

**BUT WHOM SAY YE
THAT I AM?**



M.R.H.

Today my heart is both joyous and heavy as the light of, because of a false doctrine being taught in our church that is causing many to deny Him. For years I heard them teaching this doctrine and always I doubted it's truth. As a child I heard the same doctrine in the Catholic church I was raised in. And to find it also in our church completely unsettled me.

With what I know of the Father and His only begotten Son, I knew in my heart this doctrine was wrong, and I could not accept it. So I prayed and studied and searched, begging the Father to show me the truth about it. In faith I reached out to Him, claiming His promises and asking Him to lead and guide me into all truth; and He answered my faith and brought me an enlightenment that fills my heart with joy.

Brothers and sisters, the doctrine I'm talking about is The Trinity. This is what I learned as a child.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

253- The Trinity is One. We do not confess three Gods, but one God in three persons, the "consubstantial Trinity."

266- This is the Catholic faith; We worship one God in the Trinity and the Trinity in unity, without either confusing the persons or dividing the substance; for the person of the Father is one, the Son is another, the Holy Spirit another, but the Godhead of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is one, their glory equal, their majesty coeternal.

"The mystery of the trinity is the central doctrine of the Catholic faith. Upon it are based all the other

teachings of the church” (Handbook for Today’s Catholic. Pg 11)

Does this sound familiar and very much like what is being taught in our church today? The doctrine of the Trinity does not appear anywhere in scripture, but for some reason the church holds it up as gospel, saying we must believe it. The doctrine of the Trinity did not become a fundamental belief of the Seventh Day Adventist church until 1980. In Ellen White’s Day, she warned us against it many times, calling it mysticism.

Kellog put out a book called the Living Temple. In this book he teaches the Trinity, saying that the Holy Spirit is a third person separate from The Father and the Son.

This is Ellen Whites answer to that book:

“In the book Living Temple, there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The Omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given.” (SM Book 1 p. 200)

She later wrote this in her Diary;

“The Omega identified:

We are now to be on guard, and not drawn away from the all-important message given of God for this time. Satan is not ignorant of the result of trying to define God and Jesus Christ in a spiritualistic way that sets God and Christ as a nonentity. The moments occupied in this kind of

science are in the place of preparing the way of the Lord, making a way for Satan to come in and confuse the minds with mysticisms of his own devising.

Although they are dressed up in angel robes they have made our God and our Christ a nonentity. Why? Because Satan sees the minds are all fitted for his working. Men have lost track of Christ and the Lord God and have been obtaining an experience that is Omega to one of the most subtle delusions that will ever captivate the minds of men. We are forbidden to set the imagination in a train of conjecture.” (Diary # 48pp 153, 163, August 25, 1904)

This is what the leaders of our church are saying of the Father and the Son.

“The Father-Son image cannot be literally applied to the divine Father-Son relationship within the Godhead. The Son is not the natural, literal Son of the Father.... The term ‘Son’ is used metaphorically when applied to the Godhead.” (SDA Biblical Research Institute "A Question of Sonship". Angel Manuel Rodriguez. November 30th, 2015)

The word metaphorically means; you shouldn't take what it says as the literal truth but as more of an idea. So does that mean that when we are told something in the Word that it's not the literal truth. If Jesus isn't the only begotten Son of the Father, why would the Father say,

“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Mathew 3:17)

To say that Jesus Christ is not truly the **only begotten** Son of God, is to deny Him. It also denies the Sacrifice both the Father, and the Son, made in our behalf.

Is God a liar? For He said clearly in Scripture,

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16.)

In Hebrews 11:17 we are told,

“By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Issac; and he that had received the promise offered up his only begotten son.”

This example was given so we would understand what the Father was offering when He told us, this is **My only begotten Son**. If Jesus were not truly the only begotten Son of the Father, then that would make the whole promise of offering up His Son to die in our place, false.

Now there are many who claim that He’s the only begotten Son, because He was born on this earth.

