) BUT God the Son did this exact kind of thing for us!!! He became a lowly human being and remains a glorified human being just for our sake! (Phil 2:5-11)

Another good example of our connection with Triune God is our human body. We ARE connected to our toes but we are also "distant" and "distinct" from our toes at the same time! We are NOT our toes, and yet, our toes are fully connected to us! We also can influence our toes immediately, through the connection of nerves, at anytime, but we don't directly control our toes 24 hours a day, do we? Don't our toes sometimes move involuntarily, or "on their own?" Let me share a few more thoughts with you and then I will give you an example from history that describes how we might understand God's Good News in view of the fact that we have sinned by not believing the Truth about God:

It is obvious that there is a problem among us human beings, and in creation. We murder one another, steal, kill, and cheat one another, destroy the animals and environment, and often think the worst of one another. We seem to be mostly "selfish to the core," and we have a most difficult time believing good things, especially God's Good News (Luke 18:8!) We tend to think that if we just stop doing "wrong" things and do only "right" things then everything will be fine and we will all be "closer" to God. If you think more deeply about that concept, you may come to see the flaws in it. First, our connection with God is only possible because of the connection we already have with God the Son Who created us! How can we possibly get any more in union with God than that?! We cannot get closer to God or connected to God because of works of any kind (Gal 3:1-14!) Our only connection with God is in Jesus Himself!!

Second, when we act in ways that are wrong, it usually stems from wrong thinking first, doesn't it? Even if we think something is right, at first, once the results come up wrong, we discover it was wrong thinking or misperceptions that led to the disaster (whether on our part or someone else's.) Third, isn't it also possible to do the "right" things for the wrong reasons, like telling our parents we love them so that they will give us money, even though inside we might really hate them? Is it right to speak encouragement to our parents? Yes! But is it right to encourage them if we don't mean it and we actually have ulterior motives? NO! This is how sin works! Your action could be "right" and your thoughts and motive could still be "wrong!"



Sin is actually something that begins in our minds and not in our actions (Gen 3:1-7, John 16:7-11, Heb 3:16-19.) Sin is an internal perception problem, and wrong actions are the external signs that show we have an internal perception problem. In other words, the only reason we participate in wrong is because we fundamentally follow wrong thinking and see things improperly, especially God!

But why do we misperceive and think wrong in the first place? In short, the bible gives us two basic reasons:

- 1.) **We were confronted by an evil being that tricked us into believing that God was lying to us.** (II Cor 11:14) In Adam and Eve's decision to believe the "Father of Lies", great damage was done to our human souls, and our minds were plunged into chaotic fear, darkness and confusion (Gen 3:1-15, John 8:44, Rom 3:23, 5:12-19.) This confusion made it impossible to see God accurately. Mankind could no longer see God the Trinity as they really were. When we believe Truth, we see God as Triune God really is, Good! When we believe a lie, we see God in a bad way, even though Triune God is still the same Loving Being! What we all end up doing, in our bad believing, is that we start to project our bad thoughts onto God and think that God is now thinking like us!!! Have you ever gotten caught doing something wrong to someone else, and then you expected them to do the same wrong to you, only worse? It may have never even crossed their mind to do the same thing to you, but because your wrong thinking and acting have tainted your mind, you live in paranoia and fear that they will do the same wrong thinking and acting toward you! Many of us can identify with that! Think about how much trouble in our lives is caused by misperception!!
- 2.) **Being free, distinct beings, we are able to believe Truth as well as believe a lie.** (Gen 1:26, 2:15-17.) Triune God knew we would not be free to experience His good life if we were "robots", so He made us free to make decisions in life. We are like God in this way. Ideally, People do not have children so that they can have "robots" or a few more people to help clean the house! People have children so that they can have others to share their lives and families with! God does the same!

