

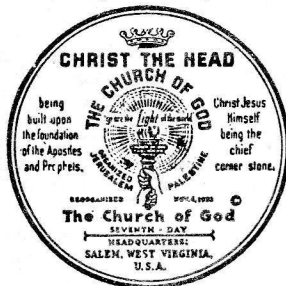
Another item of interest concerning the heathen aspect of the Trinity are the three letters I H S. Greek and Roman Catholics say these three letters stand for "Iesus Hominum Saviour", that is "Jesus, Saviour of Men." The Protestants say I H S stands for "In Hoc Signo" which were the words used by Emperor Constantine when he went forth to conquer "In the Sign" of the Cross. Actually the letters I H S were in existence many centuries before there were Catholics or Protestants. These three letters stand for the Egyptian trinity of "Isis, Horus, Seb" or in other words, "The Mother, the Child, and the Father of the gods."

THE CHURCH OF GOD [7th Day]

P. O. Box 328

SALEM, WEST VIRGINIA 26426

*Address all communications to: P. O. Box 328
Salem, W. Va. 26426*



OFFICIAL SEAL

The Doctrine

of

The Trinity

THE DOCTRINE of THE TRINITY

IS IT ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE?

The subject of the true sonship of God, and the relation existing between Jesus and God, has long been a question of contention. A lack of definite knowledge of the true Word of God is always responsible for a wrong understanding of this most vital subject.

The ancient Babylonians were the first people to formulate a trinity.

The trinity actually began with Semiramis the mother of god. She, her husband the sun and their child, Tammuz, made up the triune belief. (Ezek. 8:14).

THE BABYLONIAN TRINITY



This had been the original way in which Pagan idolatry had represented the triune god and through this kind of representation had survived up to the time

of Sennacherib, there is evidence that, at a very early period, an important change had taken place in the Babylonian ideas in regard to the trinity. The later part of Babylon's belief was in three persons to be the father, the spirit of the father incarnate in the human mother, and a son the fruit of the incarnation. This meant that the mother became like god the father and went to live with him after her son was born. This idea then became the teaching of the trinity in the early Roman Catholic Church and became one of the main points of doctrine to be discussed at the in-famous Council of Nicea held in 325 A.D.

Brahma is the great Hindu God of the Hindustan triad, made up of Brahma, Vishnu and Seva. In Japan they worshipped the great Buddha with 3 heads "San Pao Fuh". In Egypt the three were Ishtar, Isis and Osiris. In pagan Rome it was Zeus, Fortuna, and Jupiter-puer (Jupiter their son). After the Council of Nicea, the trinity of Papal Rome became, God the Father, God the Son, and the Mother (Mary). Since the later part of the Protestant Reformation Papal Rome has dropped Mary from the trinity and has accepted the Protestant form of the trinity as, three persons being the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Mind you, there is no trinity mentioned in the Bible. The Godhead is made up of only the Father and His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the godhead is like unto gold or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's devices" (Acts 17:29) "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead,...(Rom. 1:20)

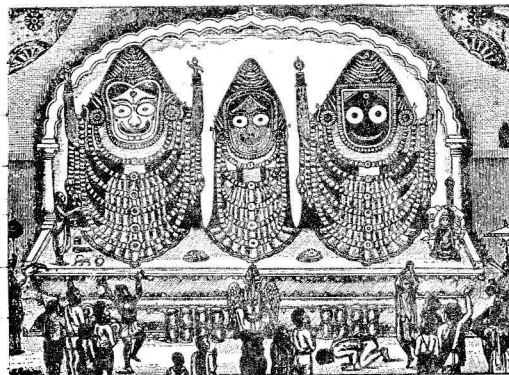
The Roman Catholic Church has picked up many of the Babylonian mysteries. The doctrine of the trinity is such a teaching. These Babylonian teachings flowed into many of the Pagan religions and are also in so-called Christian religions to this very day.

The idea of the trinity is first identified by Mr. Layard in his book "Babylon and Nineveh." He writes: "The ancient Babylonians, just as the modern Romans, recognized a triune godhead." So utterly idolatrous was the Babylonian recognition of the trinity the Father in heaven said to His people "They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the garden behind ONE TREE in the midst, eating

swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together," (Is. 66:17). Notice the word "tree" it is supplied. If you study further in the manuscripts, available to us today, the word tree actually means "trinity." The pagans hid themselves behind the triune god. The Babylonian word for "tree" as the best orientalists tell us was "Achad" This word also when used for religious purposes asserted the trinity of the godhead in the strongest possible manner. (Macrobi, Saturnalia; Ch. 23, page 73.)

