

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS PERSONALITY



**The Holy Scriptures are
the infallible revelation of His will.
They are the standard of character,
the test of experience,
the authoritative revealer of doctrines,
the trustworthy record of God's acts in
history.—SDA Fundamental Beliefs,**

**The Bible is the only rule
of faith and doctrine.**

**And there is nothing more calculated
to energize the mind,
and strengthen the intellect,
than the study of the word of God.**

Christian Education 119

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

He speaks to them in His Word.

**The Bible is the key that
unlocks the mysteries.. . .**

The Bible is its own expositor.

EGW 1888 materials 1784

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

1 Timothy 3:16 *And without controversy
great is the mystery of godliness:*

*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.*

*"Can you fathom the mysteries of God?
Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They
are higher than the heavens—
what can you do?
They are deeper
than the depths of the grave—
what can you know?
Job 11:7-8*

**The Word of God,
like the character of its divine Author,
presents mysteries that can never be
fully comprehended by finite beings.**

Counsels to the Church 88

Deuteronomy 29:29

*The secret things belong unto
the LORD our God:
but those things which are revealed
belong unto us
and to our children for ever,
that we may do all the words of this law.*

John 1:3 says
All things were made by him;
and without him
was not any thing made
that was made.

John 14:16-17 I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another Comforter,
that **he** may abide with you for ever;
¹⁷ *Even* the Spirit of truth;
whom the world cannot receive,
because it seeth **him** not,
neither knoweth **him**:
but ye know **him**;
for **he** dwelleth with you, and shall be in
you.

John 16:13-14 Howbeit when he,
the Spirit of truth, is come,
he will guide you into all truth:
for he shall not *speak* of himself; but
whatsoever he shall *hear*, *that* shall he
speak: and he will shew you things to come.
¹⁴ He shall *glorify* me: for he shall *receive*
of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you

"I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done."ISA. 46:10

It is impossible for the finite minds of men to fully comprehend the character, or the works, of the Infinite One. To the keenest intellect, to the most powerful and highly educated mind, that holy Being must ever remain clothed in mystery.

