This document *(revised October 2017)* is a product of 20 years crafting works on the Biblical Trinity; in my bid to better understand it myself & to address public confusions with regard to it.

To jump straight in the deep end…

Early religions were Polytheistic in nature not least as such diversity is highly adaptive to a range of local conditions; in circumstance where humanity was largely undeveloped so had little capacity to exercise its collective writ. Early man made terms with the natural world, deifying its core elements as his God’s; as given his puny capacities he was on a hiding to nothing if he tried to lord it over nature.

Yet as man became established so seeking higher development; Polytheism proved an incoherent shambles which could not be bought to order so was ungovernable. The Bible threw it out*; it is not meet for humanity to lose control of its own self-management.*

Next out of the starting gates was Monotheism, which at least got all people working together on the same page so was governable. From about 10,000 years ago, most of the early developer-builder religions appear Monotheistic in nature; as it gave human societies some control over their destinies. After that all the wheels fell off; absolute Monotheism being an absolute power means it is prone to totalitarianism, despotism, abuses of power & absolute corruption.

*To their credit the Jews countered this by developing Torah, a complex legislated body of checks & balances which placed restraints on abuses of power. Yet in the finish all they did was bind their God in that much red tape* ***he could not function positively either****; in fact he was so bound up in the minutiae of petty regulation he could hardly do anything. Judaism was continually beaten up by developing societies as Judaic focus on purity rendered their society* ***non-competitive*** *& always falling behind in worldly developments; so at the mercies of others who did advance in practical terms.*

*Yet later Islam advocated ~the absolute indivisible oneness of God~ not least as abuse of power & exploitation of others to profit & advantage himself is a character defect of Muhammad.*  *Islam’s massive malfeasance & abuse of power is testament absolute monotheism is even worse unfettered & without restraint; than the Judaic attempt at responsible constraints.*

Thus the trial & error development of the Christian Trinity which can best be described as… a division of powers & functions bound together within the greater entity of the one common body.

The Father is the giver of the law & articles of governance, so is mainly the God of a public & private office holding establishment who has various administrative duties to discharge. *Yet as all people no matter what their station need sound law & governance, he is the universal father of the whole society.*

Christ is **the peoples Messiah**, mentor, comforter & personal intimate of Joe & Jane Blog’s at the bottom of the heap; also our personal conduct example. *Yet as all people no matter what their station need redemption from sin, he is the universal redeemer of the whole society.*

The Holy Spirit is very much the agency of human progress & development. It takes many intuitive or felt forms as we are emotive & spiritual not just rational; but is **practically expressed** through those who develop industry, technology & the sciences. *Yet as progress & development, or lack thereof, variously affect us all; the activities of the Holy Spirit has universal relevance to all people in society.*

The Trinity operates as a division of powers & functions between three Divine *(collective or corporate)* Persons. Each exercises a high degree of independent autonomy over their respective spheres, the activities of each **over-lap** into the domains of the others.

Trespassing into the domains of the others would normally lead to a power-fight; or the disintegration of divorce & going their separate ways. This is averted by the three being bound in a relationship of mutually supportive fealty each to the other, within the greater body of the one God. This relationship of mutual love each for the others; requires demarcation dispute’s be internally resolved in a manner calculated to serve the greater good of the whole.

Thus Trinity is a continuously inter-active inter-relational **due-process**, constantly responding to changing life situations, within the body of the living God.

Unlike Polytheism it is coherently governable & directed to serve a higher *transcendent* purpose; unlike absolute Monotheism it accords no place where abuses of power can set up house & become entrenched. *It can resort to either or both during periods of duress & confusions (humans can corrupt anything) yet it has the capacity to dispense with them as soon as the way forward becomes clearer.*

Trinity has proven itself by far & away best-practice in the God business; western secular Constitutions, with their division of powers & functions between the more this worldly body politic, the body judicial & the body economic, best-practice in administering to more humanly compromised worldly affairs.