The Papacy has in some of its churches, as for instance, in the monastery of the Trinitarians of Madrid, an image of the triune god, with three heads on one body. The Babylonians had the same, Mr. Layard, in his work, has given a specimen of the triune god as was worshipped in Assyria.

THE HINDU TRINITY



The prophet Daniel, in chapter seven, told us of coming events, illustrating them by a beast with ten horns. and there was another little horn that came up among the ten, plucking up three of the former horns by the roots. The angel, in giving the interpretation, said, "The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon the earth,...And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them;...and he shall subdue three kings."—Dan. 7:23,24.

History responds to this prophetic call, and everyone familiar with the past knows the Roman Kingdom to be the one represented by this ten horned beast. The ten kingdoms of Rome existed down to the time of the rise of the papal power, and the Roman

Catholic Church was responsible for the plucking up of these three horns, or kings. The last one to be overcome by Rome, in connection with the church, was the Ostrogoth kingdom, in the year 538 A.D. These kingdoms are spoken of in history as the Arian kingdoms, deriving their name "Arian" from Doctor Arius, the noted theologian and profound teacher of his day, and the point of contention by this good man of God, and the Roman Catholic Church, was the doctrine of the sonship of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, or what is commonly called the Trinity. The Catholics believed then, and do now, that Mary was the Mother of God, and Jesus was God upon earth. They go to one extreme on this question, while some others go just as much to the other extreme, and thus both are wrong. The human mind is subject to extremes and so often people go to the opposite tangent because they see the folly and error of some certain doctrine held by the opposing party. This has been true among Protestants, and especially so on the doctrine of the Trinity. While the Catholic Church recognizes the formula of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, in the ceremony of what they call baptism, yet their teaching is quite to the contrary.

Doctor Arius On the Trinity

Doctor Arius believed just as the Scriptures teach on the question of the Trinity, which should be the belief of every Christian and well informed person. We cannot deny the infallible Word of God, and by the mouth of two or three witnesses, the Lord says, every word must be confirmed.

Council of Nicea

Then came the famous discussion on the "Trinity" to the floor of the assembly. Here was coined for the first time the formula, Father, Son and Holy Ghost—these three are one." And once more the light gleamed in the old Arius' somber eyes, and that twitching, which his enemies likened to a serpent, and he asked "What Scripture, then? Wilt thou read it? and tell us the place it may be found?"

Then said Athanasius: "I read from the first letter of John as follows: 'For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood; and these three agree in one.' (I

John 5:6-8) How then sayest thou that the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost are not one, in the very teeth of the Scriptures, Oh thou subtle heretic?"

The reading of this Scripture produced a profound sensation in the council. Many turned to their copy of John's letter to read the words for themselves, the greater number using the new and beautiful manuscripts which the munificent liberality of the emperor had caused to be transcribed and distributed among the delegates some time before, but many of the ministers had their own copies written in their own tongues.

Arius had an objection to the newly presented epistle of John. He said, "the objection is, that the words, 'in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one.' These words were never written by the Apostle John. They have been added to the text within the last ten years!...These words are forgeries—every one of them! What John wrote was this: 'FOR THERE ARE THREE THAT BEAR RECORD, THE SPIRIT, THE WATER, AND THE BLOOD; AND THESE AGREE IN ONE!'"

The effect was electrical. Many trembled for the bold and eloquent man whose words and manner seemed to charge upon the emperor himself the guilt of sacrilege in forging the sacred writings. Many believed that Arius was right but were afraid to stand up for the right. Arius proved that he was correct by producing a manuscript which had been copied from the original letter of John.

Only two ministers, besides Arius, refused to sign the new creed and rules. Others, because of fear, signed, but had their tongues in their cheeks. Arius was banished by Constatine. But not all was settled, by any means. Arius had many supporters and there were great numbers of saints that refused to accept anything but the Holy Scriptures. They knew that the ideas purported at the Council of Nicea were totally contrary to the Bible and what the Bible set forth. They held their ground and some of the ministers after returning home changed their minds and were sorry that they had signed the Nicean Creed. These people continued "earnestly to contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints." (Jude 3)

Thence acceptance of the Scriptural testimony concerning Jesus Christ was termed as Arianism. It prevailed for a long time against the opposition of

worldly bishops and the emperor-created Roman Catholic Church. Catholicism was born at the first ecumenical council. Each council held thereafter was held in creating another false doctrine and creed favoring tradition to truth, and making up ideologies contrary to the Word of God.

