

## Get Wisdom! Program

### The Holy Trinity and Reading

Ronald Kirk  
Created February 4, 2015  
Modified June 30, 2021

The Principle Approach's *God's Principle of Individuality* has its theological root in the doctrine and reality of the Holy Trinity.

The Bible tells us that God is One. He is also Three Persons—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These exist without neither separation nor intermixing, much like Christ in His humanity and Deity. Apologist and epistemologist Cornelius Van Til says that the Persons of the Godhead mutually exhaust one another in relationship—perfect love, perfect individuality.

This understanding has led to the doctrine or Biblical philosophy of the equal ultimacy of the One and the Many. This is extremely important. (It is not well documented in the Principle Approach or even my own earlier work. And I find today that I do not have this coherently written out, for this subject, which I hope this quick essay will remedy.

In relationships, this means that there is no superiority of either the individual or the other person or community. If the individual diminishes the community, he diminishes himself. If the community diminishes the individual, they diminish themselves. There is equal ultimacy or equal importance of both in relationship. God created man in His image and man has never been whole, himself, apart from relationship with his Creator and Savior, even before the Fall.

In the material world, everything exists in relationship, and relationship is composed out of individuals. The individual in relationship is the most basic truth in nature, as a direct reflection of God Himself. No individual, no relationship. No relationship, no individual, as the individual is identified by its uniqueness in comparison to all others.

This God's Principle of Individuality is thus the most fundamental of thought for taking dominion over the earth. It gives us the ability to organize reality, in the sense of science or gaining of new knowledge. We know something in the context of its relationship with other things. This is the notion of organ or system. Parts yield the whole. And the parts themselves are wholes of some kind. This deconstruction into fractional parts continues down to the fundamental particles—protons and electrons.

In graphic literacy—writing and reading—we have phonograms that represent sounds. The phonograms or represent phonemes—particular sounds. We build whole words from these parts. Words are put together in strings to form whole ideas we call sentences. Sentences form paragraphs, Paragraphs form chapters, and chapters books. From the sentence upward, each greater composition is the elaboration of a single idea, growing greater and greater in its scope as the single idea embraces related ideas in expansion.

To read for understanding, we must understand the phonogram as sound, word, sentence, paragraph, etc. If in attempting to read, if at any point we do not understand one of the

## **Get Wisdom! Program**

### **The Holy Trinity and Reading**

Ronald Kirk  
Created February 4, 2015  
Modified June 30, 2021

elements, we must break it down into its constituent parts until we gain understanding at that level. Once we have understanding at the more basic level, we reassemble back into greater wholes until we can gain understanding. Reading skill as a whole results from skill in parsing or breaking down unintelligible wholes into constituent parts and then faithfully rebuilding in the greater wholes unto complete understanding.

We always taught our students that if something was hard to understand, it is probably important. Therefore, we ought not to skip over hard things, but tackle them. Wrestle them until we pin them down.