

**We Believe**

**In One Lord**

I believe in the non-binary God whose pronouns are plural. I believe in Jesus Christ, their child, who wore a fabulous tunic and had two dads and saw everyone as a sibling-child of God. I believe in the rainbow Spirit, who shatters our image of one white light and refracts it into a rainbow of gorgeous diversity. I believe in the church of everyday saints as numerous, creative and resilient as patches on the AIDS quilt, whose feet are grounded in mud and whose eyes gaze at the stars in wonder. I believe in the calling to each of us that love is love is love, so beloved, let us love. I believe, glorious God. Help my unbelief. Amen.

The Sparkle Creed

1) Is Jesus God?

# **GOD**

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**Creation**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son], who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it.

*John 1:1-5*

He is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn over all creation.

For everything was created by him,  
in heaven and on earth,

the visible and the invisible,  
whether thrones or dominions  
or rulers or authorities—

all things have been created through him and for  
him.

**Colossians 1:15-16**

He is before all things,  
and by him all things hold together.  
He is also the head of the body, the church;  
he is the beginning,  
the firstborn from the dead,  
so that he might come to have  
first place in everything.  
For God was pleased to have  
all his fullness dwell in him,

**Colossians 1:17-19**

and through him to **reconcile**  
**everything to himself,**  
whether things on earth or things in heaven,  
by making **peace**  
**through his blood,** shed on the cross.

**Colossians 1:20**

**“I and the Father are one.”**

**John 10:30**

1) Is Jesus God?

2) The Only-Begotten

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-  
begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the  
Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God  
from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being  
with the Father; through him all things were made.

γεννητός

vs.