In closing this section, many people believed Christ would overthrow earthly establishments to initiate a perfect rule on this earth; & were somewhat bewildered & disappointed that he didn’t. Christ’s position seems to have been; sure installed administrations have their failings, yet they at least have some experience & competence in governance. If you collection of the ineptly well-intended raise a peoples revolt to overthrow & install your own rule; you will make a bigger mess of it than they are. *(Look at the deranged regimes of the French Revolution or Jan of Leiden who took over the city of Munster in the time of Luther)*

Thus the Church became not a movement of condemnation, opposition or overthrow from without. Rather an organization which supported incumbent governments while becoming **a pro-active agency of reform & improvement from within.**

The Biblical Trinity is very much a God of the human collective.

The need for good law & governance, in a form appropriate to any set of conditions or level of development being currently experienced; is *consciously known* only through humans.

The need for a personal intimate, **mentor & role model**, comforter, sustainer in the face of life’s many challenges, plus the need for redemption from sins, is *consciously known* only through humans.

The need for systemic progress & development is *consciously pursued,* only through humans.

Thus the Biblical Trinity is three corporate persons who live ~in & through~ humans specifically & near exclusively.

For Indigenous religions God created the natural world, which then bought forth humans. Thus it is necessary to venerate & sustain the natural world, in order to sustain humans.

In Genesis God created man **directly**, not as a by-product of nature, but as made in the image of a higher God, thus removing the material or natural world as a necessary intermediary. He then granted us dominion over the earth & all it contains & commanded ~go forth & multiply~  *Go forth & apply our diverse range of procreative capacities to the pursuit of manifest destiny in whatever form that may ultimately take. See ~sacredness of sex~ under secondary docs tab on my Webb-site.*

Thus the Biblical faiths do not venerate the natural world; rather they see the material as a **means to a higher end**. We enjoy a license to utilize, exploit or even ~expend~ the material world in the pursuit of a manifest destiny which is held to transcend the material world & exist independently of it. *The only Biblical requirement is this license is soberly & responsibly exercised by seeking Gods higher guidance every step of the way on a day by day, evolving situation by evolving situation basis.*

At base many people are resentful of installed authorities holding them a racket which exploits the people. The Bible mandated installed authorities of law, order & governance as **God-given**; holding they are essential to social organization. It then required the people to support & respect installed authority; while demanding authorities in turn show respect & concern for the plight of the governed.

Thus the Bible became the basis of **conditional human rights** ~contingent~ on respecting & upholding those authorities with the capacity to confer any human rights at all.

Where many people lived in a dog eat dog world of exploiting & deceiving others to advance themselves; the Bible held NO! Rather show some respect & concern for your neighbors, treat them decently & compassionately; you are your brother’s keeper. Yet further, as you sow so shall you reap; lead by personal example by considering the merits of all other people.

Thus the body of Christ became the agency of **conditional humanities** which stood on a sound base of mutual consideration & concern each to the other; plus serving the purposes of a higher God.

While **the Holy Spirit** or the body of innovators *(scientists, artists & businesses)* who develop & advance society keep exploring new horizons & bringing them under the auspices of human dominion; they too are required to deeply consider the impacts such changes will have on the broader society.

Thus all three assume a clear set of duties over which they exercise a high degree of independent autonomy. All three are to some extent **fluid states** constantly responding to changes & new challenges within their own specialist areas. While the whole is inter-relationally, inter-actively or **constitutionally responsive & adaptive** to the impact of changing conditions on the whole.

This is what the Bible enshrines as… the body of the *living* God.

I have labored over the above as it is important to clarify my frame of reference. Where many Christians ask how the Church should respond to various modern issues, I ask how the three Divine *(corporate)* Persons of the Trinity should jointly & severally respond to the same issues.

Today’s world of environmental limits seems to leave the lateral expansion we call GDP growth with **no-where to go**. It seems the future requires population reduction of say -2%pa; GDP reduction of say -2%pa, which combined with new technologies will reduce environmental impacts by say -5%pa.

At the same time humanity must have a positive direction of future hope to redirect its energies towards & strive for. This would seem to require the stage by stage VERTICAL growth of knowledge, science & technology; by, say, +2%pa *or more* as the only VIABLE FUTURE we can have.

