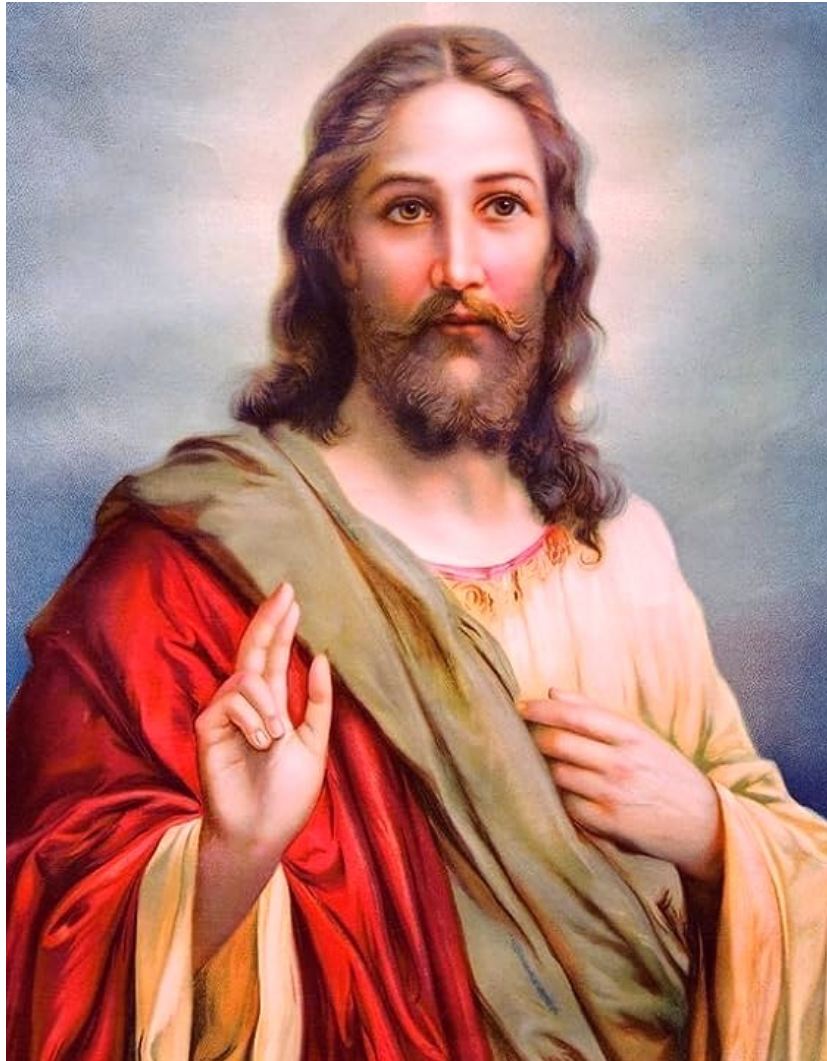


## HE HAS THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HAND

In pictures of Jesus that show His right hand raised in blessing, the *count* of 3 fingers up and 2 fingers down is symbolic of **three** (the Trinity: Father + Son + Holy Ghost) **over two** (Man + Woman). Surprisingly, *the individual digits of His hand in this gesture* are also mystically symbolic.



**Jesus shows 3 upright fingers:**

- The middle finger is the topmost digit of the hand. It is entirely appropriate that this preeminent digit represents **GOD the Father**. Of the Three Divine Persons of the Holy Trinity, GOD the Father is distinct in that He is neither begotten like GOD the Son, nor proceeds like GOD the Holy Ghost.

- The **index** finger (also known as the pointer) symbolically represents **GOD the Son**, *Who is eternally aligned with*—and ever points us to—GOD the Father.
- The **thumb** is different from the other digits. It is shy one joint and is offset to the side of the pointer, thus enabling the hand to hold things in a pinch! Whereas GOD the Father and GOD the Son are clearly similar, the thumb is unique—even mysterious. Therefore, it represents **GOD the Holy Ghost**, eternally assisting the Father and the Son.

**Jesus shows 2 downward fingers, bowing in subjection to and adoration of the upright Holy Trinity:**

- The **ring** finger represents **Man**, *who needs to be married to a Woman\**:

“And the Lord God said: It is not good for man to be alone: let us make him a help like unto himself” [Genesis 2:18]

“And Adam called the name of his wife Eve....” [Genesis 3:20]

- The **little** finger (also known as the pinkie) represents **Woman**. The littlest digit of the hand is bowing not only in subjection to and adoration of the Trinity, but also in submission to the ring finger, *to which it is temporally aligned*—as a woman is commanded by GOD to be submissive to her husband in this life:

“...thou shalt be under thy husband's power, and he shall have dominion over thee” [Genesis 3:16].

\*Even Catholic priests (*in persona Christi*) are “wedded” to the Catholic Church, which is known as the Bride of Christ.