“And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

Oh what a beautiful thing He did for us by dwelling among us. So yes, He was the only begotten Son, who was born on this earth and dwelt among us. But He was the only begotten Son, long before He came to this earth. He was one with the Father in the creation of this world. He was there with the Father at the fall of Lucifer.

He is the only begotten Son, and it was Lucifers jealousy of the divine bond between the Father and the Son that caused his rebellion. He had exalted himself in his mind, thinking because of his beauty and wisdom, he should be equal to the Son, in God's eyes. But that could never be, because there was only one, who was begotten of God and shared his divinity.

“Angels were expelled from heaven because they would not work in harmony with God. They fell from their high estate because they wanted to be exalted. They had come to exalt themselves; they forgot that their beauty of person and of character came from the Lord Jesus. The fallen angels would obscure that Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and came to consider that they were not to consult Christ.” (TDG p 128)

What was the foundation of our faith? - the Son of God.

“The Father was greater than the Son in that He was first. The Son was equal with the Father in that He had received all things from the Father.” (J. S. White, Review & Herald, January 4, 1881)

“The Scriptures plainly state that Christ was begotten of the Father. As the Son, He does not possess a co-eternity of past existence with the Father, but the beginning of His existence as the begotten of the Father, does antedate the entire work of creation. So He stands as joint creator with God.” (Uriah Smith, 1897, Daniel and the Revelation)

Proverbs 8:22-27 reads:

“The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning or ever the earth was. When there was no depth, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet He had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when He set a compass upon the face of the depth.”

Now, I know that many are teaching that this verse was written about wisdom and not Jesus. But in 1 Corinthians 1:30 it reads:

*“But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us **Wisdom**, and Righteousness, and Sanctification, and Redemption.”*

Mathew 4:4 reads:

“Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”

(He was the Word; and He dwelt among us bringing us wisdom.)

This is what Ellen White wrote about Proverbs 8:

*“The Lord Jesus Christ, **the divine Son of God**, existed from eternity, a distinct person yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of heavenly intelligence, and the adoring homage of the angels were received by Him as His right. This was not robbery of God. For it is written. “The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning or ever the earth was. When there was no depth, I was brought forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet He had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there: when He set a compass upon the face of the depth.” (1SM 247)*

*“Through Solomon **Christ declares**: “The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning or ever the earth was. When He gave to the earth His decree, that the waters*

should not pass His commandment; when He appointed the foundations of the earth; then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before him.”
Proverbs 8: 22-25, 29,30 Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. (ST, August 29, 1900, par. 15)

The claim of the present-day church is that Ellen White, though she didn't originally believe in the trinity. She came to believe and support it before she died. This is what Ellen White said on the subject:

*“God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life,” this love on behalf of man expressed in the gift of His **only begotten Son**, called forth from Satan the most intense hatred, both toward the Giver and toward the priceless Gift. Satan had represented the Father to the world in a false light, and by this great Gift his representations were proved untrue, for here was love without a parallel, proving that man was to be redeemed by an inconceivable cost.”* (ST, November 20, 1893 par 7)

*“A complete offering has been made for “God so loved the world that He gave His **only-begotten Son**,” not a son by creation, as were the angels, not a son by adoption, as is the forgiven sinner, **but a Son Begotten** in the express image of the Father's person, and in all the brightness of his majesty and glory, one equal with God in authority,*

dignity and divine perfection.” (ST, May 30, 1895 par 3)

*“The eternal Father, the unchangeable one, gave his **only begotten Son**, torn from his bosom. Him, who was made in the express image of his person and sent him down to earth to reveal how greatly he loved mankind.” (RH July 9, 1895 par 13)*

The statement by the leaders of our church that the sonship of Jesus to the Father is just a metaphor, negates everything that Ellen White taught about the Father and the Son relationship.

John 1:18 reads...

*“No man hath seen God at any time; **the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father**, he hath declared him.”*

The Eternal Father, the unchangeable one, gave His **only begotten Son**, tore from His bosom, Him who was made in the express image of His person, and sent Him down to earth to reveal how greatly He loved mankind.

