

# Old Testament Term Glossary

**The Holy Trinity** The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who is the one true and living God. Love is His nature, which He extends to mankind in His works of creation, salvation, and sanctification. This feast day is celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. [1]

**the Word of God** (1) The name of the Son of God from eternity. (2) The revelation of God to man through the Scriptures of the apostles and prophets. [2]

**creation** God's act of making all things out of nothing by His Word (all things: "the heavens and the earth"). [3]

**the Pentateuch (or the Torah)** The first five books of the Bible written by the prophet Moses. They are the foundation for all of Scripture. They are also called "the Law" or "the Law of Moses." [4]

**the historical books** The twelve Old Testament books after the Pentateuch which record the history of God's chosen people Israel. [5]

**the poetical books** The five books of the Old Testament, which included Israel's prayer book and hymnal, the Psalms, and other works of poetry. [6]

**the major prophet "sandwich"** The four lengthy books of the prophets, with Lamentations inserted between them: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel. [7]

**the minor prophets** The final twelve books of the prophets in the Old Testament canon: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi. [8]

**the tree of knowledge** The object in the Garden of Eden to which God attached His word of curse: if man did not listen to God's Word and ate of its fruit, sin would be born and man would die. [9]

**the tree of life** The object in the Garden of Eden to which God attached His word of promise: if man ate of its fruit he would live forever. [10]

**Adam** The first man, whom God created from the dust of the earth. His name means "man." Through this man's disobedience sin entered the world and was passed on to all people. [11]

**Eve** The first woman, whom God created from one of Adam's ribs. Her name means "the mother of all living." [12]

**marriage** The institution established by God for the union of a man and a woman in one flesh, the procreation of children, and the help and comfort given and received by each of them in prosperity and adversity. In this institution the man and the woman are to love, honor, and be faithful to each other until death parts them. It is entered into by the public exchange of promises. [13]