This means the GDP based lateral growth model is dead. *Having delivered the modern world, it has now reached its ~place in abeyance by~ date.* The only future we can have is in continuous vertical development; which requires a significant redesign of the whole political, economic & social structure. In sum, a substantially different new world order; *underwritten by a street level change in social ethos.*

In Triune Christianity the Holy Spirit is a spirit of benignly constructive positive innovation & development; *which must continue in this new ethos.* The Father a **top down** authoritarian administrator whose law & governance is constantly responding to change as it happens. The body of Christ is a **bottom-up** social reform movement; *also continuously adapting to change*.

The body of Christ assumes… *where all outcomes are ~the sum of the people~ of which the society is comprised; if you want better outcomes, first redeem, reform & change the ways of the people all human outcomes are the ~sum off~*

Thus while the Father speaks top down through Kings, Business people, Judges & other key administrators; Christ became the peoples Messiah. Sometimes known as **Lord of the Basement**, he cast his lot with Joe & Jane Blogs at the bottom of the heap; becoming their redeemer, personal confidant & trusted intimate. Thus the leader of a bottom up social reform movement, changing the ways of the people in order we can get best outcomes in any set of conditions or level of development.

Modern human rights movements demand government & big business fix modern problems while the people are left undisturbed to enjoy their lives, freedoms & rights. **Yet where all social outcomes are the sum of the people** off which the society is comprised, this is not a possible proposition. Such a position repudiates all sound concepts in ~social engineering~

Sound social engineering requires governors & common people alike become joint venture partners in the common enterprise of seeking better outcomes. Such requires a sound top-down administration working in partnership with an elective bottom-up social reform movement. Of note, is both have to be inter-actively responsive & adaptive to the constantly changing terms & conditions of human existence as they arise. Every change in both our positive & negative circumstances; requires some responsive adaptation.

Social reform will only work if the body of Christ *(the body of ordinary citizens)* redeem, reform & change their ways in a manner that leads to better social outcomes; given the constantly changing terms & conditions of human existence as humanity develops & advances. Dealing to the negatives of global warming, environmental decline, over-population & fiscal excess *in our times* all require the general population to become **contributory partners** in said reform. Grasping the exciting VERTICAL positives of knowledge growth in technology & science also requires the body of ordinary people to become contributory partners in advancing such.

Thus grasping the nettle of modern issues; requires a top down adjustment in governance, law & business, working **in synergy** with the Church leading a bottom-up social reform movement.

To conclude my thinking I need posit the difference between my understandings on how I choose to illustrate the Biblical Trinity; compared with most traditional illustrations.

Traditional illustrations draw a pyramid or triangle with God the Father at its apex giving directions to the Son & the Holy Spirit at the base of the triangle. I reject this form of illustration on the grounds it does not allow for all three being co-equal; all three being present *(at least in consciously self-aware aspirational form)* from the beginnings. Nor does it allow for the activities of all three ~inter-actively~ affecting the works of the other two, in the management of their spheres of activity.

This triangular representation strikes me as a top down control model; it does not allow for continuous interactive management between three co-equals within the common body of a Constitutional Trinity.

The Father held as being in control or top dog seems based on the first spoken words of the Biblical God in Genesis 1:3 ~Let there be light~ *Which I understand to be ~let there be coherent, intentionally purposeful order~*  While it is true a system of order must first exist before anything else can function; it is equally true a capacity for intentionally purposeful function must exist, before you command a system of order to serve & purposefully direct the exercise of such a function.

Thus all three persons of Trinity, an aspiration for systemic law & governance, an aspiration for a set of caring humanities, plus an aspiration to progress & develop; **must have been present from the beginnings** of intentionally purposeful consciousness; as the bringing of order would be pointless if it was only for its own sake.

In my preferred illustration of the Biblical Trinity I first draw a circle enclosing the sum of all that is currently known. I then embed three stars in the perimeter of this circle, partly inside it & partly outside it, representing the three Divine Persons of the Biblical Trinity. *All three have various capacities to draw new information’s or revelations from outside the currently known, so adding too or expanding that which is currently known. Thus all three must be embedded in the perimeter of the circle; some part of themselves within it other parts extending outside it, for such a transfer to take place.*  In this manner the body of the currently known keeps expanding as humanity develops.