So did Ellen White teach Trinity/ Tritheism? These are her statements on it.

“From eternity there was a complete unity between the Father and the Son. They were two, yet little short of being identical. Two in

individuality, yet one in spirit and heart and character.” (YI, December 16, 1897)

“The Father and Son alone are to be exalted.” (YI, July 7, 1898 par 2)

*“Christ, the Word, the **Only Begotten of God**, was one with the eternal Father—one in nature, in character, and in purpose. The **only** being in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God.” (GC 493)*

The Father and Son alone are to be exalted.

“God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son.” (8T 268)

*“The **only** being who was one with God, lived the law in humanity, descended to the lowly life of a common laborer, and toiled at the carpenter’s bench with his earthly parent.” (ST, October 14, 1897 par 3)*

*“Let them be thankful to God for His manifold mercies and be kind to one another. They have one God and one Savior; and one Spirit - **the Spirit of Christ.**” (9T 189.)*

Did Ellen White change her views before she died?

“I appreciate the truth, every jot of it, just as it has been given to me by the Holy Spirit for the last fifty

years. I desire everyone to know that I stand on the same platform of truth we have maintained for more than half a century. That is the testimony I desire to bear on the day that I am seventy-eight years of age.” (Manuscript 142, 1905, 4 MR 44.5)

“Let none seek to tear away the foundations of our faith--- the foundations that were laid at the beginning of our work by prayerful study of the word and by revelation. Upon these foundations we have been building for the last fifty years. Men may suppose that they have found a new way and that they can lay a stronger foundation than that which has been laid. But this is a great deception. Other foundations can no man lay than that which has been laid.” (8T 297.1)

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established... Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm

and tempest would sweep away the structure.” (Lt 242-1903 .13)

“I entreat our medical missionary workers to be afraid to trust the suppositions and devising of any human being who entertains the thought that the path over which the people of God have been led for the last fifty years is a wrong path. Beware of those who, not having had any decided experience in the leading of the Lord’s Spirit, would suppose that this leading is all a fallacy; that we have not the truth; that we are not the people of the Lord, gathered by Him from all countries and nations. Beware of those who would tear down the foundation upon which we have been building for the last fifty years, to establish a new doctrine. I know that these new theories are from the enemy.” (Ms 137-1903.10)

This was said in 1903, the very year the church was in a crisis over, who God is.

She said to be afraid of those who would tear down the foundation to establish a new doctrine, and that’s what the Trinity is, a new doctrine that undermines the pillars of the advent faith concerning the presence and the personality of God.

The fastest way to change your religion would be to change the God you worship. And the trinity does exactly that. The enemy has brought in these new ideas that undermine the old truths that God had given.

“Adventist beliefs have changed over the years under the impact of ‘present truth’. Most startling is the teaching regarding Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord... the Trinitarian understanding of God, now part of our fundamental belief’s was not generally held by the early Adventists.” (William Johnson. Present Truth; Walking in God’s light” Adventist Review, January 6, 1994, p. 10)

The most significant change in Adventist belief is that concerning Jesus Christ, and particularly His sonship. And these two beliefs are direct opposites to one another.

“Either the pioneers were wrong and the present church is right, or the pioneers were right and the present Seventh-day Adventist Church has apostatized from biblical truth.” (Jerry Moon, *The Trinity*, Chapter, Trinity and antitrinitarianism in Seventh-day Adventist history, p. 190)

Either the pioneers and Ellen White were under a great delusion for the first fifty years, and Ellen White was a false prophet, and the present Seventh-day Adventist Church is correct, “or” the view held by Ellen White and the pioneers is correct, and the “present Seventh-day Adventist Church has apostatized from Biblical truth.

None of the early pioneers held to the doctrine of the Trinity until around the 1890s. When it began to spread, Ellen White rebuked them on it calling it mysticism. It wasn’t until 1980 that the Trinity Doctrine was voted in as the official doctrine of the Seventh-day Adventist church, sixty-five years after the death of Ellen White.

