

# μυστήριον

Ephesians 2:22, 3:16-19

μυστήριον - 1. a profound \_\_\_\_\_; something wholly \_\_\_\_\_ or something kept cautiously \_\_\_\_\_, and therefore exciting curiosity and wonder 2. In religion, anything in the character or attributes of God, or in the economy of divine providence, which is not \_\_\_\_\_ to man. 3. That which is \_\_\_\_\_ human comprehension until explained.

The idea of something awfully sublime or important; something that excites \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ - definition: God \_\_\_\_\_ exists as \_\_\_\_\_ persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and each person is \_\_\_\_\_ and there is \_\_\_\_\_.

Foundation One: Monotheism - there is \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Foundation Two: There are three \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Three: The persons are \_\_\_\_\_.

I. FIRST FOUNDATION:  
IN SCRIPTURE, THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD. (MONOTHEISM)

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! (Dt 6:4; cf. Mk 12:28–30; Gal 3:20)

“You are My witnesses,” declares the LORD, “And My servant whom I have chosen, So that you may know and believe Me And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me.” (Is 43:10)

I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me; That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, (Is 45:5–6)

Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, (Is 46:9)

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. (Eph 4:4–6)

For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, (1 Tim 2:5)

II. SECOND FOUNDATION:  
IN SCRIPTURE, THERE ARE THREE DIVINE PERSONS WHO ARE  
RECOGNIZED AS GOD.

The Father is God.

Do you thus repay the LORD, O foolish and unwise people? Is not He your Father who has bought you? He has made you and established you. (Dt 32:6)

When Israel was a youth I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son. The more they called them, The more they went from them; They kept sacrificing to the Baals And burning incense to idols. Yet it is I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them in My arms; But they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love, And I became to them as one who lifts the yoke from their jaws; And I bent down and fed them. (Hos 11:1–4)

For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! Do not worry then, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear for clothing?” For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (Mt 6:25–34)

### The Son is God.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. (Jn 1:1-2)  
Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" (Jn 20:28)

### The Holy Spirit is God.

But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." (Acts 5:1-4)

Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are. (1 Cor 3:16-17)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body. (1 Cor 6:19-20)

1 Cor. 12:4, 11: There are diversities of gifts but the same Spirit. One and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

### IN SCRIPTURE, THERE ARE THREE PERSONS WHO ARE DISTINGUISHED FROM EACH OTHER.

All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. (Mt 11:27)

and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased." (Lk 3:22)

### III. THIRD FOUNDATION: IN SCRIPTURE, THE THREE PERSONS ARE ASSOCIATED ON EQUAL FOOTING AS GOD.

for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. (Eph 2:18)

having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit. (Eph 2:20-22)

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, (Eph 3:14–16)

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. (Eph 4:4–6)

But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared, <sup>5</sup> He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior (Titus 3:4-6)

**IN SCRIPTURE, THE TRIPERSONALITY OF THE GODHEAD IS ETERNAL  
AND NOT MERELY TEMPORAL.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. (Jn 1:1–2)

who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, (Phil 2:6)

Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. (Jn 17:24)

For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. (Col 1:16)

The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. (Gn 1:2)

how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Heb 9:14)

Islam	Monotheistic	Rejects any division, divinity of Christ is rejected
Hinduism	Polytheistic	Everyone is an extension of the one Reality, Brahman
Judaism	Monotheistic	They view Christianity as believing in three gods. (share Mark 12:29, Jesus quoting the shema.)
Jehovah's Witnesses	"one Jehovah from everlasting to everlasting"	Jesus is not one God with the Fahter, he was the first son that Jehovah God brought forth. The Holy Spirit is God's active force, not a person.
Mormonism	"We believe in God the eternal Father and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost." ...."there are three gods...."	"Among the spirit children of Elohim, the firstborn was and is Jehovah or Jesus Christ, to whom all others are juniors."
Christian Scientists	Believe in "the triune person called God— God the father,mother; Christ the spiritual idea of sonship and the Divine Science.	Reject the Trinity View Jesus as human and Christ as the 'Divine Idea' and the Holy Spirit as the 'Divine Science'
Unitarianism	God is one essence, one person who may take on different forms in accordance with His plan.	The Trinity is denied. (Biblical Unitarianism, Oneness Pentecostalism, Apostolic Churches)