With Triune God's help and inspiration we are lead and urged to believe what God says, which is Truth. However, the "Father of Lies" made an inroad into our minds, tricking us into thinking that we could and should be our own gods. We have been thinking this crazy stuff for such a long time now that it actually seems normal to think this way! PLEASE NOTICE what IS being said and what is NOT being said in this booklet. Triune God HAS made you and I free to choose how we would live in life, but Triune God has NOT allowed us to choose IF we will have life! We have no choice about being alive humanly, and we have no choice about being alive in Christ. We only have a choice about how we will live

in our aliveness. YOU and all of Creation died in Christ, and YOU and all of Creation have been made alive in Christ (Luke 20:37-38, I Cor 15:21-22, II Cor 5:14, Eph 2:4-6!) This is very similar to our human birth. We had absolutely nothing to do with our human birth, so why do we think God the Trinity would leave our most important birth, our spiritual birth and adoption, up to us? That really is a silly thought isn't it?! We were born, humanly, by grace (without faith!), and we were born spiritually in the same way (I Peter 1:3!!)

Faith doesn't cause us to be born spiritually (Rom 5:9.) Faith enables us to experience our spiritual birth (I Peter 1:3.) Do you see the difference? We don't belong to our families because we believe. We believe in our families because we already belong to them!! We grow up and become educated about a family that we are already a part of. The fact that we ALREADY belong is what gives us faith (Gal 4:6!) If we have faith in the Truth, we are most certainly living in love and in some sense of Jesus' peace and joy. If we have faith in something other than the Truth, we are most certainly living with much fear, and probably a whole lot of anxiety, worry, and maybe even lots of religion (even if we do not go to church or read the bible!) In fact, even if we don't go to church, we may be guilty and worried because we don't read the bible and pray and do other good works as much as we think we should!! All of the lies have plunged our minds into such confusion that the bible actually says that because of believing them, we are like slaves in bondage (Gal 2:4, 4:1-31, Heb 2:14-15), even though we are REALLY "as free as a bird" in Jesus (Gal 5:1.)

Here is a great example from history I want to share with you. In 1862 Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. Signing this document meant that slavery was illegal in the United States and all slaves in the U.S. were to be set free, immediately. Everything was fine for most of the freed slaves, and many of them celebrated and started enjoying their freedom, even though that freedom in and of itself was a very difficult adjustment. There was one exception to the freed slaves though. In Galveston, Texas, slaves did not get the word about their freedom until two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation. That is when the United States Cavalry finally arrived there to tell them that they were officially set free two and one half years before!!! The celebration of Juneteenth (June 19<sup>th</sup>) in the African-American community commemorates the release of these slaves in Galveston in 1865.

This is similar to what has happened with humanity in the Light of God's Good News. 2000 years ago, the Son of God became flesh for 40+ years (John 8:57) as God had originally planned. During that time, He lived in, and fixed up, our broken, lying humanity (Col 2:10-15.) Because our sin was accomplished in the flesh, Jesus had to put our flesh to death - in the flesh. Literally with blood, sweat and tears! (Luke 2:52, 22:39-44, 23:46, Heb 5:7-8) If He had not gotten inside of our flesh, He really would not have fixed anything. Jesus couldn't walk in our skin without actually walking in our skin (Heb 2:17-18!) By becoming REAL

flesh and blood, Jesus literally fulfilled God's original intention of Adopting Man into Triune God and placing us into His Humanity.

This is not just theology, theory or a good idea. Triune God REALLY did get us into Himself, by getting Himself into us (Col 3:3-4!!) Jesus undid our human darkness and wrong thinking, and defeated the Devil's purposes by believing the Truth about God's goodness, while literally living in our sinful flesh (Rom 5:15-21!) Jesus' mother, Mary, was REALLY a sinful human being (Luke 1:46-47) and Jesus REALLY was born into our sinful humanity through her (Luke 2:1-14), however, he did not sin while living in it!! (Heb 4:15-16) Regarding our freedom in Christ, this is often very difficult to adjust to. Have you ever seen a dog that was tied up all of the time finally be set free? I have seen two reactions. They will literally go "hog wild" and run all around the neighborhood and get into everything (because they were meant to run free and NOT be tied up and it takes them a little while to adjust to their freedom and calm down!) On the other hand, some dogs have been so bound up by a leash for so long, that when you set them free they just sit there as if they are still bound. They can't perceive their freedom. They are "bound" to the same "leash" IN THEIR FREEDOM, even though there is no "leash!!"