The final false teaching of the trinity is that concerning the Holy Spirit. The trinity states that the Holy Spirit is a separate person in the Godhead. But the scripture states it is the **Spirit of the Son or the Father in us**.

This is what Ellen White says concerning the Holy Spirit:

*“Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally. Therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His Father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is **Himself** divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He would represent Himself as present in all places by **His Holy Spirit**, as the Omnipresent.”* (Manuscript Releases, Vol. 14, p. 23.3)

*“The influence of the Holy Spirit **is the life of Christ** in the soul. We do not now see Christ and speak to him, but **His Holy Spirit** is just as near us in one place as another. It works in and through everyone who receives Christ.”* (HM July 1, 1897)

“The impartation of the Spirit is the impartation of the life Christ.” (DA 805)

*“Christ gave them the breath of **His own Spirit**, the life of His own life.”* (EGW DA827)

*“This Comforter, the Holy Spirit, is the soul of **His** life.”* (RH May 19, 190)

*“The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, **is the personal presence of Christ to the soul.**” (RH- November 29, 1892)*

*“**The Savior is our Comforter**, this I have proved Him to be.” (8MR 49. 1893)*

“Christ comes as the Comforter to all who believe.” (Lt103-1898)

“Christ is to be known by the blessed name of Comforter.” (Ms 1902)

*“The Holy Spirit **is the Spirit of Christ**; it is His representative. Here is the divine agency that carries conviction to hearts.” (13 MR 313)*

*“While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above, He is still, **by His Spirit**, the minister of the church on earth. He is withdrawn from the eye of sense, but His parting promise is fulfilled,” Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” (DA 166)*

*“The Holy Spirit is the breath of spiritual life in the soul. The impartation of the Spirit is the impartation of **the life of Christ**. It imbues the receiver with the attributes of Christ.” (DA 805)*

*“The only defense against evil is the indwelling **of Christ** in the heart through faith in His righteousness.” (DA 324)*

*“The savior promised His followers the abiding comfort of **His own presence**.” (DA 367)*

*“When on the day of Pentecost the promised Comforter descended and the power from on high was given, the souls of the believers thrilled with the conscious presence **of their ascended Lord.**”*
(GC 350)

It is Written:

*“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water and, lo the heavens were opened unto him, and He saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him.”* (Mathew 3:16)

*“For it is not ye that speak, but the **Spirit of your Father** which speaks in you.”* (Mathew 10:20)

*“But if I cast out devils by the **Spirit of God**, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.”* (Mathew 12:28)

John 14:16-18 says:

*“And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees Him not, neither knows Him: but ye know him; **for He dwells with you**, and shall be in you. **I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**”*

Right here he plainly states that the Spirit is **Himself**, and the apostles knew Him because He was dwelling with

them, and that He would later come to them in the form of the Spirit.

*“And it shall come to pass, in the last days, saith God, I will pour out **My Spirit** upon all flesh.” (Acts 2:17)*

*“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the **Spirit of God** dwell in you. Now if any man have not the **Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his.” (Romans 8:9)*

“But I fear lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preaches another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.” (2 Corinthians 11:3,4)

So Brothers and Sisters, I urge you to look for yourself. Study the Word with prayer asking God for truth. Do not take the word of others as to who God or His Son is. To believe in the trinity is to deny the Son of God, and how can you walk with him if you're in denial of who He is. We are living in the last days of this earth's history. Soon the Savior will come to claim His own. And knowing who He is, is important. If you're walking in denial of the Son of God and His Spirit, how can you be among His followers. I know that many who say they believe in the Trinity do not realize that by believing this, they are denying the Son of

God. But the leaders of our church do not believe that Jesus is the actual Son of God.

