

Biblical answers about the Trinity

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A Word and Spirit Church

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What are the divine attributes of God?

“I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me”. (Isaiah 46:9b; see also Deuteronomy 4:39)

- **Eternal** (without beginning or end) — Deuteronomy 33:27
- **Omnipotent** (Almighty, all powerful) — Revelation 11:17
- **Omniscient** (all knowing) — Psalm 139:1-4
- **Omnipresent** (present everywhere) — Psalm 139:7-12
- **Immutable** (unchanging) — Malachi 3:6
- **The Author of all good** — He embodies holiness, love, purity, truth, righteousness, justice, forgiveness, mercy, grace etc — Psalm 25:7

What is the Trinity?

Although the word ‘Trinity’ is not in Scripture, it is a Biblical doctrine.

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.” (1 John 5:7)

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”.

(Matthew 28:19)

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness” (Genesis 1:26a)

What is the Trinity?

“God has revealed Himself as triune (Gen. 1:26; 1 John 5:7), meaning that there are three eternal distinctions in the one divine essence, known respectively as Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Matt. 28:19b). Each Person in the Trinity is coeternal and coequal, so that the Father is rightly referred to as God (2 Cor. 1:2,3), the Son is rightly referred to as God (John 1:1; John 8:58; John 20:28; 1 Tim. 3:16; Titus 1:3,4; Heb. 1:8), and the Holy Ghost is rightly referred to as God (Acts 5:3,4; 1 Cor. 12:4-6).” (Victory Faith Centre, *Church Doctrinal Statement*, Section 3. The Nature of God)

What is the Godhead?

The Godhead is God essentially as Head over all and this includes His revealed nature as triune.

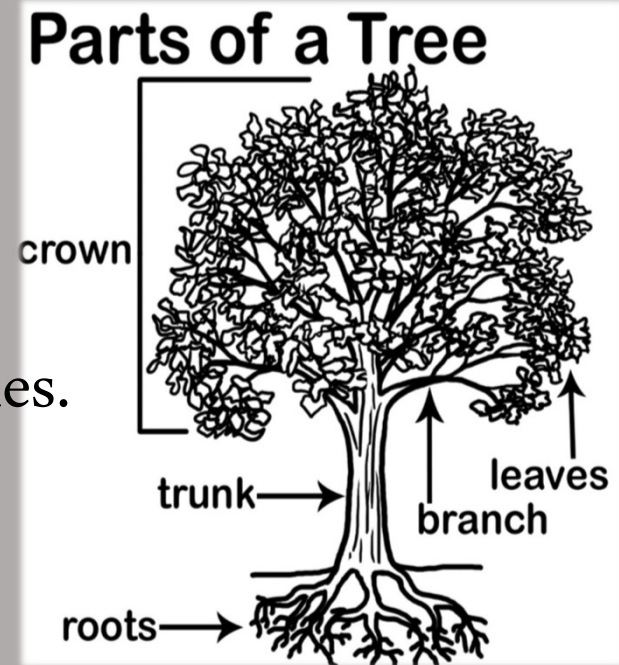
“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse”. (Romans 1:20)

It is no coincidence that God’s power and divine nature (e.g. He is triune, intelligent, law-making) is evident in creation.

Is there trinity in creation?

Yes but it does not prove the Trinity.

- Three-leaf clover.
- Three states of water – gas, liquid, solid.
- Three-fold nature of man – spirit, soul, body.
- Three-fold nature of trees – roots, trunk, branches.
- Three parts of an egg – yolk, white, shell.
- Three conditions for fire – fuel, oxygen, heat.
- Three-fold nature of time – past, present, future.



What is the Church's historical position?

Biblical Christianity has always held to the deity of the Holy Ghost. The Council of Constantinople (381 AD) affirmed this doctrine, just as the Council of Nicaea (325 AD) clarified the doctrine of the deity of Christ.

A close-up photograph of an open Bible. A yellow sticky note is placed over the text of 2 Timothy 3:16. The sticky note has the verse text written on it in black ink. A small, yellow, triangular object, possibly a bookmark or a piece of tape, is visible at the top right corner of the sticky note.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

17 that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped

Why has the doctrine of the Trinity been hard for some?

“For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.” (2 Corinthians 13:8; see also John 17:17)

In other words, we accept the truth (God's words), including what God reveals about Himself, such as the nature of Himself, even if it is difficult to understand. Besides this, the following applies:

- We are not to lean on our own understanding (see Proverbs 3:5).
- God opens our understanding (see Luke 24:45).
- We have the mind of Christ (see 1 Corinthians 2:16).

