

Genesis 1:1-31 NIV and Other Passages

The Holy Trinity Created Us and Saved Us!

Sunday, June 15 at 9:00 + Monday, June 16 at 7 PM
The Holy Trinity / First Sunday after Pentecost – 2014

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Today, *on the Sunday of the Holy Trinity*, we remember that the One True God has revealed Himself to us in His Word as the Triune God, thus *three Persons in one God!*

In this sermon we will see that reality ♦in the Biblical creation account and ♦in God’s work to save us from our sins!

1. **The Holy Trinity Created Us:** Sometimes it can be helpful to think of +the **Father** as the **architect**, +the **Son** as the **general contractor**, and +the **Spirit** as the **building inspector**.
 - a. Notice the Holy Trinity on Day 1:
 - i. **Father and Son:** ¹ “In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth.” Many would identify “**God**” as “God the Father,” but – *as we read that passage in light of the whole Bible* – we could say that the Father designed “the heavens and the earth” while the Son made them. In reference to the Son, the Bible says: “All things came into being **through Him**, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.” (John 1:3 NAU)

- ii. **Holy Spirit:** ² “Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and **the Spirit of God** was hovering over the waters.” So what was the Spirit doing? Dr. Kretzmann wrote that He was “**making use of His divine power in causing the elements to combine in the form which they now have.**” (OT 1:2)
- iii. **Son:** ³ “And **God** said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.” The Bible tells us that *the Son of God is the Word of God*: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was **with God** [thus with God the Father], and the Word **was God** [thus the second Person of the Holy Trinity].” (John 1:1 NAS)
- b. On days 2-6a, the Son of God was at work – ♦sometimes to *actually make something*, ♦other times to *simply call something into being*:
 - i. **Day 2:** ⁶ And God said, “**Let there be an expanse between the waters...**” ⁷ **So God made the expanse...**
 - ii. **Day 3:** ⁹ And God said, “**Let the water** under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” **And it was so....** ¹¹ Then God said, “**Let the land** produce vegetation...” **And it was so.**
 - iii. **Day 4:** ¹⁴ And God said, “**Let there be lights** in the expanse of the sky...” ¹⁶ **God made two great lights... He also made the stars.**
 - iv. **Day 5:** ²⁰ And God said, “**Let the water teem** with living creatures, **and let birds fly** above the earth...” ²¹ **So God created** the great creatures of the sea... and every winged bird...

- v. **Day 6a:** ²⁴ And God said, “**Let the land produce** living creatures according to their kinds...” ²⁵ **God made** the wild animals..., the livestock..., and all the creatures that move along the ground...
- c. **Notice the Holy Trinity on Day 6b:** ²⁶ Then God said, “Let **us** make man in **our** image, in **our** likeness...” ²⁷ **So God created man** in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. // “us” and “our” must be references to the Holy Trinity; also, God spoke of “**our image**” and “**our likeness**,” which point to the Persons of the Holy Trinity having *one image* and *one likeness*.
- So the Holy Trinity created us!*
2. **The Holy Trinity Saved Us:** But wait! Do we even need to be saved? Sure, some have done horrible things – and they need to be saved, but aren’t we good enough? Let’s consider what the Bible says in Romans 3:10-20 about people having the ability to be good enough on their own >>> **Romans 3:10-20**...
- a. **The Father** – He Planned, Gave, and Raised:
- Planned:** Peter preached these words about Jesus: “This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.” (Acts 2:23 NIV)
 - Gave:** “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...” (John 3:16 NAS)
 - Raised:** People crucified Jesus, “But God raised him from the dead...” (Acts 2:24 NIV)

- b. **The Son** – He Lived, Suffered, and Died:
- Lived FOR US:** Jesus said: “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets [OT]; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” (Mat 5:17 ESV)
 - Suffered FOR US:** Jesus “bore our sins in His body on the cross...” (1Pe 2:24 NAS)
 - Died FOR US:** “...Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God...” (1Pe 3:18 NAS)
- c. **The Holy Spirit** – He Justifies, Guides, & Empowers:
- Justifies:** Paul wrote: “...you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” (1Co 6:11 ESV)
 - Guides:** Jesus said: “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth...” (John 16:13 ESV)
 - Empowers:** “I pray that out of his [*the Father’s*] glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being...” (Eph 3:16-17 NIV)

So the Holy Trinity has saved us; we are blessed!

Conclusion: Now, being 😊alive in our bodies and 😊saved in our souls, *let us thank and honor the Holy Trinity! Amen!*