

The Doctrine of Trinity and The True Parents

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A Personal Reflection

In this article, we will reflect on (1) whether the Doctrine of Trinity that applies to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, as explained in the *Divine Principle*, also applies to the True Parents and (2) whether the God-centered unity established by Jesus and the Holy Spirit is the same as the one established by the True Parents.

As recorded in the *Exposition of the Divine Principle* (EDP), "...Jesus and the Holy Spirit stand before God as object partners who separately manifest the dual characteristics of God. They unite through give and take with each other with God as the center and form the four position foundation. God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit thus become one, and this oneness constitutes the Trinity" (pp. 171-172). This is straight forward—Jesus, as the subject partner, and the Holy Spirit, which is in the object partner position, establish a harmonious give-and-take action that has God as the Center. Trinity, in other words, is the unity established between God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Furthermore, it is written in the EDP as follows: "Originally, God's purpose for creating Adam and Eve was to form a *trinity* by raising them to be the True Parents of humankind united in harmonious oneness as husband and wife centered on God in a four position foundation" (p. 172; *emphasis added*). This is where the divergence occurs.

Adam was a human being. So was Eve. They each were to represent an aspect of God—Adam the masculine aspect and Eve the feminine aspect. They both were supposed to be "discrete projections and object partners of God's dual characteristics" (EDP, pp. 33-34). In other words, each one of them was supposed to become God's substantial manifestation in image—God incarnate. Adam was supposed to become the substantial manifestation of the masculine aspect of God both physically and spiritually and Eve that of God's femininity both physically and spiritually. Reaching such a status is what is referred to in Unification Church as becoming

perfect. On that foundation, they were then to fulfill the Second Great Blessing and thus become True Parents. As True Parents, they would have become one flesh and manifest the harmonious union of God's masculinity and femininity both physically and spiritually. Once again, they would have become one flesh representing God the Creator. The dual characteristics of God would have been perfectly manifested in Adam as well as in Eve.

Now, even though Jesus physically occupied the position of Adam, there was no woman who physically occupied the position of Eve next to him. As he died without fully restoring the position of Adam, the Holy Spirit, an entity that never had a physical body of its own, has occupied the position of Eve spiritually. The premature death of Jesus created a predicament that prevented him from becoming a True Parent both physically and spiritually. Hence the Trinity.

In Christianity, the Trinity is defined as God being three persons with one essence. It is similar to the *Divine Principle* saying, "...Jesus and the Holy Spirit stand before God as object partners who separately manifest the dual characteristics of God" (EDP, pp. 171-172). As explained either in the *Divine Principle* or in Christianity, the Doctrine of Trinity cannot apply to both the God-centered unity created by Jesus and the Holy Spirit, as well as the one created by the True Parents without creating a debate. In other words, if the theological Doctrine of Trinity applies to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, it cannot apply to the True Parents. If it applies to the True Parents, it cannot apply to Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

As it has been taught throughout the common era, the Trinity is the unity created between Jesus and the Holy Spirit, centering on God. Both in form and content, this unity is different from the one that Adam and Eve would have established with God had they reached perfection. It is also different from the God-centered unity established by the True Parents. The unity between True Father and True Mother, centering on God, is the manifestation of the God-centered unity that Adam and Eve would have realized, had Adam and Eve not fallen.

The reason I am advocating that we should refrain from calling the relationship between God and the True Parents Trinity is because the relationship established by the True Parents and God is different from the

one established by Jesus and the Holy Spirit, and God, two thousand years ago. The fundamental reason, which is also the fundamental difference from the God-centered unity established by Jesus and the Holy Spirit, is that Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon are both human beings who have physically occupied the positions of Adam and Eve, respectively. That is not the case with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Another one is that Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon are husband and wife. Once again, that is not the case with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. There are other reasons, but these are what I consider to be the fundamental ones. At least, in my humble understanding.

We need to understand that the *Divine Principle* has explained many messianic providential concepts from the standpoint of defending Jesus' messiahship. We ought to remember that Jesus does not define the mission of the Messiah; the mission of the Messiah defines Jesus. In other words, the mission of the Messiah is greater than what Jesus accomplished. Attempting to always explain the messiahship of the True Parents from the outcome of the life of Jesus, while ignoring the course of the providence of restoration and God's original plan, will lead to serious confusions and severe misinterpretations of the mission and course of the True Parents.

During his life on earth, Jesus did not have the chance to create oneness with a physical woman fulfilling the responsibilities of Eve. In this respect, we can say that the relationship between Jesus and the Holy Spirit is different from the relationship between Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon. By the same token, the oneness established between God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit is also different from the one established between God and the True Parents.

Once again, Adam and Eve were supposed to become the substantial manifestations of God's dual characteristics in image, individually as well as as a couple. To do so, they had to reach perfection and become one flesh through a God-centered marriage. This means that not only Adam and Eve, but God, Adam, and Eve would have become one flesh. Therefore, would that original God-centered oneness of Adam and Eve have been called trinity?

Another question we can ask ourselves is whether what has been explained about the intended God-centered oneness of Adam and Eve in

the *Divine Principle* truly applies to the Trinity of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

In conclusion, the Doctrine of Trinity that applies to Jesus cannot apply to the True Parents because the God-centered unity established by Jesus and the Holy Spirit is different from the one established by the True Parents.

Think about it.

Thank you for reading.