



20 Beliefs Every Christian Should Know

Lesson 3 – The Trinity

Key Verse: Matthew 28:19

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

Overview

The doctrine of the Trinity has been under attack for centuries. While people use three different names when referring to God: God or Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, these are in fact the names of three very distinct persons. Although God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit have existed eternally as three distinct persons, there is only one God. In this lesson, we will see what the Bible teaches concerning the Trinity.

“We worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; neither confounding the Persons: nor dividing the Substance.”
—The Athanasian Creed

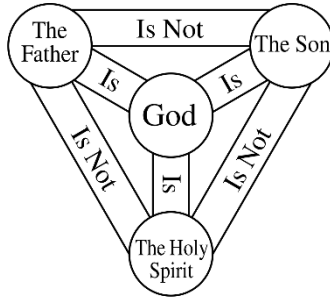
One and Three

1. Deuteronomy 6:4. What does this verse reveal about God? _____
2. James 2:19. What do the demons believe about God? _____
3. Genesis 1:26. What does this verse tell us about God? _____
4. Matthew 3:16–17. What was the Father doing? _____. What was the Son doing? _____
_____. What was the Holy Spirit doing? _____
5. John 15:26. Who is speaking in this verse? _____. Who is Jesus promising to send? _____
_____. Who does the Holy Spirit come from? _____

God Speaks of Himself as Plural

1. Genesis 3:22. What pronoun does God use to refer to Himself? _____
2. Genesis 11:7. What pronoun does God use to refer to Himself? _____
3. Isaiah 6:8. What pronoun does God use to refer to Himself? _____

The Shield of the Trinity



1. The Father is God.
2. The Son is God.
3. The Holy Spirit is God.
4. The Father is not the Son.
5. The Father is not the Holy Spirit.
6. The Son is not the Holy Spirit.

“The Trinity is one of those mysteries we can only describe in part . . . Attempts to simplify or fully explain this mystery all fail and often lead to beliefs that are contrary to the Bible’s teachings. In short, the doctrine of the Trinity is something we will never fully understand.” —Wayne Grudem, *Christians Beliefs*, pg. 39

The Deity of the Persons

1. John 6:27. The Father is: _____
2. John 20:28. What did Thomas proclaim about Jesus? _____
3. Acts 5:3–4, 9. Who did Ananias and Sapphira lie to? _____

The Trinity Performing Divine Actions

1. 1 Corinthians 8:6. What does this verse reveal about the Father? _____
2. John 1:3. What does this verse reveal about the Son (“the Word”)? _____
3. Genesis 1:2. What does this verse reveal about the Spirit? _____
4. Romans 6:4. What does this verse reveal about the Father? _____
5. John 5:25. What does this verse reveal about the Son? _____
6. Romans 8:11. What does this verse reveal about the Spirit? _____
7. Matthew 16:17. What does this verse reveal about the Father? _____
8. John 16:12–13. What does this verse reveal about the Son? _____
9. 1 Corinthians 2:12–13. What does this verse reveal about the Spirit? _____

“Each person of the Trinity (also known as the Godhead) possesses the entire simple (undivided) essence of God. This fact means that the three persons, though distinct from one another, are coequal in every perfection of the divine essence.”
— “The Trinity”, *Biblical Doctrines*, eds. John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, pg. 190

The Distinct Roles of the Trinity

In Salvation

1. Ephesians 1:4. Who chose us for salvation? _____
2. Ephesians 1:7. Who do we receive redemption and forgiveness through? _____
3. Ephesians 1:13. Who seals our salvation as children of God? _____

In Giving Scripture

1. 2 Timothy 3:16. What does this verse reveal about the Scriptures? _____
2. Colossians 3:16. What does Paul call the Scriptures in this verse? _____
3. 2 Peter 1:20–21. Who moved men to give us God’s Word? _____

The Eternal Relationship of the Trinity

1. John 5:26. Who possesses life in this passage? _____
2. John 6:38. Who does Jesus do the will of? _____
3. John 15:26. Who sent the Holy Spirit? _____

“And in this Trinity none is afore, or after another; none is greater, or less than another. But the whole three Persons are coeternal, and coequal. So that in all things, as aforesaid: the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshipped.” — The Athanasian Creed

Application

1. How does the Trinity reveal God’s greatness?
2. How does the Trinity give you confidence in God’s Word?
3. How does the knowledge of the Trinity change your worship?