In a way Jesus was like Abraham Lincoln. When Jesus set our sinful flesh free from our lies and misperceptions, we were all set free at the same time (remember, Jesus is the "cup" and all of creation is the "water" inside the "cup!" Whatever happens to the Son happens to the Creation that exists ONLY inside of Him. Heb 1:1-3) As a result, there are many who now believe this Truth and live in the freedom of it (Col 1:1-6.) These people are called the Church, Christians, or Believers, and even a few other names (not all good!) Unfortunately, most of us, it seems, are like the slaves in Galveston, Texas. We either haven't heard the word about our freedom in Jesus, yet, or, we don't really embrace it, therefore, we have no other choice but to continue experiencing bondage (even though we are all totally free to believe and embrace the Truth in Jesus! John 8:36) Freedom is the ONLY thing Jesus is sharing with us! If we believe something else, it is coming from another source opposite of God and is evil (Gal 5:6-8), because the Father and the Spirit are in total agreement and unity with the Son!!

Here are some good questions about this true story in American history. When were the slaves in Galveston, Texas freed? Were they freed when Abraham signed the Emancipation Proclamation, or were they free only after they got the word and believed it? The answer is not really "either/or!" In short, the answer is, "Yes!" All the slaves in the U.S. were TRULY, objectively freed when Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, AND, they were freed, in their experience, when they got the word of their freedom and believed it to be the truth!! This is exactly how you should understand "faith" and "salvation" in the bible (Rom 4.) Everyone in the Whole World is already saved in our adoption because of our connection with Jesus (Titus 2:11, Rom 11:28-32), but we can

only experience this Salvation as truth when we embrace it as truth!! If we don't believe we are saved, even though we really are saved, then we can't and won't experience salvation. We are like the dog that is "bound" without a leash! We can only live in the pain, lies and misperceptions that bring on the condition called hell (Eph 4:17-24.)

Our beliefs are VERY important for experiencing the Truth! In a very real sense, there is no such thing as an "unbeliever." Everybody believes something, usually very strongly! We either believe the Truth, that Triune God Adopted us BEFORE the foundation of the world in Jesus (Eph 1:3-5), OR, we believe the lie that our sins are separating us from God (Heb 4:1-3). If we believe the Truth, we actually experience a foretaste of all of our blessings in Jesus (Eph 1:3.) If we believe the lies, then we are probably on a religious treadmill of trying to earn or work our way back into God's favor so that we can "get blessed & stay blessed", or we have given up the facade all together and are trying to have all of the fun we can before we "go to hell!" (Galatians & Hebrews) The Truth is, we are already in hell if we believe lies!! **So, what do YOU believe** – the Truth of our adoption in Jesus, or Lies?! **What do YOU experience** – the assurance, rest and confidence of our connection with God, or the anxiety, fear and worry of the lies that say we are not connected with God? (Romans 7:4-25, Heb 3: 12-15) You have a choice as to what you will believe but Triune God is intent that we make only one choice "**Choose Life that you may live!**" (Gen 2:15-17, Deut 30:19-20)

I would like to address one more issue before concluding this booklet. Depending on where we are from and what we have heard about God's Good News, we may be saying to ourselves, "I did not hear anything about Triune God's wrath against evil, or God's judgment, or even much about the Cross and Jesus dying for our sins! What's up with that?" Actually, I DID address all of those issues but just not in the way you are used to hearing them. I would like to make the biblical teaching on these subjects as simple and plain as I can because it really isn't as difficult as it is sometimes made out to be. I would like to refer to Abraham Lincoln again and repeat a quote of his. I think you will find it helpful in understanding these things, which I didn't address in the usual manner. Abraham Lincoln said "**Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them?**" That quote is the closest thing to the Truth I have found in what Triune God has accomplished in His wrath and judgment, and in His allowing the crucifixion of His Son, Jesus Christ! Let me break it down for you as best I can.