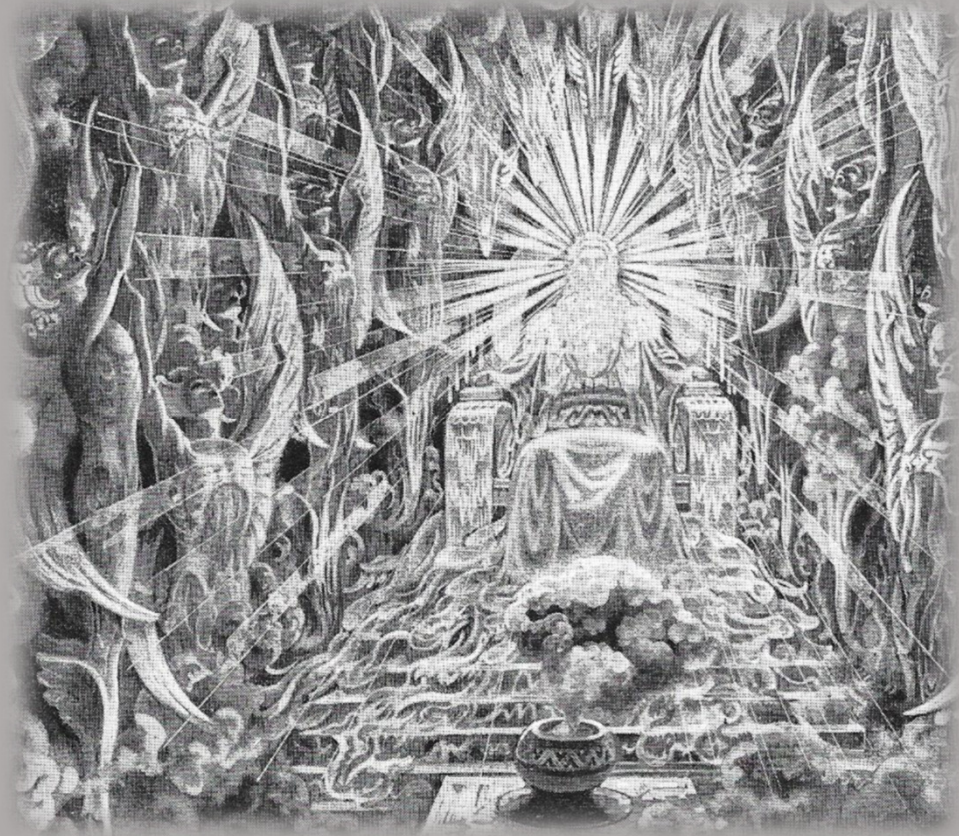
Is the Father actually God?

The New Testament uses “God the Father” 13 times.

“Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ”. (Galatians 1:3)

“And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

(Philippians 2:11)



Is the Son actually God?

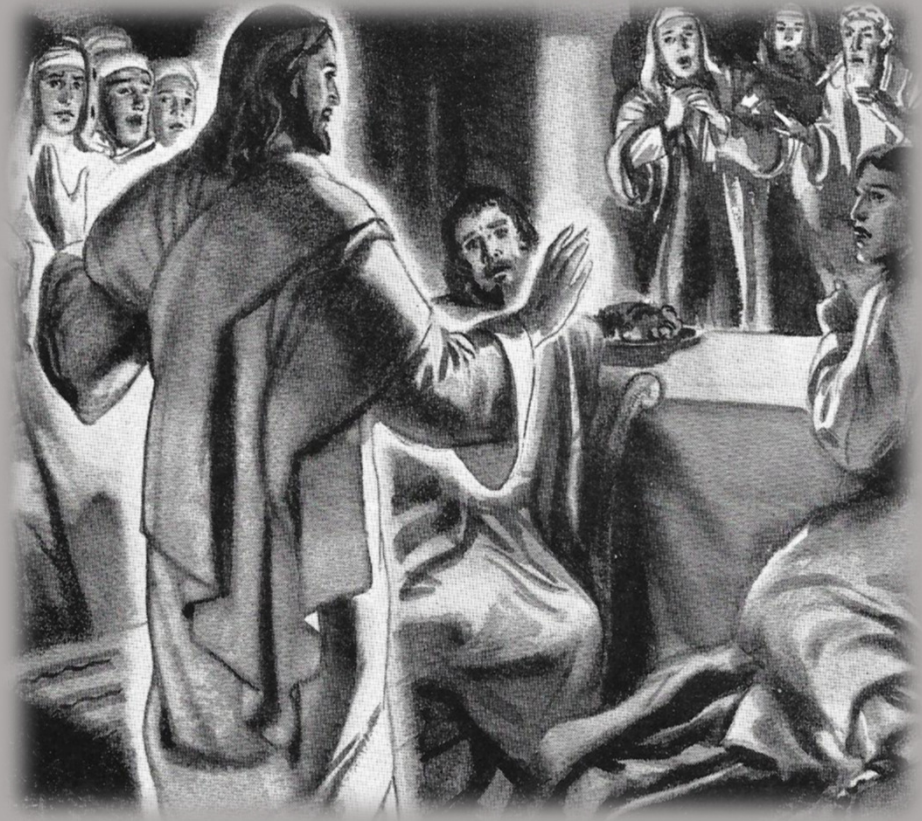
“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us”.

(John 1:1, 14a)

“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us”. (1

John 3:16a)

“... God was manifest in the flesh ...” (see 1 Timothy 3:16).



