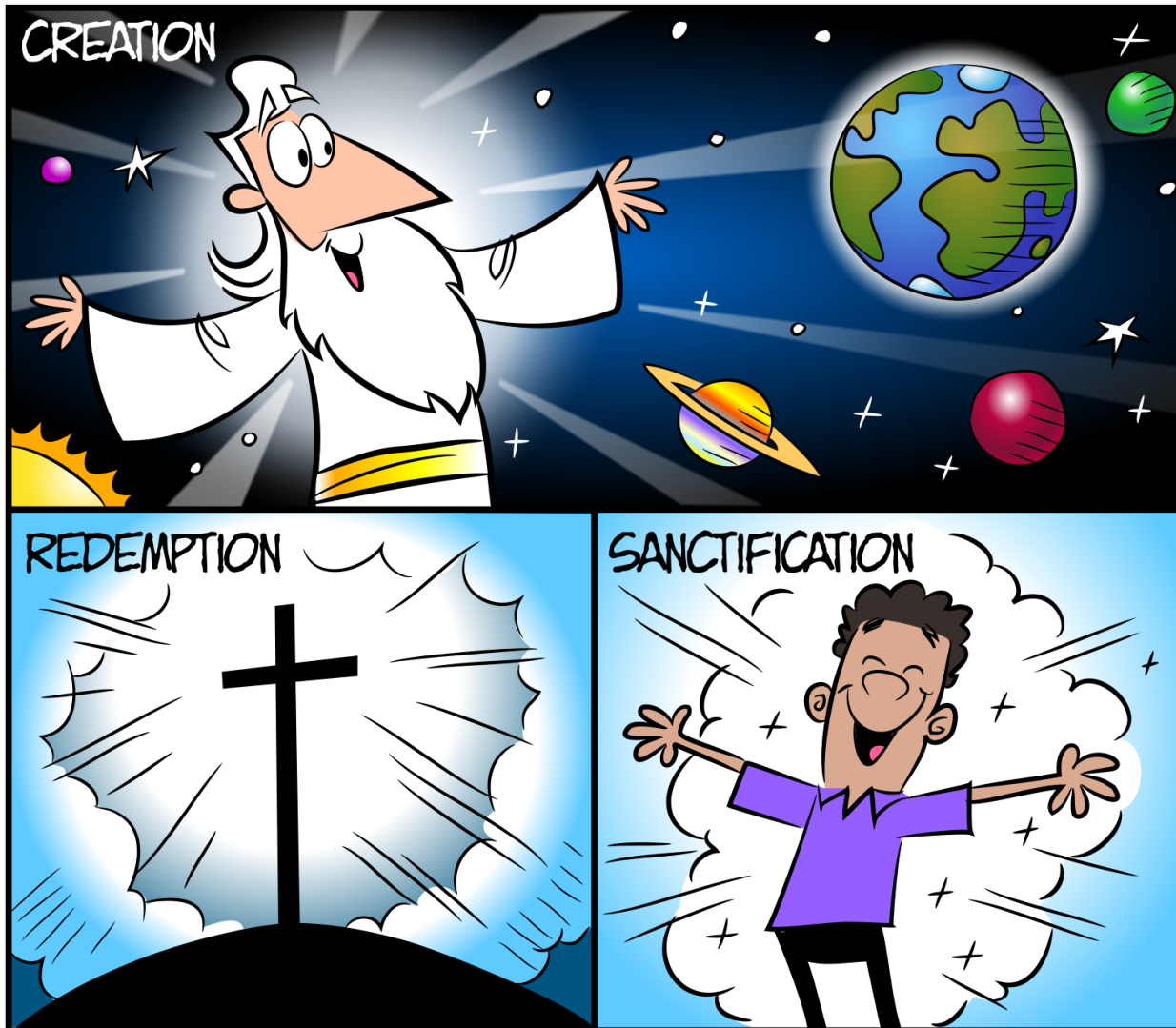


# PRIMARY ROLES WITHIN THE TRINITY



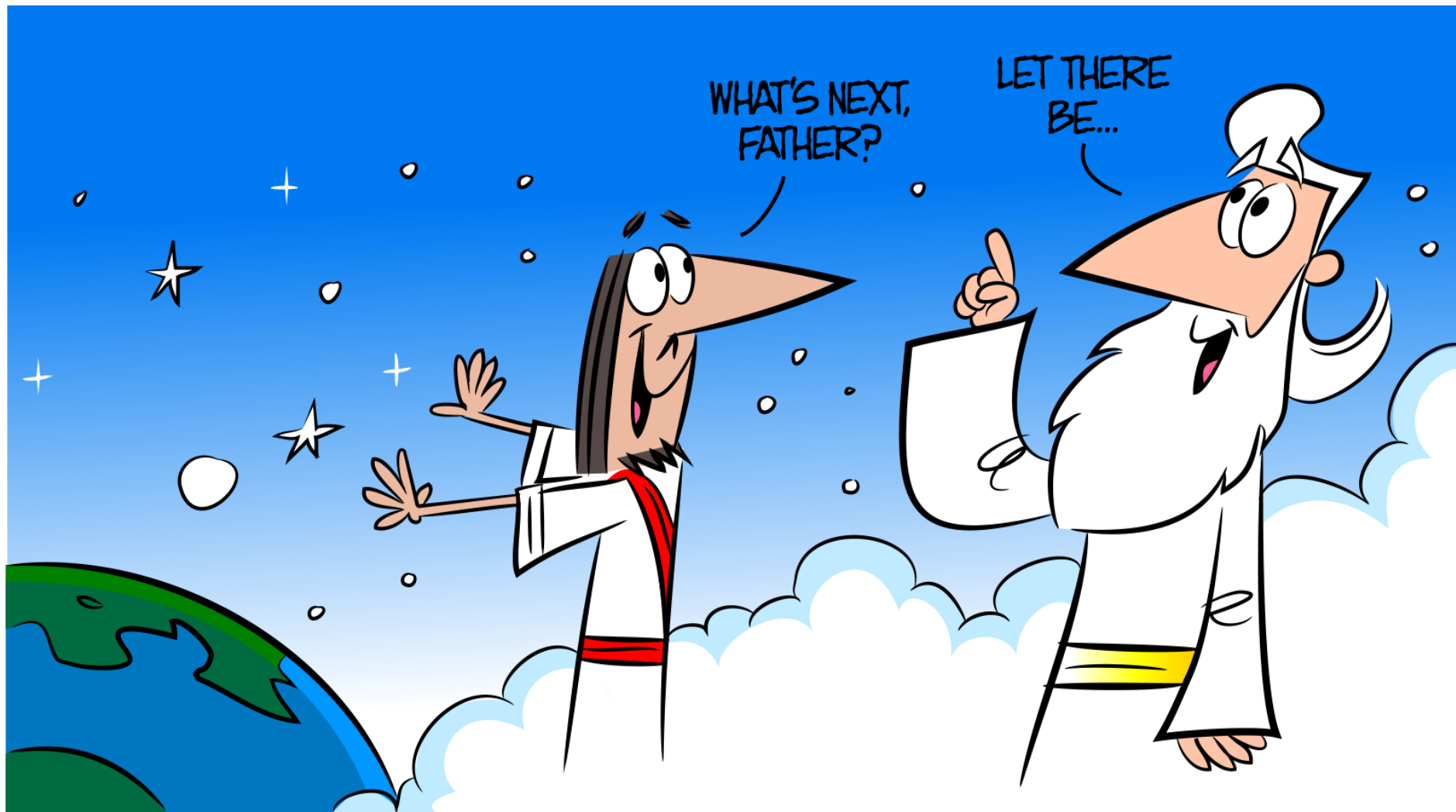
In this article we will look at the primary roles each of God's three distinct divine personalities play in relation to the world.