THE TRINITY DEPICTED AT THE COUNCIL OF NICEA 325 AD



The Catholic Church On The Trinity

The Roman Catholic Church bitterly opposed the teaching of Dr. Arius, and as a result of this contention, the three horns, or kingdoms, known as the Arian kingdoms, were rooted up. The Catholic Church taught that the virgin Mary was the mother of God, that Jesus was actually God upon earth, and while here was absent from heaven. When He ascended back to heaven, Peter took His place on earth, and thus the succession of popes from St. Peter down, as they claim, each has stood in the place of God on earth. Hence they have, all along in every period, considered the pope God.

The three Arian Kingdoms stood behind Doctor Arius and were defenders of the true faith on the Trinity, viz., that Jesus is just what the Scriptures declare Him to be, and no more, viz, "The Son of God," conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, the Lamb of God, sacrificed on Calvary for the sins of the whole world.

It is a self-evident fact that Dr. Arius and the Arian kingdoms were on the right of this contention, and that they taught the truth on the subject under consideration. The opposing power, whom Daniel said would think to change times and laws and wear out the saints of the Most High, began their persecution with Dr. Arius, who was sentenced to death because he dared to oppose them on the question of the Trinity.

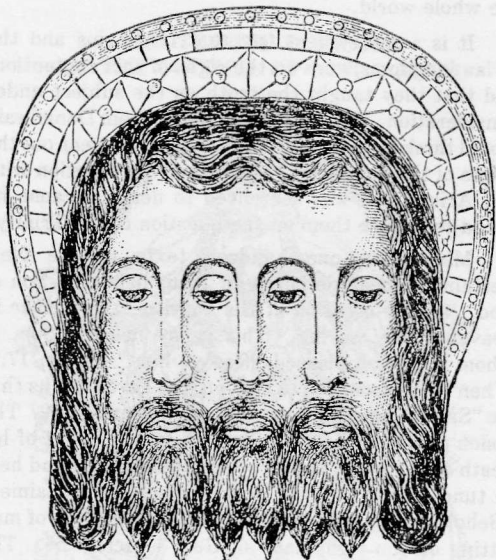
More than one hundred texts in the New Testament speak definitely of Jesus being the Son of God. On the occasion of His baptism, the Father in heaven spoke, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."—Matt. 17:5. When Jesus ascended to heaven, the Lord tells us that He "Sat on the right hand of God."—Mark 16:19. The vision given our beloved Stephen, at the event of his death as a martyr, cannot be doubted by the mind held in tune by the blessed Holy Spirit. He exclaimed: "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man sitting on the right hand of God."—Acts 7:56. The foregoing scriptures were some of the main ones used by Dr. Arius against the papacy in setting forth his contention on the deity of Jesus. This dear brother believed in the power and influence of the Holy Spirit, and in the true Sabbath. He was indeed led by Heaven, and obtained boldness to stand against the powers that were arrayed against God's truth. Yet, Brother Arius did not limit the power of Jesus, as some do, but believed the words of the Son, that "All power is given me in heaven and in earth."—Matt. 28:18.

Many texts set forth the beautiful harmony existing between the Father and Son, making them one. In John 17, we read: "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are." Several times in this chapter similar expression is used.

The Oneness Of God And Jesus

In the beginning, when God set forth the marriage institution and declared the relationship that

should exist between the two, the husband and the wife, He said, "And they shall be one flesh." The same conditions of oneness existing between the Father and Son are declared to exist between man and wife. They are to be one in purpose, one in object, and harmony and unity should exist between them.



THE TRINITY OF SALERNO

Byzantine style of Lower Italy, probably of the XIII. century. Sketched by the artist of the *Gartenlaube* in an inn at Salerno from the original painting which has been sold in the mean time to an Englishman.

Jesus Called God

Paul speaks of Jesus thus: "God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory" (I Tim. 3:16). Jesus being the Son of God, is spoken of as God, and the name of God applies to the Son as the name Jones is rightly given to the son of any man by the name of Jones, yet they are two separate individuals, just as Stephen beheld the Father, and the Son on His right hand, in the vision of heaven.

The name Jesus means Emmanuel, or God with

us. In Luke 1:31, the angel said to Mary, "Thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus." In Matthew 1:23 the angel is recorded as saying They shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us " This is not a contradiction, but the terms mean the same, hence the word Jesus means "God with us."

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. That which Arius confessed is still confessed by the Church of God and the servants of God. We still believe that the Word of God is the final authority, as it has been by all who belong to this wonderful Church purchased by Jesus Christ and His precious blood. Amen.

THE BUDDIST TRINITY



This figure represents the triune godhead made up of Semiramis, her Husband, and her son Tammuz. This idea even crept into the Hebrew text of the Old Testament where the name of God is in a plurality of persons in the godhead.