

*"And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12 KJV*



Most every rope is made of three strands twisted and braided into a cord that is many times stronger than each could have been alone. Each smaller strand is made up of yet three smaller ones, and so on until you get down to the threads. It's interesting that the number three keeps popping up whenever we are discussing structural strength. The triangle is used in steel construction almost exclusive of any other shape, because it withstands stress well. Almost every roof employs the shape of the triangle for strength. There are three parts to music, melody, harmony, and rhythm. Music is only good when the three primary colors are expertly and harmoniously woven together to create a tapestry of sound that inspires the body, soul, and spirit. God is the greatest example of all, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and THESE THREE ARE ONE."* Two can make a marriage work, but it is a joyless drudgery. If God is the first love of a man and wife, their marriage will become indestructible. When two people really love each other, a third person is bound to follow. We all know the saying "United we stand, divided we fall." Why did our forefathers design our government with three branches? Was that just a whim? One cannot hope to brave the storm of life alone, but if our faith is securely lashed down with threefold cord of God's Love, God's Word, and God's Holiness, we will come safely through. Jesus said, *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."* We are three yet one, body, soul, and spirit, in God's image. *"God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them."* When we are physically born, we are born "dead," spiritually separated from God. *"He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed"* We exist in a weakened state. We need the "quickenings" power of the Holy Spirit to make our spirits alive, so we can once again commune with the living God! We can't worship a Living Spirit with a dead one, any more than folks in the graveyard can go to the store. Death is separation from life. There is no life without God. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. In Him was Life, and the Life was the light of men."*

A cord is weak til it be twain,  
A third will strengthen yet again,  
Together three will hold the weight,  
Where one alone would surely break. ~CGP

Our spirit is what unites with God. Without Life, we will remain forever separated, forever "dead." Adam and Eve became separated from God (died) because they sinned, disobeyed God's Word. We can be reconciled to God through obedience to His Word. It tells us, "Repent, trust, and obey." Again, three things, God's Word, hearing, and faith. You could go on and on. We know we can forever trust the great *Three-Yet-One* to quiet the storms of life and see us safely through to the other shore. *"Faith cometh by hearing (obeying)...the Word of God."* Did your parent ever ask you, "Did you hear what I just said?" They weren't so much interested in your ability to hear as they were in what you did about what you heard!

*"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with ALL thy mind." Matthew 22:37*