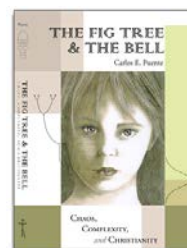
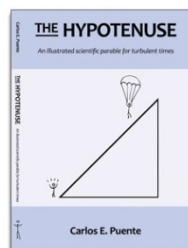


# From the Science of Complexity to the Love of Jesus

Carlos E. Puente



**Summary:** This series of lectures expounds a comprehensive linkage between matters of science and the Christian faith and in the process provides an urgent invitation to the Love of Jesus Christ.

**About the instructor:** I studied Civil Engineering and Mathematics at *Universidad de los Andes* in Bogotá, Colombia and obtained two Masters degrees and my Ph.D. from the *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*. Since 1986 and until 2021, I was a professor of Hydrology at the *University of California, Davis*. I am the author of over seventy publications, including the [books](#) *Treasures inside the Bell*, *The Hypotenuse* and *The Fig Tree & The Bell*, and the blog (in Spanish) [Campanitas de Fe](#). I have shared at UC Davis, 44 times since 2001, a [well-received](#) seminar [Chaos, Complexity and Christianity](#), which now I teach in Rome at *Ateneo Pontificio Regina Apostolorum*. I am a Fellow of the *International Society for Complexity, Information and Design* and a Member of the *Society of Catholic Scientists*.

**Lectures:** about 90 minutes each, also in [Spanish](#).

- 1. Presentation: The faith of a hydrologist.** Explains how my own scientific research led me to the Love of Jesus Christ and outlines the content of the other lectures in the series.
- 2. An introduction to fractals and complexity.** Revises the different kinds of numbers that exist, introduces examples of fractal sets, contrasts order and chaos, and emphasizes the existence of “power-laws” in natural violence.
- 3. Jesus: the way, truth, life, and hypotenuse  $Y = X$ .** Explains, based on generic models of division and turbulence, that Jesus Christ is certainly the way, the truth and the life; and also the straight hypotenuse with equation  $Y = X$  that takes us to God the Father, the Origin (Jn 14:6).
- 4. Chaos is hell: come down the fig tree at once!** Describes a scientific diagram that summarizes the orderly passage from order into chaos, the Feigenbaum tree (fig tree in German), and shows how such a tree provides suitable imagery to visualize heaven, hell and “purgatory” and diverse biblical passages, including the parable of the fig tree related to Jesus’ return, which call us to conversion by coming down from our chaotic trees.
- 5. A geometric model of the Most Holy Trinity.** Employing a fractal function shaped as angel wings, exposes a geometric model of the Holy Spirit, and, based on it and via projections, introduces a united representation of the tree members of the Most Holy Trinity. Shows how such a construction is useful to talk about Jesus Christ and other matters of faith, including why blaspheming against the Holy Spirit has no forgiveness.
- 6. Science lessons from the Vine and the branches.** Explains how the famous passage (Jn 15:1-10) gives rise to other representations of the Holy Spirit and the Eucharistic Doxology. Calls us to sanctity by avoiding power-laws related to common human actions and summarizes signs in the lectures that summon us to be attentive to Jesus’ call to Love and to be prepared for his return.