γενητός

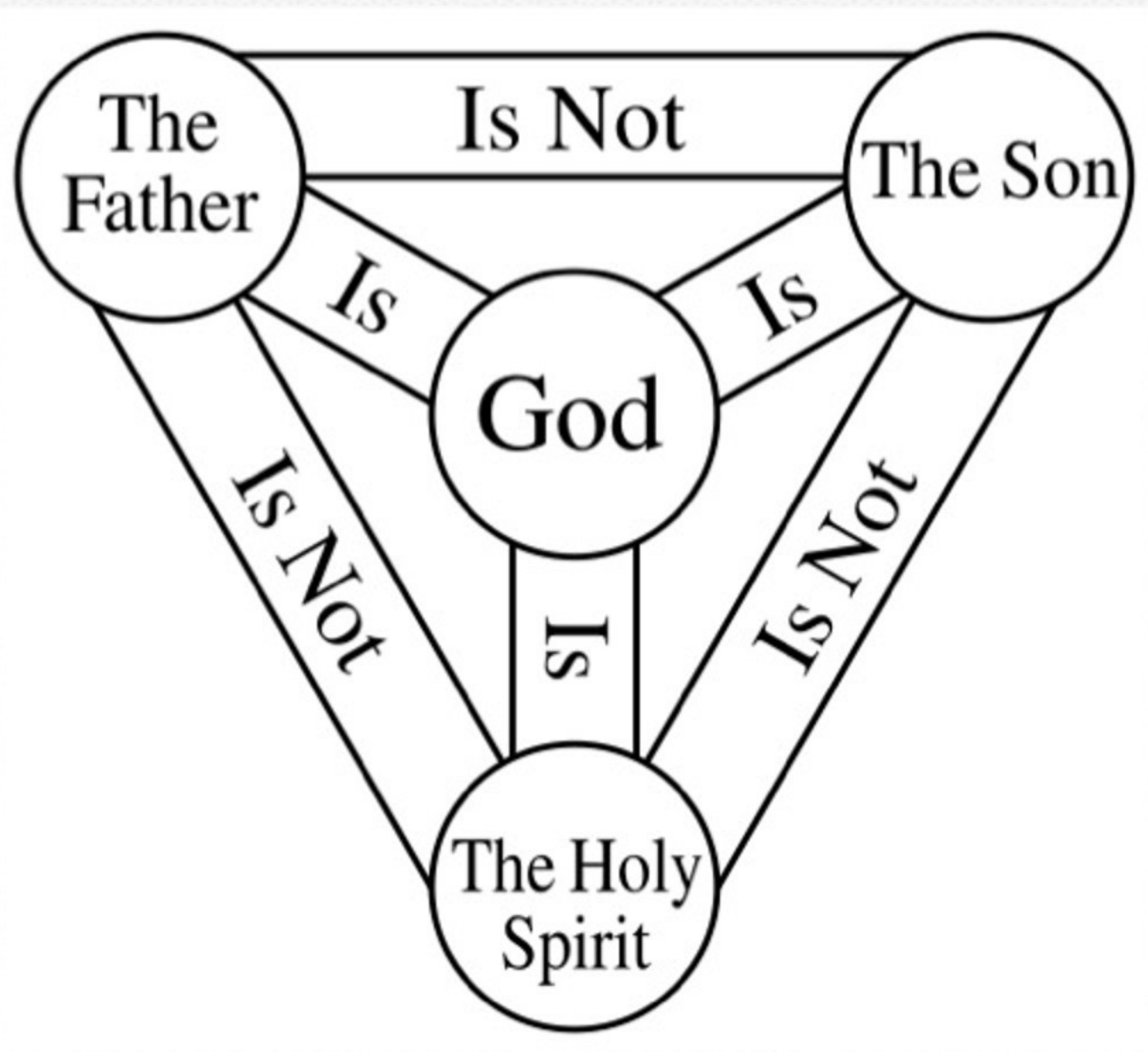
*Homousios*

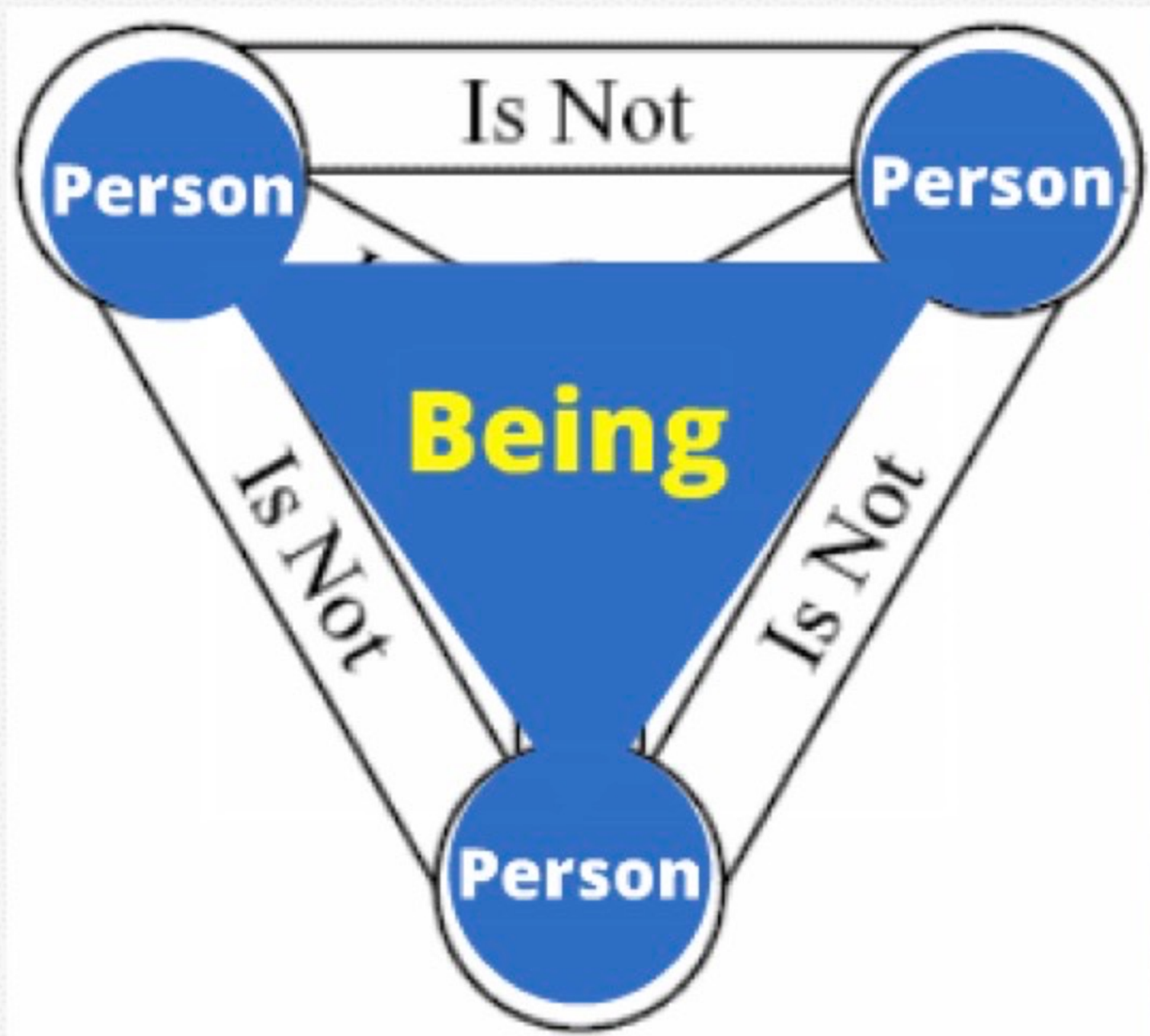
*vs.*

*Homoiousios*

**“[The Arians] were caught whispering to each other and winking with their eyes, that “like” and “always,” and “power,” and “in Him” were, as before common to us and the Son...But the bishops discerning in this too their dissimulation, were again compelled on their part to collect the sense of the Scriptures, and to re-say and re-write what they had said before, more distinctly still.”**

**Athanasius**





- 1) Is Jesus God?
- 2) The Only-Begotten
- 3) Was Incarnate

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordant with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

For us and for our salvation he **came down** from heaven, **was incarnate** from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and **was made man**. For our sake he **was crucified** under Pontius Pilate; he **suffered death** and **was buried**. On the **third day** he **rose** again in accordance with the Scriptures; he **ascended** into heaven and **is seated** at the right hand of the Father. He **will come** again in **glory** to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**“For that which He has not assumed He has not healed; but that which is united to His Godhead is also saved. If only half Adam fell, then that which Christ assumes and saves may be half also; but if the whole of his nature fell, it must be united to the whole nature of Him that was begotten, and so be saved as a whole.”**

**Gregory of Nazianzus**

**“There was a time when the Son was not.”**

**Arius**

**“There was a time when the Son was not [human].”**

**Arius (now)**

**“He remained what he was and took up what he was not.”**

**Gregory of Nazianzus**

**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.**

**Hebrews 4:15**

**“He remained immortal, yet in the mortal flesh that he took up and made his own, he died.”**

**Phillip Cary**

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