God's one and only plan was to adopt you into His relationship of Oneness and pure love (Eph 1:3-5). The only way for you to get there was for God to become like you and get you there. He decided to do this and accomplish this in Jesus before anything was ever created (Heb 4:3.) In order for you to personally experience this life, and to taste and know it for yourself, He had to make you a

distinct person. Because you are truly distinct, you can choose to believe truth or lies in that distinction. The truth is, ever since Adam and Eve believed and embraced the first lie, you and I have all believed and embraced lies (Rom 3:11, 23.) These lies have blurred our vision of God, and we have not seen God accurately since. God came to visit Adam and Eve in the garden as usual, and they were hiding "among the trees" because they were afraid. Why were they afraid? They had no real reason to be! God hadn't changed. God showed up the same as usual! They were afraid because THEY had changed! (Gen 3:4-13)

Adam and Eve were NOT afraid God was going to punish them. They didn't even know what punishment was at that point, and God never threatened to punish them personally! They had only known peace and blessing and encouragement in Eden. Their lies had caused them to be afraid of God's goodness because they knew inside they had violated Truth in themselves and were ashamed of it. God's goodness is hard to face when we have contradicted the Truth, and we will do anything to hide (Gen 3:10!) We will create rules, regulations and religion, anything to avoid facing God and His goodness in our violation! Our sinful, wrong-believing minds, project anger onto God's face because WE are fearful - NOT because Triune God is to be feared (Gen 3:8-13, 3:20-24!) Triune God is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb 13:8!)

We are filled with the same shame and fear Adam and Eve experienced because of believing the same lies! And what do we do in that fear and shame? We hurt others. We hurt ourselves. We become selfish and self-protective. We become greedy and murder each other in our lust and misperceptions! In short, we live in a truly chaotic mess, and all because we believe lies (Rom 1:18-32, Gal 5:19-21, Eph 4:17-32, Col 1:21-22!) We believe God has changed, when God hasn't changed (Mal 3:6!) We believe God is to be feared when God isn't to be feared (Gen 3:9-13, I John 4:17-18!) We believe God is trying to curse us when in fact God has only blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Jesus (Eph 1:3-10!!!!) Here is a more foundational definition of what the bible means by sin: Sin is misperceiving who God is AND who Humanity is in Jesus! (See Matt 25:31-46!) When we don't see Jesus in everyone, we are sinning!!! This basic sin is what leads to our transgressions and wrong actions! (Matt 6:22-23, Titus 1:14-16)

So, what was Triune God going to do in order to correct our vision so that we could live in our adoption with assurance rather than living in our adoption with fear and hiding? **That is where God's wrath and judgment and the crucifixion of Jesus come in!!** God's wrath has never been and never will be against us – against you!! God doesn't kill something that is "lost," God finds it and brings it home to safety! (Matt 18:14, Luke 15, 19:10) Does a physician heal the patient by killing the patient, or does a physician heal the patient by killing off the disease?! (Luke 5:31, John 3:17) With heart transplants, a doctor will put the patient's body to "death" so they can exchange the bad heart for a better one, but the "death" is designed to kill off the REAL death (a bad heart)

and give the person a new heart and life!! (Eze 11:19, 18:31, 36:26, II Cor 5:17, Col 3:3-4) If we, being evil, do good things like this, then why do we think of God as being worse than we are regarding God's humanity (which cannot see straight and have been blindsided by an enemy? (Matt 13:27-28a) We are God's adopted children in Jesus, BUT, because of His love for us, His wrath is always against those things that are against us! (I Cor 3:11-15!) We must take this thought seriously about God's wrath!! To say that God is wrathful against us is to say that God has that kind of wrath in God's own relationship as Father, Son and Spirit!! Triune God does NOT have a split personality!! Triune God is the same toward us, as God is within God's own relationship!! Do you REALLY think that the Triune God has that kind of wrath in God's own relationship?? Phooey!!! (James 1:20) God tells us to "put off wrath" (Eph 4:31, Col 3:8.) We have got to rethink this entire subject of God's wrath (however that is for another booklet!!)

