

Dearest family,

Ever since I can remember, I believed that “There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons” as our church’s second fundamental belief states. I don’t know exactly how I first came to believe this. Perhaps the Trinity was explained to me by my parents, the Bible stories they read me, or by Sabbath school teachers. Perhaps I learned through listening to a sermon as a child.

As a teen, I read the Bible through. I now realize that everything I saw there about God I saw through my “unity of three coeternal Persons” lens. There much that did not make sense, but I considered this to be normal. It was God’s Word I was reading regarding God after all. How could I expect everything to make sense?

Some things I read about God did make a lot of sense. When I read, “Let Us make man in our image” (Gen 1:26), I imagined the Father speaking to the Son and the Holy Spirit. I noticed that when the Lord appeared to Abraham as he sat at his tent door, Abraham “looked, and, lo, three men stood by him” (Gen 18:1-2). It seemed the Son came with two angels representing the Father and Holy Spirit, the two other members of the Trinity. I read in Job 33:4 how “the Spirit of God hath made me.” Surely, I reasoned, He must then be a divine Being like His other two Associates, co-Creators – the Father (Rev 4:11) and the Son (Jn 1:3).

The New Testament especially confirmed my Trinity-lens. At Jesus’ Baptism there was heard the Father speaking from heaven, there was seen the Holy Spirit in the form of a Dove, and of course Jesus represented the co-eternal Son. Three Members of the Trinity manifested in one event, I thought. And then, reading on, I saw that the baptism of future believers was to be performed in the names of these three God-Beings (Matt 28:19). Four other NT lists of God the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit (1Cor 12:4-6; 2Cor 13:14; Eph 4:4-6; and especially 1Jn 5:7) all but sealed the deal for me. I had confidence the Bible presents God as a Trinity.

When in 2010 God called me to go on a much deeper pursuit of Biblical truth, specifically regarding the Gospel and end-time prophecy, I went. And naturally, I took my Trinity-lens with me. How abundantly validated it soon appeared! God revealed to me how there are only three complete definitions of the Gospel in the Bible...three! Naturally I imagined the reason to be that these three reflected three co-equal, co-eternal, divine Persons of the Godhead. And the Lord revealed to me the three-part structure of His Name, beautifully manifested in the H<sub>2</sub>O molecule: o-0-o. Again, I thought I knew what it meant. The Pattern of God grew richer in my understanding as I began to study the Candlestick structure: iiii. Here I saw three again, two equal sides and a center, like the o-0-o. I saw this name written throughout the Scriptures, sacred history, and Nature. I knew it revealed the character of the Author, Guide and Creator it denoted. He must be a Trinity, I reasoned, Three Gods in perfect unity and thus One God in three divine Beings!

And deepening the conviction was knowledge that Ellen White, the prophet of God, plainly wrote:

- “The three great powers in heaven are witnesses . . . the pledge from the three persons— the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” {6BC 1074.9}

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- “You made a pledge in the presence of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—the three great personal Dignitaries of heaven.” {7BC 959.8}
- “The three great and glorious heavenly characters are present on the occasion of baptism.” {6MR 389.3}
- “There are three living persons of the heavenly trio . . . the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” {BTS, March 1, 1906 par.2}
- “I just call upon the three great Worthies, and say: You know I cannot do this work in my own strength.” {7MR 267.2}

How much clearer could it be? I considered myself as fully established in the Second Fundamental Belief of SDAs.

When, in 2013, for the first time I met a non-trinitarian SDA who wanted to share with me his views, I accepted to study with him. After a month of trying, he was unable to convince me. Much to his frustration, the study resulted in further confirming me in my belief as the debate had given me significant practice defending the Trinity.

When, in 2015, I met Astrid, the woman God wanted me to marry, I was dismayed to find that neither she nor her good friends were wearing (nor had ever worn) the beloved Trinity-lens. I was greatly troubled for I knew right away she was the woman for me, but I could not imagine uniting with someone who had a fundamentally different view of who God is (see 2Cor 6:14). We began studying, myself with bated breath hoping and praying she would come to see things my way. I felt my prayers answered as she rapidly came to accept all I was teaching. But her non-trinitarian friends did not accept my proffered Trinity-lens. They must have watched with not a little foreboding as we were happily married at the end of 2015. They must have thought of how I had led her into error and sealed it with a ring.

But I felt O so correct about the Godhead, a Trinity, until early February 2019 when a switch began to flip in my mind, and I began to see for the first time, the obvious...

THERE IS NO TRINITY.

Now, thirty-one years into my life and nearly nine years beyond my conversion, I finally believe the truth regarding God’s self-revelation: **The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead. His Son is all the fullness of the Godhead. These Two are the only Beings of the Godhead, unified by Their shared spirit and divine nature/law. Jehovah is the *literal* Father of His Son, Michael, who has *inherited* the fullness of the Godhead from His Father, “the only true God,” and all this is true *independent* of the incarnation.**

I call this, “the obvious,” because when a comparatively few seeming quote-objections were removed by thorough scripture-with-scripture comparison, the inspired evidence in favor of such belief suddenly stood forth *overwhelmingly dominant* – even in the face of a lifetime of belief to the contrary on the basis of what I had always considered to be abundant evidence of a Trinity!

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The conversion of my convictions regarding the Godhead happened in only a handful of days. And I can only think this conversion occurred because of Christ's spirit opening my eyes to *the written evidence*. I can see no other explanation. I did not look up to anyone who was non-trinitarian except my wife, and she had converted to my Trinitarian views. I was not close friends with any non-trinitarians. I was not even especially interested in the topic. There was no question in my mind as to whether I had always been correct on this. And I could not have imagined having anything to gain from changing perspectives. In fact, if I had thought about it, I would have quickly seen what a colossal recantation and retraction process such a conversion would necessitate.

I hereby publicly recant my full acceptance of Fundamental Beliefs 2-5 of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as these are currently stated. To understand how serious I am about this, consider that I have already completed the process of removing from the internet the books I wrote, the videos I produced, the websites I created. I even cancelled the internet hosting service I paid for years, erased my most important site, *gospelpattern.org*, and deleted not just my videos but my whole YT channel from the web. Last week my online footprint was pretty much reduced to nothing. I have made inaccessible all materials I formerly produced which projected my religious views, for these were thoroughly laced a deep and abominable heresy.

I share all this with you because I hope and pray you will thoroughly question me (show some love) and question your own views. I hope you will be candid and frankly evaluate this topic in a deeper way than you have previously done. Put down all personal agendas and approach this topic to see what is true. Don't just come looking for how to prove what you already believe. Recently, I looked at this *just to see what is true*, perhaps for the first time. And wow...

If what you have believed thus far is true, it should be able to stand up under the closest scrutiny. If what you have believed is correct, you will only grow in a positive direction as you see more clearly how its superior weight of evidence defends it. But if what you have believed is wrong, don't you want to discover your error? Don't you want to believe the truth instead? I sure do. Even if it means I must cease giving out all my former writings, videos, and other materials and begin afresh with evangelistic efforts. Even if it means I lose relationships and memberships. Even if it means persecution.

This is very important, as may be seen from the following inspired statements:

And **this is life eternal**, that they might **know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ**, whom thou hast sent. John 17:3

Those who seek to remove the old landmarks are not holding fast; they are not remembering 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}

Sincerely,

Devin

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