

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649
 (812) 944-2305
www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Sundays
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
 Worship.....10:30 AM
 Worship.....6:00 PM

Wednesdays
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

Elders
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536

Deacons
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

Evangelist & Editor
 Brian Anderson.....317-442-9507

Goals For 2017

Theme
 Sowing The Seed

Attendance
 Sunday Bible Study: 40
 Sunday AM: 50
 Sunday PM: 40
 Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 100

Add Additional Pews

In Home Bible Study

Bible Classes For All Ages

-Like us on Facebook

-View us on YouTube at Clarks-villechurch

We are now in the 41st week of our Bible Reading.

Prayer List

Harry & Martha Croninger
 Sharon Nale
 Les & Novema Dunn
 Mary McAfee
 Jean Hume (Anita's Sister)
 Betty Adams (Don's Sister)
 Shirley Mitchel (Don's Sister)
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)
 Sharon Thompson
 Sandra Anderson (Brian's Mom)
 Allen Morris—Surgery

Lord's Supper Reading
 Heb. 9:22-28

Scripture Reading
 AM: Acts 9:1-18
 PM: Jn 8:44

Encouragement Tally
 Invites this month: 1
 Invites last month: 100
 Visitors YTD: 33

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Place Stamp
 Here



The
Clarksville Beacon

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 Clarksville, IN 47129

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Saved Like Saul

Welcome!
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

Read Acts 9:1-18. In this passage we see the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. I'd suggest to you this morning, that if we're going to be saved, we're going to be saved like Saul. Let me show you that.

- I. Saw The Light**
 Acts 9:3; 22:6; 26:13
 - II Heard The Voice**
 Acts 9:4; 22:7; 26:14
 - III. Saw Jesus As He Was**
 Acts 9:7, 26-27; 26:16-17, I Cor .15:8
 - IV. Faced His Sins**
 Acts 7:58; 8:1, 3; 9:1-5
 - V. Learned What To Do**
 Acts 9:6, I Cor. 1:21, Acts 9:8-9; 22:16, 12ff
 - VI. Obeyed**
 Acts 9:18
- We Must:**
- I. See The Light:** Ps 119:105
 - II. Hear Jesus' Voice:** Mt 11:28ff, Jn 10:27ff
 - III. See Jesus As He Is:** Jn 1:29, Mt 28:6, Rom. 1:4, Jn 8:24
 - IV. Face Our Sins:** Rom. 3:23, 10; 6:23
 - V. Learn What To Do:** Mk 16:15-16, 2 Thes. 2:14
 - VI. Obey:** Lk 6:46, Rev. 22:14

God In Three Persons

There is a debate among some as to whether God exists in three persons—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—or in just one person. Among the prominent denominations claiming there is just one person are Jehovah’s Witnesses. They believe that Christ is not divine, but he is actually Michael, the archangel, and that the Holy Spirit is just a “wind,” the breath issuing from the mouth of God.

There are many passages that support the existence of God in three persons, and it is our purpose to examine the teaching of the Bible.

The Scripture begins with the familiar “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 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” (Gen. 1:1-2).

So, what was this “Spirit of God?” Was it just the Father’s breath as he was speaking? Various translations use “fluttering” or “hovering,” but most use “moved” or “moving.” One translation reads “...a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.”

The word “God” in the Hebrew is “Elohyim,” a plural noun. It is the plural of “Eloah”— “a deity or the Deity:--God” (Strong’s Hebrew Dictionary). That is one clue, since a plural noun obviously refers to more than just one.

But what was this Spirit of God? “And the Spirit <ruwach> of God <elohym> moved <rachaph> upon the face of the waters.” The Hebrew word “ruwach” can mean either a wind or a spirit. So, can we determine its meaning in this passage? The following verb helps to shed some light on the question.

The verb “rachaph” (moved) is used only three times in the Old Testament. Its next usage is in Deuteronomy 32:11: “As an eagle stirs up her nest, flutters <rachaph> over her young, spreads abroad her wings, takes them, bears them on her wings...” Strong defines the word: “a primitive root; to brood; by implication, to be relaxed:--flutter...”

The word expresses great care, love and affection as the mother eagle provides for her offspring and bears them up on her wings. Now, a “wind” cannot express the tender affection of a mother’s love. It just blows and is indifferent and impassionate. Thus the Spirit of God in Genesis lovingly “flutters” over His creation.

God In Three Persons

In the New Testament, there are references to the Holy Spirit having a separate identity and personality. Jesus told the 12: “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you” (John 14:16-17). Christ identifies the Holy Spirit as an entity, and refers to him as “He,” not a wind or a breath or an it.

The baptism of Jesus provides another clue. “After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased” (Matt. 3:16-17).

If, as some claim, there is only one person in the God-head, there is a problem with deception here. The passage suggests three personalities—the voice in the heavens, the dove descending, and the person of Christ. Was Christ a ventriloquist? Did he project his voice into the heavens, and then conjure up a dove?

Christ was not a stage magician, amazing audiences with sleight of hand illusions. Another passage to consider is from the pen of the apostle John. “This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement” (I John 5:6-8).

Christ’s Sonship was established at his baptism in water, as the voice from heaven said “This is my beloved Son...” Christ also came by blood, as he shed his blood for the sins of the world. Various Old Testament prophets had written about the death of the Promised One (Isa. 53:7, 12, Dan. 9:26, etc.).

What part does the Holy Spirit have in this testimony? We have the written word, that which gives us the testimony, through the Holy Spirit’s inspiration. Christ had promised that the Holy Spirit would be sent to reveal all truth, and Paul wrote: “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words” (I Cor. 2:12-13). -JD Tant