Our sin and misperceptions were hurting us and we were on the verge of non-being because of believing lies! Triune God had already foreseen that possibility and said in essence, "That will never happen! You will not be destroyed! You will be as I created you to be! If you go into sinful thinking, the Son is already in the plan to correct that in His flesh! The Son is in the plan to become human whether you sin or not! From within your sinful humanity, Jesus will set things right again! He will see Me as I REALLY Am (in your sinful flesh!) He will think right where you have thought wrong! He will be faithful as a person where you have been unfaithful persons! Jesus will be Our fierce wrath against sin and misperception! In Him We WILL utterly destroy sin and its ugly effects on Our creation! The Son is Our Triune judgment on creation before the world comes into being! Our judgment on creation and humanity, in the Son, is that any chaotic state will be undone and made right again (John 16:8-11!) Jesus WILL be crucified and buried, and your sinful humanity will be put to death forever! Jesus will raise it up as a New Creation in His Resurrected Life!" (Rom 5, Eph 4:8, Gal 2:19-20!)

Don't you see the beauty of this plan and the awesome forethought of God the Trinity?? We are only "lost" in the legend and deceptions of our own minds and in the lies of the evil one (II Cor 4:3-4???) We have always been connected to God in the Son and we have been renewed in Jesus the God/Man (Col 3:4.) God's anger was against the sin (wrong belief and misperception) that was in us, and Triune God, appropriately, destroyed those lies and illusions in Jesus. Jesus was the Wrath of God (Eph 2:13-18!) God has judged creation as adopted into God's relationship forever in Jesus. We are God's enemy only in our own minds (Isaiah 55:6-11!) Yet, while we were still God's enemies, God killed our old life of sin and reconciled us to Himself in Jesus' life, crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection and ascension (Luke 6:27, 35, Romans 5:10, Col 1:21-22) Be encouraged my friend, your sins have never been as "big and bad" as you thought they were, and they still aren't (neither are everyone else's! Ouch!) Don't be overly discouraged!! Your sin, my sin, is insignificant in comparison to

the forgiveness and acceptance that is in Christ! (John 1:29, 3:16-17, Rom 8:1-4, Col 2:14-22.) God has destroyed His enemies by making all of Us His friends in Jesus!! All of creation is reconciled to God in Jesus! Don't minimize that truth. Take it seriously!! God's wrath is God's violent opposition to our destruction (John 12:32!) We will be God's people and God will be our God (Heb 8:8-13!!) We usually don't think about God's wrath and judgment in this way, do we?

So, what's the problem? If Christ has undone all of the bad and fixed everything up again, why do we STILL think bad and do badly along with the rest of humanity? How come all is not at peace yet, if God Himself fixed it up in Jesus? Well, there are three good reasons why not: **First**, we have not been educated enough in our inner knowledge of the truth to embrace it fully as truth! (Rom 10:1-4, 14-17, John 16:13-14, I Cor 8:4-7.) **Second**, we have been educated in Truth but barriers still prevent us from trusting it fully, therefore we still perpetuate the negative consequences of living in a lies (John 1:1-13, 3:16-21, Rom 7:14-25.) **Third**, we are educated, we DO believe it, and, if we were honest, might even say that we hate the Truth, hate God, and don't want any part of embracing it!! It is possible for us, in our distinction, to hate God for being good! Religious people are especially hateful of God's Good News because they like to think that they are better than others and that they have "earned" or "worked" their way into a connection with God in some way, even though God clearly says they haven't and can't! (John 6:28-29, Rom 11:6, Eph 2:8-9, Gal 3:1-14) Some hate the thought of God accepting everyone out of God's own goodness and grace, and they choose to live in their union with Christ in bitterness, anger, and self-righteousness – violating their true identity in Christ!! (Luke 15:25-30, Matt 25:44-46)

No need to worry though! (Matt 6:25-33) To begin experiencing things as they REALLY are in your own, distinct life, just follow through on, and embrace Jesus' important command to **REPENT** (Matt 4:17, Phil 3:7-11.) The Holy Spirit, Who was sent to clarify and teach you the Truth as the Spirit of Christ, will help you (Mark 9:24, John 14:15-17, 16:7-15, I Peter 1:10-12.)

