



"at home, thinking"

seeds for a
Biblical worldview

"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."
Proverbs 23:7 KJV

No. 15

Patterns in Creation

I HAVE BEEN THINKING about the Trinitarian patterns found in creation—marveling actually at God's imprint upon this planet we call earth, and all of its contents and surroundings.

The Trinity *in* creation. All three members of the Trinity were active in the creation. The *Holy Spirit* hovered over the waters of creation making the earth habitable for man (Gen 1:2). The *Father* breathed life into creation (Ps 33:6). All things were made through the *Son*, the Word made flesh (John 1:3). All things were created by Him and for Him (Col 1:16) and he upholds all things by His Word (Heb 1:3).

The Trinity *of* Creation. History began when God spoke time, space and matter into existence. (Gen. 1:1; Heb 11:3). What did God create first? Did He bring all three of these primary components together simultaneously? We do not know.

What we do know is that a simple observation reveals a multitude of trinities in creation. W. A. Pratteny, in his book titled *The Nature and Character of God*, lists thirty separate categories of the triune expression within God's creative order. Perhaps the first noticeable expression of the Trinity in creation is creation itself, consisting of time, space and matter. Within this trinity there are additional trinities (see box at right).

The Scriptures also reveal multitudes of other trinities throughout God's created order. A serious student of the Word will find great joy in uncovering the magnificently artistic handiwork in God's design.

Three Types of Angels. Angels are messengers of God. They were spoken into being by the word of God's mouth (Ps 33:6). There are multitudes of them in creation (Dan 7:10; Matt 26:53; Rev 5:11). Their dwelling place is heaven (Matt 18:10). They serve many functions. God again reveals his Trinitarian nature by establishing a trinity of authority within the angelic structure. He created the *archangels*, the *cherubim* and the *seraphim*. There are also three named archangels—*Michael*, *Gabriel* and *Lucifer*, the fallen angel.

Three Heavens. There is more than one heaven. The apostle Paul professes to have been caught up to the *third* heaven (2 Cor 12:2). Paul, like several others in scripture (Isaiah and the apostle John among others) was somehow transported into heavenly realms, into the dwelling place of God. Again we discover another trinity. The heavens just above the earth's surface which the clouds and birds occupy are the *first* heaven. The realm of the stars, the planets and all the rest of the physical universe are the *second* heaven. The place where God dwells with the angels is the *third* heaven.

Trinities in Creation

- ❶ The trinity of time—
past, present and future
- ❷ The trinity of space—
height, length and
breadth
- ❸ The trinity of matter—
solid, liquid and gas

Many other examples can be found in creation and in Scripture which speak of God's Trinitarian nature. For example, man is a trinity of spirit, soul, and body (I Thess 5:23). Red, blue and yellow are the three primary colors. And mathematics is clearly an area where threes are abundant (eg: $1+1=2$, $A^2+B^2=C^2$) Seeing these threefold patterns in creation boost our faith and confidence that the God we worship is indeed who He claims to be!



"at home, thinking" is published periodically by Mark W. Weaver, co-author of *The Century War Chronicles* and co-founder of Reconciliation Press. Mark is married with three grown daughters, and has been employed in the real estate and land development industry for over thirty years. Mark and his wife, Sally, fellowship at a house church in their home town of Manassas, Virginia. Copyright © 2006 Mark W. Weaver

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