I then draw a set of arrows on the perimeter line pointing in both directions; which indicate a continuous interchange of pure love, pure energies or interchange of new information’s between all three. Thus while all three retain a high degrees of independent autonomy over their respective spheres, the decision-making & administrative responses of all three are continuously & inter-actively affected by new developments bought forth by the other two.

This is what I choose to call the body of the *Constitutional* living God model; which is a continuous *real time* interaction between the three co-equal primary concerns of man within a greater common body. Not a top down authority, but an interactively consultative process between co-equals.

If we need a substantially different top down new world order; *underwritten by a bottom up street level change in social ethos*; while the Holy Spirit of innovation remains free to explore & develop; it seems Triune Christianity offers all the essential components necessary to build this new world society.

My work makes much of the Holy Spirit as our capacity to **innovate** by imagining new possibilities in benignly constructive positives; then taking action to implement them & make them happen.  *As distinct from so called evil spirits whose activities are either mischievous or delinquently aberrant.*

This Holy Spirit has led us to develop in fields as diverse as agriculture, industry, arts, crafts, social administrations, abstract philosophy, romances, science & technology to name but a few.

The Bible holds Christ as *conceived of the Holy Spirit*, Son of God by command or consent of the Father. Also all three are accredited as existing *from the beginnings*; presumably the beginnings of consciously self-determining human development.

In sum the Father **wearied** of giving sound top-down administrations to a collection of uncooperative misfits always messing things up. *From his lofty heights he desired someone go downstairs; then* ***by personal example****; show us Godless delinquents how to get our act together.*

He thus required the Holy Spirit bring forth a peoples Messiah; one who would lead a bottom up social reform movement giving him a better & more cooperative people to administer too. The NT God thus emerged as **more considerate of human fallibilities**, than the OT God whose recourse was dispossession, punishment or the killing of those who offended him.

Off note this **NT prescription** only worked, as *in their heart of hearts or own Holy Spirits,* ordinary people too wanted to be contributory members of some more creditworthy type of society. *All three members of the Trinity did indeed exist from the beginnings; of human conscious self-awareness.*

This is why *I hold* the Biblical Trinity is the basis of a soundly engineered social cooperative.

It is a living God model; one interactively responsive & adaptive ~in tandem~ with human progress & development offering us new potentialities & challenges both positive & negative.

While some say my approach is too mechanistic & lacking in Divine Mystery; my counter-case is we live in a new knowledge age where recourse to mysteries is too often regarded as superstitious gibberish. While some degree of higher mystery will always be an element of the faith; it lends itself to being presented as soundly crafted social engineering the new knowledge age citizen **ignores entirely at his own adventure.**

I need now elaborate on the Trinity being constantly & continuously ~omnipresent~

If we look at the internal workings of you & me, I enjoy a capacity to love, a capacity to reason & a capacity to innovate. *(Capacity to imagine new possibilities then seek to actualize them)* All three primaries **indwell** by living **~in & through~** the greater common body which is me. These three primary drivers are in a continuous inter-active inter-relationship with each other; & the way they interact determines all that I aspire to do. This is the basic model of the Biblical Trinity, three Divine Persons or primary concerns **in a living inter-relationship with each other** within the greater body of the one God; *or in this instance the one whole person of you or I.*

If we look at the secular Constitutions of Western nation states (Westminster & American Constitutions in particular) they are a division of powers & functions between the body politic *(the body social)* the body judicial *(the body administrative)* & the body economic *(the body progressive)* **These three primary drivers** live in & through the greater body of a single Constitution. These too are bound together in an inter-relationship of mutually supportive fealty each to the other. They reach working concordats with each other, calculated to serve the greater good of the society as a whole.

Trinity is clearly not some fantasy the Biblical writers invented out of thin air. It stands on a sound foundation that each of us individually seeks a working inter-relationship between system of order, a system of humanities plus a system of progress, development & **continuous innovation.** Three primary concerns within the common body of our individual selves; or within the greater common body of the human collective as a whole. Such is the inter-active **body of the living God.**

*…..Blessed be the names of the Father, the Son & the Holy Spirit…****reign forever over us****…..amen.*

The above 7 pages were edited from earlier attempts & published July 2017; pages 8-11 were added Sept-Oct 2017. I am not sure if these additions help clarify, or whether they muddy the waters.

