

The Godhead 02-21-16AM

If you had to explain the concept of “God” to someone who had no idea what that meant, how would you do so? Perhaps you might begin by explaining that God has a name and personality (Jehovah, our Father). You might then go on to explain the characteristics that make God God. You would say that he is all powerful (omnipotent), all knowing (omniscient), and all present (omnipresent). You might go on to say that God is not a man or glorified man.

However, when we search Scriptures, we see that the nature of God is even more complex than this. We note that on multiple occasions, God altered His nature. He restrained His great power many times (Isaiah 64:12); He chose not to know things (Genesis 22:12); there are places He chooses not to be (Isaiah 59:1-2); finally, He once became a man (1 Timothy 3:16). What is interesting about these exceptions is that God did this for the sake of mankind; God changes His nature so that man can exercise free will.

Why is man’s free will so important to God? The answer is found in the very reason that God created man – so that He would have “Godly Offspring” (Malachi 2:15). As the Scriptures tell us, man and woman (alone) were made in the image of God. We know that man has been created with a three-fold nature (1 Thes. 5:23, Hebrews 4:12). This Three-fold nature is one of Flesh, Spirit and Soul. Since man has been made in the image of God, and man alone possesses these characteristics, we can speculate that God possesses this nature too. In fact, this is the teaching of Scripture referred to as the “Godhead” (sometimes called the “Trinity”); God has a three fold nature, and indeed one that corresponds to the three-fold nature He gave man at the creation.

1. God has a body of Flesh - *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory* (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus of Nazareth is God in the Flesh.

2. God has a Spirit of Life - *“The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life”* (Job 33:4); *“It is the Spirit who gives life”*(John 6:63). Holy Spirit is God’s Spirit of Life.

3. God has a Soul of Will - *.....according to the will of our God and Father* (Galatians 1:4); *“.....I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me”* (John 5:30). The Father is God’s Soul of Will.

This Divine Nature that is called the Godhead is not a matter of speculation, but a clear and evident pattern of revelation. We find it in places where God speaks to God (Psalm 45:6-7, Psalm 110:1). It is found in nature (Romans 1:20) in the three natural states of matter. Most effectively, it is placed into the revelation of God for us to observe in places like Isaiah 9:6. There we are told that the Messiah would have four names: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. This prophecy reveals that the totality of the Godhead (Mighty God) and all persons of the Godhead (Father, Son and Spirit) dwell in Jesus; thus we understand how the fullness of the Godhead dwells in him (Colossian 2:9).