5T 698, 699

THE SAME CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Frozen H₂O = ice



Liquid H₂O =



Gas H₂O = vapor

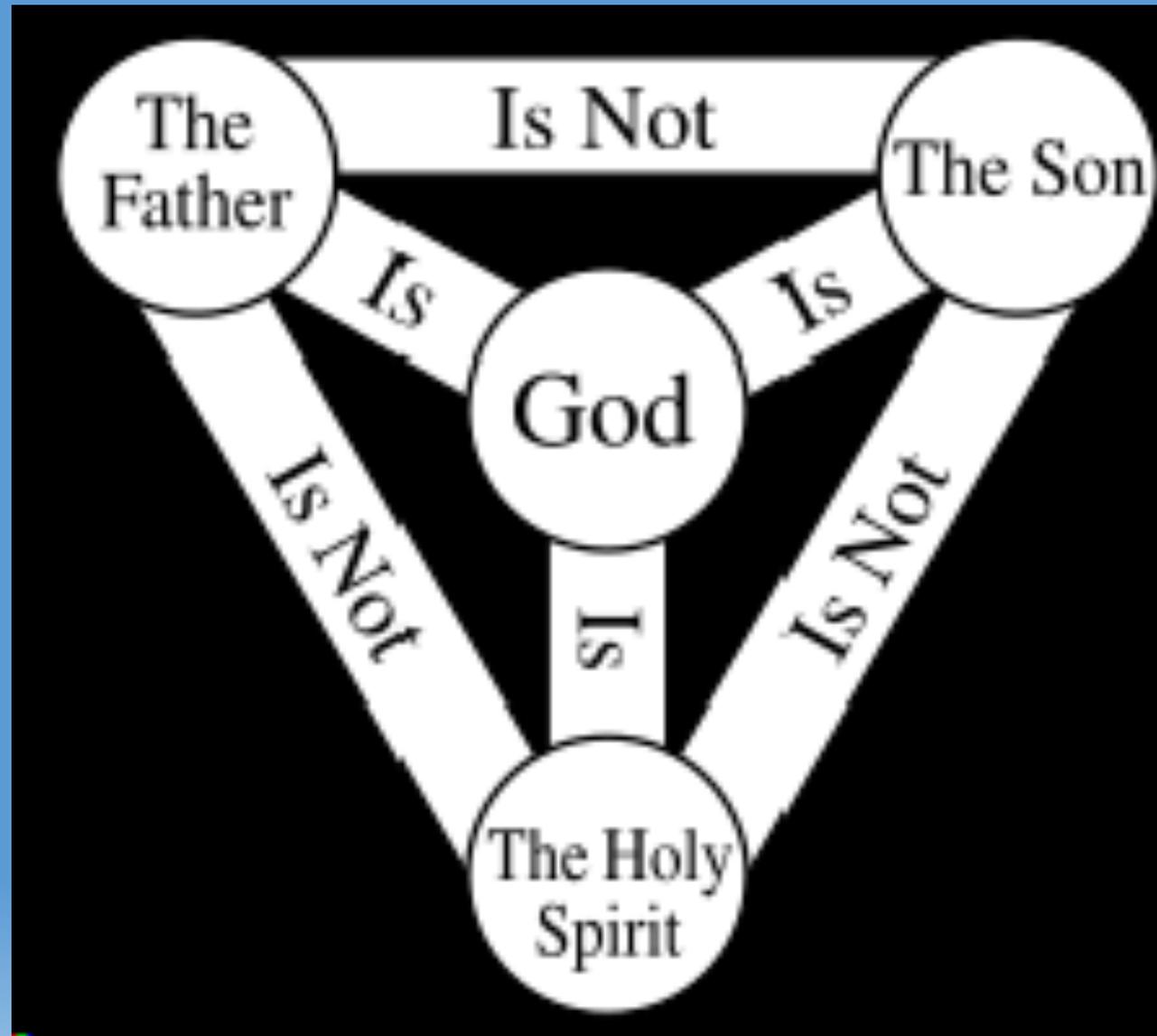


- **Acts 17:29** Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the **Godhead** is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.
- **Romans 1:20** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and **Godhead**
- **Colossians 2:9** For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the **Godhead** bodily.

The famous passage known as the Shema (Hebrew: “hear”) starts by stating, “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength” **Deuteronomy 6:4-5.**

The Bible is quite clear: God is one!



The Bible is also clear that there are three Persons who are each called God. This plurality of God is presented in **2 Corinthians 13:14**: *“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ [the Son], and the love of God [the Father], and the communion of the Holy Spirit [the Holy Spirit] be with you all. Amen”*.

With our finite minds it is impossible to fully comprehend the infinite God.

It is also difficult for us to apprehend the concept that

God is one Being in three Persons.

- **Deuteronomy 33:27** explains to us that **God the Father** is eternal. *“The eternal God is your refuge.”* In Micah’s prophecy, which named Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Messiah, the Son is also shown to be eternal. *“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting”* Micah 5:2. The eternality of the Holy Spirit is described when the author of Hebrews asked rhetorically, *“how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”* Hebrews 9:14.

“Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God [the Father] and His Spirit [the Holy Spirit] have sent Me [the Son]. Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit”

Isaiah 48:16-17.

The Triune God is explicitly mentioned in this passage.

	Father	Son	Holy Spirit
Called God	Phil. 1:2	John 1:1, 14, Col. 2:9	Acts 5:3-4
Creator	Isaiah 64:8, 44:24	John 1:3, Col. 1:15-17	Job 33:4, 26:13
Resurrects	1 Thess. 1:10	John 2:19, 10:17	Rom. 8:11
Indwells	2 Cor. 6:16	Col. 1:27	John 14:17
Everywhere	1 Kings 8:27	Matt. 28:20	Psalms 139:7-10
All-knowing	1 John 3:20	John 16:30, 21:17	1 Cor. 2:10-11
Sanctifies	1 Thess. 5:23	Heb. 2:11	1 Pet. 1:2
Life-giver	Gen. 2:7, John 5:21	John 1:3, 5:21	2 Cor. 3:6, 8
Fellowship	1 John 1:3	1 Cor. 1:9	2 Cor. 13:14, Phil. 2:1
Eternal	Psalm 90:2	Micah 5:1-2	Rom. 8:11, Heb. 9:14
A Will	Luke 22:42	Luke 22:42	1 Cor. 12:11
Speaks	Matt. 3:17, Luke 9:25	Luke 5:20, 7:48	Acts 8:29, 11:12, 13:2
Love	John 3:16	Eph. 5:25	Rom. 15:30
Searches the heart	Jer. 17:10	Rev. 2:23	1 Cor. 2:10

The Bible says that there is only one God. It says that
the Father is God **Phil. 1:2,**
It says that Jesus is God **John 1:1, 14.**
And it says that the Holy Spirit is God **Acts**
5:3-4.