To more directly address concerns for those without hope at the bottom of the heap.

Broadly speaking as technology displaces humans from core-roles these have falling hopes of employment; they will need the Christian faith to **include** them in society.

As attested previously the Biblical Father is a **top-down** authoritarian God, giver of the law & the articles of governance. He is mainly the God of a public & private office holding establishment who have various administrative duties to discharge.

The Holy Spirit is basically our capacity to **innovate**; by imagining new possibilities then seeking to implement them in a vast range of fields, be they in practical fields, applied humanities or developing abstract concepts.

The Bible accredits Christ himself as *conceived* of the Holy Spirit. That is conceived by our capacity to **innovate**, by imagining new possibilities then taking action to implement them & make them happen.  *The Immaculate Conception thus innovates & brings forth new solutions in the field of* ***redemptive-humanities.***Christ is the peoples Messiah; sometimes known as Lord of the basement, he cast his lot with Joe & Jane Blogs at the bottom of the heap to become their personal intimate, counselor & redeemer.

The body of Christ is a **bottom up** social reform movement seeking to redeem reform & change the ways of the people all human outcomes are **the sum off.**  *The body of Christ works on the assumption; if you want better outcomes you must first redeem reform & change the ways of the people all social outcomes are the product off.*

Yet another virtue of Christianity is holding the poor of some value in all conditions. At this time, September 2017; NZ is involved in an election which contests whether Capitalism or Socialism can **best accord** social equity & adequacy of provision for the poor. Yet for much of history, including periods where Christianity was upheld & respected, society did not enjoy a sufficiency of material provision to so share. As you cannot share what you don’t have, all such income redistribution plans equally fail.

In the **incoming world** the environmental limits of growth are most likely to again impose restraint on material adequacy. Society will again have to prioritize its limited means to maintain essential social functions; there will be less & less available to redistribute to those at the bottom of the heap.

All the secular philosophies are **fair weather sailors**; they cannot work without adequacy of provision. True variants of Nazism work; but are not held to work in any acceptable manner. The only **heavy weather sailor** which will work when material provision is inadequate is Christianity; not least as it holds the **hapless poor** to be of some worth & dignity; so accords them immaterial considerations, encouragement & compassion.

Those at the bottom of the heap will never enjoy adequacy of provision, every capitalist & socialist effort to build universal prosperity has failed. Failed I might add, due to the inherently **sinful nature** of man. See pathology of sin, posted to my homepage. They need formal education only to the extent it has practical application to their restricted lives. A basic knowledge of personal care & health care, acceptable civil behaviors plus **participatory** computer, communication & social skills all they need.

What they need is a redeemed religious ethos which holds them in some worth while allowing them to make terms with their limited circumstance & strive for a creditworthy life despite their disadvantages. The secular & formal education can’t do this, Christianity can.

That is my answer to your heartfelt plea for those at the bottom near hopelessly lost.

While the Biblical God is a God of love, & love is hardly always rational in its decision making; we need note Gods higher love is a **constructive medium** we can depend on to build out off; so can be explained reasonably & rationally at least to some extent.

I must add exactly how we seek to implement varies with any current set of terms & conditions of human existence. The modern developed world would seek practical implantation *somewhat differently* to the less developed world of the past. Yet the base Christian precept the body of Christ exists to redeem reform & change the ways of the people all social outcomes are **the sum off**, stands for all of time; even though the ways medieval & modern world seek to change may be different. **Yet Sin**, *excess x over-reach in pursuit of that perceived to be good;* remains the biggest single self-management threat to our-selves in all conditions & at all levels of human development.

The Bible subscribes to the concept of a **living God** who is continuously inter-active & adaptive to the constantly changing terms & conditions of human existence. All three Divine Persons of the Trinity are capable of interactively **adapting their practical implementation** to address changing circumstance as such occurs.