When Jesus went into a town to preach, He would say, "**Repent and believe the Good News!**" (Mark 1:14-15) This is God's command to us as Jesus and the Holy Spirit live in us to Will and Do of God's good pleasure! (Rom 2:4, Phil 2:13) If we are to understand this properly, what Jesus is REALLY saying to all of us is, "**Radically 'Re-think', or 'think again', and believe the Good News! Change your minds!**" You are all included in my relationship with the Father in the Spirit (John 14:24.) You've been in Our firm grasp from the time We thought of creating you! You have, unfortunately, believed the Father of Lies and experience the terrible consequences of those lies, but I have believed the Father of Truth on your behalf AND in your sinful flesh. I have straightened out your crazy thinking and lies in my human mind and body by the Spirit (Luke

23:46.) You are REALLY FREE in Me, and You are going to live forever with the same kind of human body that I now have!!

Are you going to believe this Truth and live forever in my new life with pleasure (heaven? [I Cor 15:22](#)), or are you going to continue believing the lies and live forever in my new life in your pain (hell? [Matt 8:11-12](#), [Rev 27:8](#).) The Father never left your adoption up to you! He gave it to Me, Jesus, to perform and fulfill, and I have performed and fulfilled it! ([Eph 1:3-5](#), [3:11](#)) Live in the Truth and experience the Joy of your new life in me! Live in the Love and riches that the Father and I share in the Communion of the Spirit! You will love it! I now live in your Humanity and share my Perfect Humanity with you ([John 14:24](#), [Joel 2:28-29](#), [Acts 2:17](#)), and the Spirit is your Guarantee that you will love it, too!!!" ([II Cor 5:1-5](#))

In conclusion, no one can say it better than Jesus! I urge you to "Believe Jesus!" ([Matt 21:28-32](#)) When you struggle doing that, at least Believe that Jesus believes for you, because He does ([Romans 6:5-11](#), [Gal 2:20!](#)) By God's Grace, you can never get out of your union with Triune God, even if you damn yourself to opposing God forever [John 10:27-29!](#) The Gospel **really is** the Good News of God's grace in Jesus ([Acts 20:24!](#)) When we think things out carefully, we are saying some HUGE THINGS whenever we say "Jesus Christ!" We aren't just muttering magical words that can get us into heaven and out of hell. Jesus is NOT magic - He is God as Man! When we believe in Jesus we aren't trying to get Him to save us from an angry Father who would just as well destroy us as look at us! We are celebrating the Truth of our share in God's life in Jesus' humanity! The Father, Son and Spirit are One and think and feel the same about all of us...Passionately ([Heb 2:5-18](#), [Rom 8:28-39!!](#))

**Triune God's Purpose for us, from before the foundation of the world, was that we be Adopted and Included in God's life in Jesus!** Triune God fulfilled that purpose **in Jesus 2000 years ago**, and, through the Holy Spirit, the Father is educating us to believe and embrace this truth so that we can live in His shared life, **FREELY, RIGHT NOW** ([Matt 6:10](#)) as janitors, teachers, doctors, farmers, engineers, homemakers, scientists, musicians, poets, pastors, cashiers, athletes, pet owners, spouses, children, family & extended family members, etc.

**By the way, Triune God not only Loves US more than He Loves Himself, BUT He also Likes US Very, Very MUCH!!!** I believe this truth, in and by His grace, and sleep VERY WELL most nights (and even a lot of days!!! ☺) **Won't you join me and relax? You know you want to!** ☺