

THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY

THE TRIUNITY OF THE ETERNAL GOD

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THE HOLY TRINITY

Part One Definitions

Greetings to all of you.

We need to start out with some basic definitions of words that are related to the concept of the Holy Trinity.

- **SINGULARITY** is the quality of the oneness of God, being the one and only God.
- **UNICITY** is the quality of the uniqueness of God, being without equal, one-of-a-kind
- **TRIAD** describes a group of three gods
- **TRINITY** describes three distinct persons with the exact same essence who are coequal and coeternal, and who exist together in perfect unity as the one and only true God
- **TRIUNE** is the quality of three existing together as one
- **TRIUNITY** is the quality of the oneness of God that exists eternally in a triune nature

There is only one true God. If someone says there is more than one true God that is clearly not correct.

The eternal nature of the only true God has always been triune: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God has existed in this way for all eternity. This is not a Triad. They are not three Gods that came into existence at certain points in time. Neither are they simply different manifestations of God.

The triune nature of God does not violate the oneness nor the uniqueness of God.

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Part Two Holy Scripture

Greetings to everyone. Previously, we looked at some simple definitions of words related to the concept of the Holy Trinity.

Today we are going to look at some of the most important verses in the Bible that deal with this subject.

The Lord Jesus Christ says in Matthew 28:19 - *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,*

The text says to baptize those who believe in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. It does not say, in the names of, but uses the singular form "name".

There is only one name, the one and only true God. We understand from what Jesus says here, that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all one essence, but at the same time are three distinct persons. The main idea is that when someone becomes a disciple, they are being introduced into a relationship with the triune God.

Another important text is at the end of 2 Corinthians chapter 13. The last verse says, *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*

Paul is expressing that there is blessing for believers in the one and only true God. This true God is triune in nature.

Grace comes to us through Christ's incarnation, substitutionary death, and resurrection. We do not deserve this blessing because of anything that we have done.

God the Father's love is a reality for all believers. It is a wonderful thing to know that we are loved, and to participate in the joy of sharing that love with others.

We can also experience unity and fellowship with each other because of the Holy Spirit, who came to dwell in us when we believed. We truly are blessed by our wonderful triune God!

There are also texts in the Old Testament that speak of the triune nature of God. Isaiah 48:16 mentions YHVH, the Spirit, and the Messiah. We can also see this in Isaiah 61:1. It speaks of the Sovereign LORD, the Spirit, and the Anointed One. In Luke 4 it clarifies that the Anointed One is Jesus.

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Part Three God the Father and Jesus

Greetings to everyone!

This time we will continue looking at more Biblical testimony related to the triune nature of God.

John 10:30 says,
I and the Father are one.

Jesus declares here that He and God the Father have a oneness of purpose in the salvation of people, and perfect unity in their common essence. It means, "We are two persons, but are one being with a common purpose."

The Jews clearly understood that Jesus was claiming to possess the full nature of God, so they picked up rocks to kill Him in v. 31. They were convinced that Jesus was committing blasphemy.

In v. 33 they said "*You, a man, make yourself to be God*". At this point, Jesus did not jump in and try to explain that they had misunderstood His words. Instead, He made another claim strengthening His previous statement.

Jesus tells them in v. 38, "*I am in the Father and the Father is in me*". Jesus claims to be capable of doing the same works that God does. The Jews understood that Jesus was claiming to be equal to God. Jesus is declaring that He exists in a perfect unity of nature with God, while at the same time being a distinct person from the Father. That is why once again the Jews were enraged at what they considered to be His blatant blasphemy.

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Part Four God the Father and the Spirit

Greetings to everyone!

Now we will continue looking at more Biblical testimony related to the triune nature of God.

1 Corinthians 3:16 states, *"Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? The entire community of believers together form the temple of God because the Spirit is in them. The Spirit is God.*

Acts 5:3-4 says, *But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back for yourself part of the proceeds from the sale of the land? Before it was sold, did it not belong to you? And when it was sold, was the money not at your disposal? How have you thought up this deed in your heart? You have not lied to people but to God!"*

Ananias, influenced by Satan, wanted to appear to be more generous in the sight of the believers, so he lied. But by doing so, he was actually lying to God because God the Holy Spirit was present in each believer. This clearly identifies the Holy Spirit as God.

Hebrew 10:15-18 says, *And the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us, for after saying, "This is the covenant that I will establish with them after those days, says the Lord. I will put my laws on their hearts and I will inscribe them on their minds," then he says, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no longer." Now where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.*

This is a quote from Jeremiah 31:33-34 where the LORD (God, YHVH) is speaking. In Hebrews 10:15 it is attributed to the Holy Spirit. This clearly equates God (YHVH) with the Holy Spirit.

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Part Five Conclusion

Many groups do not believe in a triune God. They do not have salvation. They are not going to heaven. Faith can only save when it is placed in the one and only true God, who exists in eternal triunity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We know this based on the authority of the Bible alone, not on experience or tradition.

Salvation is by God's grace alone, and by faith alone in who Jesus is and what He has accomplished on our behalf. We can only understand this through the help of the Holy Spirit working in our heart and mind. We need to have full faith in the message of the Bible and proclaim it throughout all the earth.

