

Bennochy church: 22nd May (Christian Aid service - reflection)

If you are a fan of *Star trek*, then you will know who commander Data is. He is an android officer on the *USS Enterprise*, who wants to be more human. His positronic net is capable of storing enormous amounts of information. He is not overwhelmed at receiving huge amount of data. Just plug him in, and he can do anything from playing the violin, to complex mathematics. Imagine, that God could give us all the data of the universe. Everything known and unknown. There is a medical myth, that we only use about 10% of the brains potential. But I suspect that even if we could harness 100%, we would be overwhelmed.

Jesus obviously wanted to tell his disciples many more things than he had, but was concerned that it would be all too much for them. Even some of the teaching had given them were in parables, some with hidden meanings, others he had to explain. They needed help, and that help would come in the form of the Spirit of God. Let me extend the analogy too far, a spiritual positronic net, capable of holding the truth about God.

As God struggled with his people in history, think about how he gradually revealed himself. The Law given to Moses did not contain all of the truth of God. There had to be more. The words spoken by the prophets to the people of Israel down through the centuries, did not contain all the truth of God. The words and language of humanity

falls well short of communicating who God was. The nearest they got to the identity of God was hidden in the words, 'I am who I am'. There had to be more.

In John 16, Jesus says to his disciple friends, the truth will be revealed, in the Spirit that comes from God. It is here that we get into the enigma that is the Trinity of God. So let's not try to understand it, but accept in some way; God is three and God is one.

In the way that God relates to himself, the trinity is an expression of love. God does not live alone. His love is an expression of who he is. The trinity is an example of how to live in relationship. Out of relationship, love overflows into the world. Love is given to creation, and comes to us in the form of the spirit of God.

We struggle to grasp this concept. The spirit says Jesus, embodies and reveals truth. It is not that we will ever understand everything about God. We are made just a little below the angels, but high enough, to know what is truth. The spirit raises us enough to begin to grasp the identify of God. Some vision in the mist. Seeing God behind the opaque glass. His love revealed enough, to know that in Jesus Christ, the glory of God has been revealed. The veil is lifted, just enough. Our vision now wide enough, to see God in the heavens, to know

his eternal love, and, that small as we are in the wonder of
God's cosmos, by his spirit, he has now revealed himself to us.
Amen.