Since the Son speaks to the Father,
they are distinct persons.

Since the Holy Spirit speaks also **Acts 13:2,**
He is a distinct person.

There is one God who exists in three persons.

1. The Father actively and eternally generates the Son, constituting the person of God, the Father.
2. The Son is passively generated of the Father, which constitutes the person of the Son.
3. The Father and the Son actively spirate the Holy Spirit in the one relation within the inner life of God

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/explaining-the-trinity>

The JW's teach, based on this understanding of the Trinity:-

“That God asked Himself to go to the earth to save mankind. Then he agreed with himself and volunteered himself to offer himself.

Then God impregnated a woman with himself.

God prayed to himself and glorified himself repeatedly.

God strengthened himself and talked to himself.

Finally God forsook himself and sacrificed himself to prove his loyalty to himself.

Then he sat at his own right hand and waited until he placed all his enemies as a footstool

Finally with Satan's forces defeated God would turn his kingdom over to himself.

That all things would finally become every thing to himself.”

The doctrine of the Godhead is truly distinctive of the Christian faith, crucial because it deals with who God is, what He is like, and how He works.

Christians believe the doctrine is necessary to do justice to the testimony of Scripture, the primary source of our knowledge of God.

We must speak concerning God in the terms He uses.

God refers to Himself both as “He” and “Us.” In the Old Testament the plural form of one of the nouns for God (*'elohim*) is quantitative: “Let Us make man in Our image.” The plural appears both with the verb “Let Us make” and the possessive suffix “Our” (Gen. 1:26; 11:7). Isaiah, in vision, hears the Lord: “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” (Isa. 6:8).

In Genesis 2:24 man and woman are to become one (*'echad*), a union of two separate entities. Significantly, the same word is used of God in Deuteronomy 6:4. Marriage and God’s nature are both described as a plural unity.

Because of the Great Commission, new disciples are baptized in the singular “name” of the three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Matt. 28:19.

“Exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit, He poured out this. . . . Let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ . . . and you shall receive the . . . Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:33-38).

Paul often speaks of the triune God, relating salvation to the three Persons of the Godhead (2 Cor. 1:21, 22). Paul also includes them in his benedictions:

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2 Cor. 13:14). Similar formulaic expressions appear also in Peter’s and Jude’s epistles (1 Peter 1:1, 2; Jude 20, 21).

The Holy Spirit is identified as God, the member of the Godhead, with the title “holy” regularly attached. He does the work of God: He dwells in believers, as does Christ (Gal. 2:20; Col. 1:27), enlightening (Eph. 1:17, 18), regenerating (John 3:5-8), leading into holiness (Rom. 8:14; Gal. 5:16-18), giving assurance (Rom. 8:16),
and gifting for ministry (1 Cor. 12:4-11).

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When Ananias and Sapphira held back some of the promised proceeds from the sale of their property, Peter reminded them that **lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God** (Acts 5:3, 4).

Speaking adequately of God is a daunting task. **Scripture must be the primary source of our knowledge of Him.** Christians manifest their avowed dependence upon this Book, which contains many affirmations of the deity of the three divine Persons. It is not easy; but it is true.”

We cannot judge the nature of God by our knowledge of human personality. The Bible clearly indicates that the Holy Spirit is a personal being without informing us as to the nature of that personality.

The following list shows that the HS has personality.

Recognize too, that we are using our finite human language to try and describe the Infinite God.

What has been disclosed is not the nature of God but rather the relationship between each member of the Godhead.

The Holy Spirit is not a power, He is a person with personality.

He has feelings.	Eph 4:30
He has a will.	1 Cor 12:11
He has a mind and thoughts	Romans 8:26,27
He has an intellect.	1 Cor 2:11
He has love.	Romans 15:30
He can fellowship.	2 Cor 13:14
He can be tempted.	Heb 10:29, Acts 5:9
He can be lied to.	Acts 5:34
He can be vexed	Isaiah 63:10
He can be despised	Hebrews 10:29
He can talk and direct	Acts 8:29, 10:19,20, 13:2-4
He can forbid	Acts 16:6,7
He can teach	John 14:26, 16:13
He can comfort	John 14:16,18 Gal 5:22,23
He can author prophecy	2 Peter 1:21, 1 Peter 1:11
He can give gifts	1 Cor 12:1-11

How can you deny the personality of the Holy Spirit and blaspheme Him by calling Him, 'it'?

2 Cor. 13:14 *The undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.*