

TRINITY (C) (2022)

A) INTRODUCTION - WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

- if someone were to ask us, "What is God like?" I wonder what we would say
- wise, powerful, merciful, loving, forgiving
- "all-wise, all-powerful" etc.
- if someone were to ask us, "Is God happy?" again what would we say
- The way he is portrayed in Bible, especially OT, he seems distant, remote, majestic and unfeeling
- We may even get the impression that a lot of the time he is not at all happy - displeased at the mess we make of things
- We keep having to say sorry.

B) JESUS TELLS US WHAT GOD IS REALLY LIKE

- if we want to know what God is really like, we only have to look to Jesus
- He is the image of the unseen God
- so that all that the Father is can be found in his Son: "whoever has seen me has seen the Father."
- and that is the point:
- Jesus reveals God as a Father, his Father, the best of all fathers
- and Jesus also tells us what God is like from the inside
- God not only possesses all life, but he shares it fully with another, his Son Jesus
- Uniting Father and Son in an eternal embrace of love is God the Holy Spirit
- So God is not leading a solitary lonely life
- He lives a wonderful life of mutual love and complete self-giving
- Yes he is happy, and his happiness lies in the fact that he himself is a family or community

C) GOD WANTS TO SHARE HIS HAPPINESS WITH US

- but the life and the happiness that God enjoys is not something he wants to keep for himself
- he wants to share it out
- he shares it out by telling us about it and, more than that, allowing us to share in it, to be a part of it
- so he begins to reveal himself to us through the things he has created
- today's First Reading, from OT Book of Wisdom describes wisdom accompanying God in his work of creation
- **when he laid down the foundations of the earth, I was by his side, a master craftsman, delighting him day by day**
- there is a sign of God's happiness, God's joy, at the wonderful things he had created
- Wanting his joy to break into the world

- Wisdom also says that **she delights to be with the sons of men:** God wants to be with us, he delights in us
- As Christians, we see these words foreshadowing the coming of Jesus
- He **is** the wisdom of God
- When Jesus was born, the wisdom of God, the Word of God was made flesh and dwelt amongst us
- He delighted to take a human body and make his home with us

D) GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

- why should Jesus want to share our very life?
- In the Mass, as the priest puts wine and a drop of water into the chalice, he says: **by the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity**
- he shares our human life so that we can share his life as God
- The unending life and untold happiness that God enjoys, he wants to share
- We are all destined to be part of his life, part of his family
- Second reading speaks about the love of God, which **is poured into our hearts, by the Holy Spirit**
- "poured" suggests abundance, generosity, no stinting
- the Holy Spirit is poured into us in our baptism and our confirmation
- it is in that way that we begin to live the life of God himself
- and all the different ways in which we love, here and now, the love of friends, the love of family members, the love of husband and wife,
- all these are a reflection of God's own love
- all of these loves are a sharing in the very life of God, the very life of the Holy Trinity
- Jesus says: "If anyone loves me, they will keep my word, And my Father will love them, and we shall come to them and make our home with them" (John 14:23)
- God loving us, delighting in us, living in us, sharing his life and happiness with us,
- that is what we celebrate today.

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