

Q.17 Are There Three Persons In One God?

To some Christian sects, it is unthinkable and indeed blasphemous to say that God subsists as three distinct divine Persons. The word “trinity” is nowhere in the Bible, but the truth is that there are three distinct Persons in one God.

Let all be clear about the correct Catholic teaching about the trinity of God. It is NOT three distinct divine Persons in three Gods! No!! Absolutely not!!! But three distinct divine Persons, one in will, understanding, essence, power, co-substantial and co-eternal in all perfections – **one, true, living God**; Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

Proof that God the Father is God

The Old Testament is replete with instances that portray the Father as God. It is He that those who deny the trinity of God refer to as the one, true, living God. All agree then that He is God. Good.

Proof that Jesus is God

See Q.15.

Proof that the Holy Spirit is God

See Q.16.

Proof that There are Three Divine Persons in One God

We now cite the clearest proofs that there are three distinct Persons in One God. Do note the **plural nouns** in the following passages of the Bible (they are boldfaced):

*“Then God said, ‘Let **us** make man in **our** image.’”
(Gen 1:26)*

*“Then the Lord God said, ‘Behold the man has become like **one of us**, knowing good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand and also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever.’” (Gen 3:22)*

In the confusion of the tongues of men in the botched attempt to build the tower of Babel, again we see the three divine Persons expressing Themselves as One God using **plural nouns**:

*“And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, ‘Behold, they are **one people**, and they have all **one language**; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; and nothing they propose to do will now be impossible for them. **Come, let us go down**, and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.’” (Gen 11:5-7)*

Now let us reflect on the above passage and the first two still above. Consider these: “Come (one Person is calling out to Others), **let us** go down,” “the Lord God (one Individual) said, “the man has become like **one of us**” (“us” implying more than one person). Why “like us” instead of like me? Three facts stand out from the above three passages:

1. More than one individual Being are at the scenes where the three statements were made.
2. Each individual Being represents a distinctive Entity.
3. The Beings involved are in constant conversation with One Another about the events happening around Them. God is not a lunatic that converses with Himself.

It is as if the three divine Persons divided the work of the redemption of humankind among themselves. In the Old Testament, we see God the Father preparing His people and announcing through His prophets the coming of the Redeemer – God the Son. In the New Testament, God the Son came and performed the supreme sacrifice of the cross for the salvation of humankind. And just before He ascended into heaven, He announced the coming of God the Holy Spirit, Who would continue the work of Redemption by revealing divine truths for the benefit of humankind and the Church of God:

*“When the **Counsellor (Advocate)** comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, **he will bear me witness.**”
(John 15:26)*

*“And I will pray the Father, and he will give you **another Counsellor, (Advocate)** to be with you for ever.” (John 14:16)*

God the Holy Spirit did indeed come on Pentecost Day. (Acts 2:1-4)

Jesus revealed the triune nature of God when He mandated His disciples to baptize:

“In the name of (God) the Father and of (God) the Son and of (God) the Holy Spirit.” (Matt 28:19)

There are indeed three Persons in one God – Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. All Three subsist as one God.

Adored, blessed and praised be God forever!!