

From the Pastor

The one verse in the Bible that Trinitarians use to “prove” the existence of the trinity is Matthew 28:19 which reads, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in [in is from the Greek “eis” which primarily means “into”] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Does this verse prove that there are three co-equal persons in the Godhead? The answer is NO.

There is no statement here (or anywhere) that makes these three co-equal persons in the Godhead. All of the scriptures of the New Testament show a family relationship of two persons (Father and Son) who possess one power (Holy Spirit). We have gone through great lengths in these “personals” to show that the Bible clearly speaks of only the Father and the Son in the family relationship. The Holy Spirit is represented in the pages of the Bible as the power of God—the power of the God family or Godhead. Holy Spirit is the power that the members of the God family use to do whatever they do.

Just because a name has been given to God’s power (Holy Spirit) does not make it a person or being.

When a person is baptized they are immersed in water first. There is a great deal of diversity in the world concerning the method of baptism. This diversity (confusion) also has affected the translators of the Bible. Matthew 3:11 is translated in the New King James Version (NKJV) as “I indeed baptize you “with” water [“with” is from the Greek “en” which means primarily “in”]...” So we are baptized “in” water—we are immersed in water first. We are not baptized simply with water but in water. When I was baptized in the Methodist Church as a youth I had a wet hand placed on my head.

Matthew is using baptism in water as a type of what will happen when Jesus sends the Holy Spirit from the Father after our real repentance and baptism in water. Matthew 3:11 continues “He will baptize you “with” [again the Greek is “en” “in”] “the” [the definite article “the” is not in the Greek] Holy Spirit...” Therefore, the actual Greek reads “He will baptize you “in” Holy Spirit.” (The Majority Text Greek New Testament Interlinear) Matthew records that we are to be immersed in Holy Spirit following the comparison he is making with baptism in water. This passage is not speaking of being baptized in a person.

Further, Holy Spirit—power from God—is a gift from God (Acts 2:38). Holy Spirit is not a person. A person is not a gift from God; but, power is.

When we are baptized we are baptized into the name of the Father and Son. Greek lexicons and dictionaries emphasize that “eis” [“into”] shows movement toward something. Translating eis as “into” with regard to going toward something gives a much clearer sense of the meaning of Matthew 28:19. Being baptized thrusts us powerfully toward God the Father and Jesus Christ (the first members of the God Family), and we are given Holy Spirit (immersed into Holy Spirit) to impart to our minds a beginning portion of the divine nature (of the God family) as Peter powerfully wrote in 2 Peter 1:3-4, “as His divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness...by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature...”

Holy Spirit is the incredible power from God which we must use to change so we can be changed at Jesus Christ’s return and receive the very divine nature of our Father and elder Brother.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:28pm	8:27pm	8:26pm
Sunset Friday 7-21	8:26pm	8:26pm	8:24pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



July 15, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: DVD
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Split Sermon: Orlando Mascorro
Split Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.”

John 3:34-35

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 7/15	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, Victoria, San Antonio, and Harlingen.
Sabbath 7/22	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Bill Palmer will be in San Antonio. There will be a DVD in Harlingen.

From Joel Meeker:

Additional Openings for the Feast of Tabernacles in Orford, Québec

All Canadian members have now been accommodated for this small site, so we are able to open the Orford, Québec, site for additional transfers from other countries. Interested members may now register for Orford by clicking on the registration link at <http://feast.cogwa.org> or by going directly to the COGWA portal at <https://portal.cogwa.org/acct/>.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The next regularly scheduled potluck will be August 5.

Victoria Potluck and Bible Study: We have scheduled a potluck and Bible Study for July 29. I would like to do this once a quarter.

Corpus Christ Brown Bag Social and Bible Study: We have scheduled a brown bag social and Bible Study for the Sabbath of July 29th.