One way to explain the basics of this in a few words is to attribute

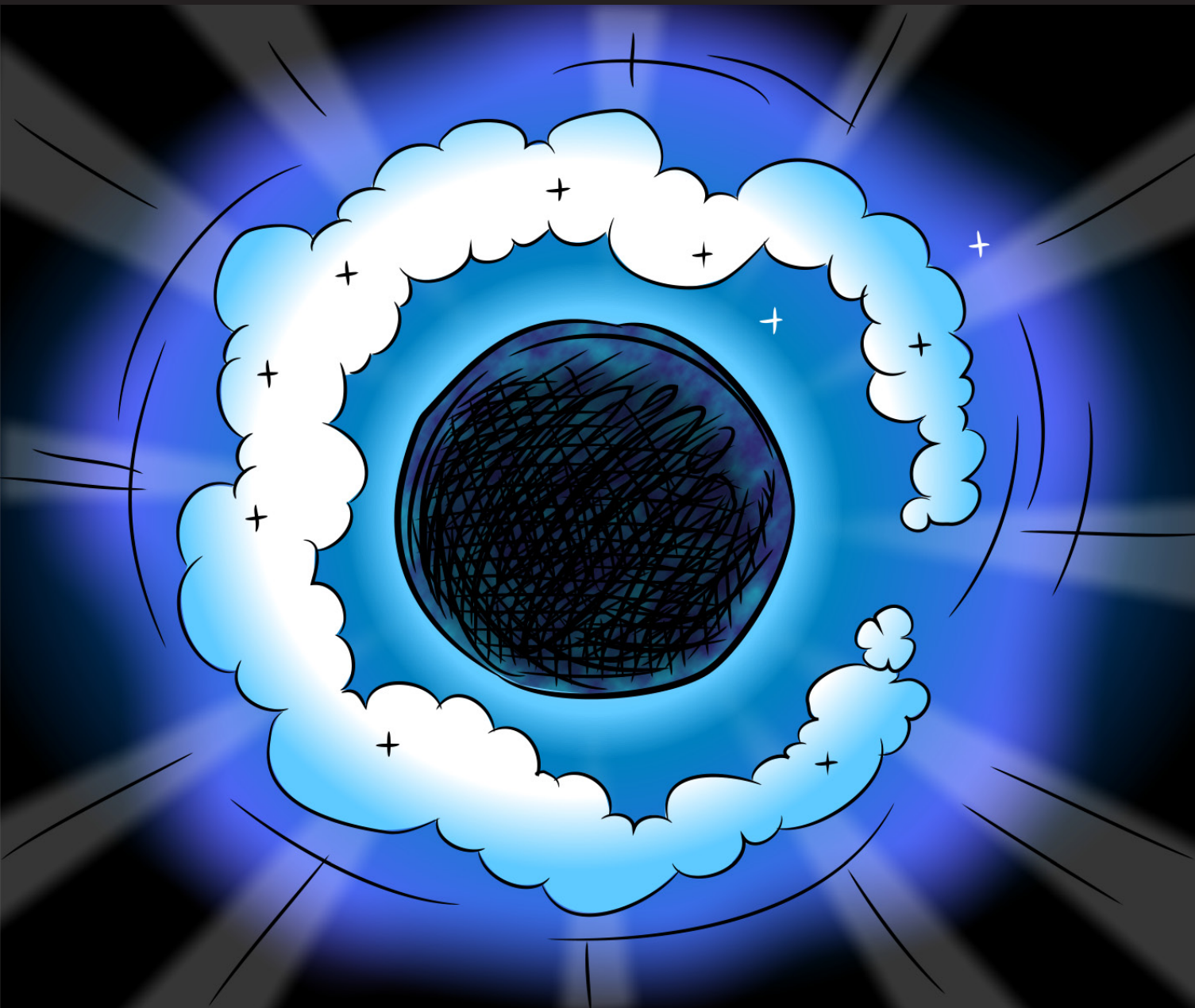
- creation primarily to the Father;
- redemption—mankind's salvation—primarily to the Son;
- and sanctification—renewal, and becoming a new creature—primarily to the Holy Spirit.

This doesn't mean that this is the only role each holds, nor that the other Persons don't also play a part in the other roles. But these can be looked on as the *primary* roles of each Person of the Trinity.

For example, in creation we see the Father speaking the "Let there be..." commands for the creation of the universe, but we see the Son carrying out these commands, as the Word that proceeds from the Father, as expressed in John 1:3 and other verses.



- All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made (John 1:3 ESV).
- For us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist (1 Corinthians 8:6 ESV).
- In these last days He [the Father] has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He created the world (Hebrews 1:2 ESV).



We also see that the Holy Spirit was present and played a role in creation as well.

- The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters (Genesis 1:2 ESV).



Another example is in regard to our salvation, redemption, and a Christian's work for God. God the Father sends the Son, and the Son obeys the will of the Father by dying for human-kind—something the Son specifically does, not the Father or the Holy Spirit. Once the Son returns to heaven after the resurrection, He and the Father send the Holy Spirit to strengthen our spiritual lives and give us power and gifts for Christian service.



- You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses (Acts 1:8 ESV).
- To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as He wills (1 Corinthians 12:7–11 ESV).

As you can see, each being of the Trinity has different functions, but Scripture clearly shows that each is fully and equally God in their being.

The concept of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit being one God has puzzled theologians and scholars for hundreds of years. As the all-powerful, all-knowing God reveals Himself to us, it stands to reason that understanding some aspects of Him might be beyond our human experience and understanding.

So if you feel you can't fully understand it, don't worry about it. The important things to know are:

...there is one God

...there are three Persons in God

...God loves you

...Jesus died for your salvation

...the Holy Spirit is with you as a helper and counselor.