By their own words they say that the Son is not the natural, literal Son of the Father. That the term Son is only used metaphorically. But the Father said, **“This is My beloved Son.”** And Jesus said, **“I will come to you.”** Not some other person, but **He Himself.**

Please brothers and sisters, ‘this is a salvation issue.’ If you’re in denial of who He is, and of His Spirit in us, how can you receive:

“Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
(Colossians 1:27)

I know it is taught that the Sabbath will be the test for God’s people in the end times, but the Sabbath question is not the only thing that separates God’s people from the world. It is not just a question as to whether we will have one day or another. It’s a question as to whether we will worship the one true God and follow the one true Savior, **His only begotten Son.**

“It is a question as to whether we shall worship the one true God or another, and whether we shall have Him the one true Saviour or another... It is a question as to whether we shall wear the sign of the true God and of His power to save, or whether we shall wear the sign of another and of his powerlessness to save. Which sign do you wear?”
(AMS August 10, 1893. Pg 250-251)

“The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die, is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. He has sought to shut Jesus from their view as the Comforter as one who reproves, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, “This is the way, walk ye in it.” (RH, August 26, 1890. Par 10)

“Modern spiritualism, resting upon the same foundation, is but a revival in a new form of the witchcraft and demon worship that God condemned and prohibited of old.” (Patriarchs and Prophets 686)

Peter, describing the dangers to which the church was to be exposed in the last days, says:

“But there were false prophets among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.” (2 Peter 2:1,2)

Here the apostle has pointed out one of the marked characteristics of spiritualist teachers. **They refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God.** Concerning such teachers the beloved John declares:

“Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? **He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father.” (John 2:22,23)**

“Spiritualism, by denying Christ, denies both the Father and the Son and the Bible pronounces it the manifestation of antichrist.” (Patriarchs and Prophets 686)

What is the sin against the Holy Spirit. Is it rejecting a person?

“The sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit does not lie in any sudden word or deed; it is the firm determined resistance of truth and evidence.” (MS30, 1890) (5BC 1093.1)

“No one needs to look upon the sin against the Holy Spirit as something mysterious and undefinable. The sin against the Holy Spirit is the sin of persistent refusal to respond to the invitation to repent.” (FLB 58.8)

“Those who seek to remove the old landmarks are not holding fast; they do not remember how they have received and heard. Those who try to bring in theories that would remove the pillars of our faith concerning the sanctuary or concerning the personality of God or of Christ, are working as blind

men. They are seeking to bring in uncertainties and to set the people of God adrift without an anchor.”
(MR760 9.5, 1906)

“It is God’s plan to give sufficient evidence of the divine character of His work to convince all who honestly desire to know the truth. But He never removes all opportunity for doubt. All who desire to question, and cavil will find occasion.” (SM book 1 p. 72.

In this time it is imperative that we search the scriptures with all our hearts.

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide in the shadow of the Almighty.”
(Psalm 91:1)

And in order to dwell in secret place of the Most High, we must seek Him daily, asking for truth.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

“If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God.” (John 7;17)

“Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” (1 Peter 5:8)

I implore you, Brothers and sisters. Time is short, and the bridegroom is coming, so do not take anyone’s word for

what is truth. Seek the truth through scripture and spirit of prophesy with prayer and supplication. Ask the Father for truth and He will give it, even as He promised. Search with all your heart to know Him, and if you search with all your heart, you will find Him.

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon Me, and ye shall go and pray unto Me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search with all your heart.”
(Jeremiah 29:11-13)

“Incline thine ear unto wisdom... Apply they heart to understanding... Seek her as silver... Search for her as for hid treasures: Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God... then shalt thou understand righteousness and justice, and equity, yea every good path. For wisdom shall enter into thy heart and knowledge shall be pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall walk over thee. Wisdom is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her. And everyone is happy that retaineth her.” (MH 457)

*“For the mind renewed by **His Holy Spirit**, divine beauty and celestial light shine from the sacred page. That which to the earthly mind was a desolate wilderness, to the spiritual mind becomes a land of living streams.”* (HB 28.6)

But we must beware of false teachers:

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears. And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” (2 Timothy 4:3,4)

“For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders, insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.” (Mathew 24:24)

“And Jesus sayeth unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him. Blessed art thou Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father which is in heaven.” (Mathew 16: 15-17)