In conclusion… the Biblical Trinity is comprised of three Divine Persons; each catering to the needs of a different constituency within the common body of the One God. They are bound together in a relationship of mutual love for each other; *or an interrelationship of mutual & reciprocal fealty to each other;* so each is obliged to consider the concerns & interests of the other two. The inter-relationship is continually interactive & adaptive within **the body of the living God**; in responding to changes in the terms & conditions of human existence as such occurs with every advance &/or reverse in the development of humanity.

Polytheism is too fragmented so humans lose control of their own destiny; absolute Monotheism too often subject to abuses of power. What was needed was a little bit of both, some of the pliability of Polytheism combined with the coherency of Monotheism. Thus the Biblical Trinity could best be described as **Constitutional Monotheism.** *It has sufficient division of powers to limit abuses of power, yet is coherent enough to be governable so allowing humanity to best-manage its own destiny.*

The resultant construct is coherent enough to be governable; reaches a managed balance between humanities three primary concerns; while making it difficult for corruption despotism or totalitarianism to set up house & become entrenched.

Western secular Constitutions *(civil religions)* are based on a similar Triune construction. With their division of powers & functions between the body judicial *(the body administrative)* the body politic *(the body of the people)* & the body economic *(the body developmental)* also interactive within the greater common body of the One Constitution; or the British Crown. Again all three exist to serve **the greater good of the whole**; none exist to serve only themselves.

The core difference between the two is the Biblical Trinity uses love as its primary constructive medium & appeals to reason as a supportive secondary. The civil religions of secular Constitutions appeal to reason as their primary constructive medium & to love as a supportive secondary.

Past times were materially fraught so the Biblical version reigned supreme. Recent times have enjoyed an unprecedented material adequacy of provision for most in the western world; so the civil Constitutions have become dominant.

Looking forward environmental limits to mass lateral growth will mean increasing inadequacy of material provision for many. *(We do not know just how big this problem will be, as much depends on how we respond to the challenge of changing circumstance)*  I believe we can say with certainty this adverse change in material circumstance will bring about an increase in religious influence. The only question is do we refuse to respond responsibly; so allowing the situation to deteriorate to such an extent restoration of traditional Christianity will at least give love, compassion & concern for the poor, but very little material comfort.

Or will we **take ownership** of the environmental & practical restraints to mass lateral growth; & will people hold the growth of knowledge as a **human futures positive**; before the situation deteriorates excessively. To thus bring forth an ethos; which not only extends spiritual meaning & love to the ordinary people, but offers them some material hope in this world as well.

It seems top-down efforts to control human behaviors had constantly failed; so the coming of Christ **enfranchised the people** to make their own elective calls on how a society might be better behaved & more creditworthy. Thus Christianity became a bottom-up social reform movement

Initially this would have been a loose people’s movement with each group making different choices; what some people call the pristine original Christianity. Yet this romanticized view ignores the reality social codes have to become uniform to gain acceptance; thus the Church became progressively institutionalized, advancing a set-piece behavioral agenda. Those who believe we can turn back the clock to some original pristine Christianity forget; every human civil-club is subject to the participating majority imposing a universal standard.

I am thus left with the question how effective such a bottom up social reform movement would prove today? True the negative self-destructive capacities of humanity have grown hugely with the advent of modernity; yet our positive remedial capacities have grown significantly also. If the base law of money is every growth of the head-side of a coin gives rise to a pro-rata growth of the tail side. It seems past societies had limited up-side capacity but limited down-side capacity for misadventure also. Today’s society has hugely increased both capacities, making **the law of proportionality** *between positive & negatives* **a stable constant** regardless of the level of human empowerment bestowed by any current level development.

In sum; if a bottom-up elective & voluntary social reform could work as well as it did in the past; it should be able to do the same in today’s more developed society.

Where the body of Christ exists to redeem, reform & change the ways of the people in a manner calculated to form the most viable & creditworthy society current conditions allow. Modern development means the task facing such a bottom-up social reform movement is at least no harder than it was in the past; sadly it appears no easier either. Yet I vest my faith in a system which has been doing this for 2,000 years; that’s a lot of good faith commitment & depth of experience.

Ken Maynard… close