The Son of God from eternity.

Nebuchadnezzar* “answered and said,
Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the
midst of the fire, and they have no
hurt; and the form of the fourth is like
the Son of God.” (Daniel 3:25)



* The King James Bible here reveals that Nebuchadnezzar had received a revelation from God as to who else was in the furnace.

The Son of God from eternity.

“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah,
though thou be little among the
thousands of Judah, yet out of
thee shall he come forth unto
me that is to be ruler in Israel;
whose goings forth have been
from of old, **from everlasting.**”

(Micah 5:2)



Is the Holy Ghost actually God?

He is equivalent to Christ: “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth”. (John 14:16,17a)

He can be lied to as God: “But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart **to lie to the Holy Ghost**, and to keep back part of the price of the land? ... **thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.**” (Acts 5:3,4)

Is the Holy Ghost actually God?

He is called Lord: “So then after the Lord [the Son] had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord [the Holy Ghost] working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.” (Mark 16:19,20)

He has the attributes of God: “the eternal Spirit” (Hebrews 9:14)

God is a Spirit. (John 4:24). The Holy Ghost is called the Spirit of truth. (John 15:26).

Is the Father different from the Son?

Jesus said, “I and my Father are one*.” (John 10:30)

The Father sent Jesus: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son” (John 3:16a)

Jesus prayed to the Father: “Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?” (Matthew 26:53)

* One in complete unity.

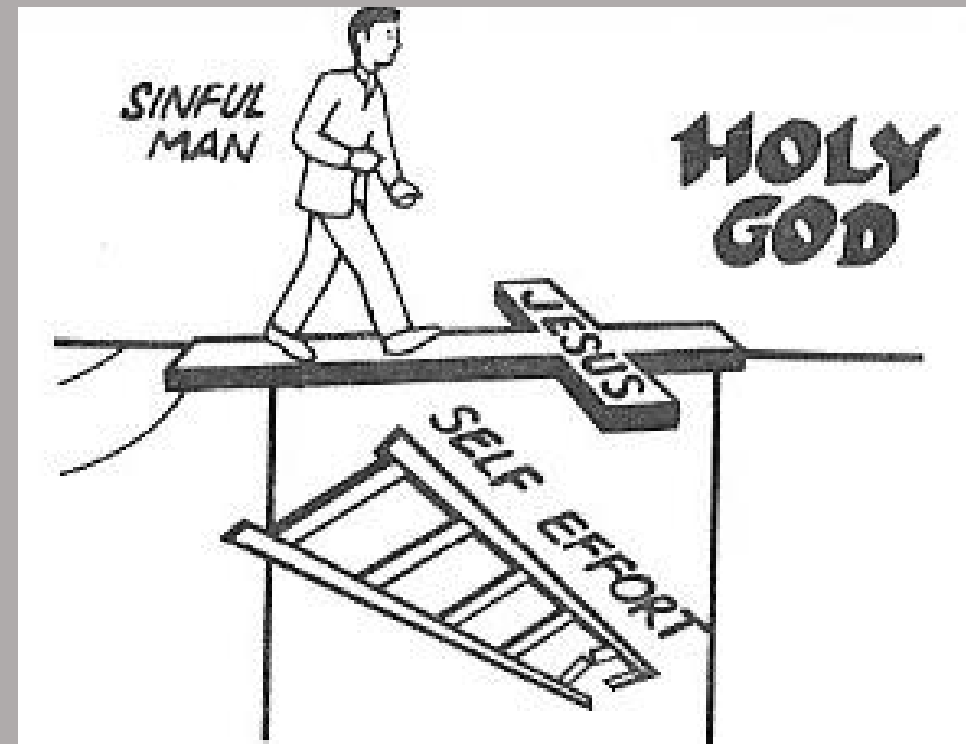
Is there an example the Trinity at work?

“And **Jesus**, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw **the Spirit of God** descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo **a voice from heaven**, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:16, 17)



Why is Trinitarian doctrine necessary?

1. The doctrine of the Trinity is received as revealed truth through the Scriptures.
2. Without this doctrine, there is not the proper understanding of the Mediator role of Christ (as God) between God (the Father) and man.



Did God's blood purchase the Church?

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves
[Ephesian church elders], and to all the
flock, over the which the Holy Ghost
hath made you overseers, to feed the
church of God, which he hath
purchased with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28)

“Christ also loved the church, and gave
himself for it” (Ephesians 5:25b)



Is God the Mediator between God and man?

Mediator – Christ (as God) between God (the Father) and man.

“... God was manifest in the flesh ...” (see 1 Timothy 3:16).

“Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3b)

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge
of the truth. For there is one God, and **one mediator between God
and men**, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all,
to be testified in due time.” (1 Timothy 2:3-6)

Agreement with the Spirit of truth

The Holy Ghost – the Spirit of truth – has come and dwells in us.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth” (John 16:13a)

An understanding of the Trinity means agreeing with the Spirit of truth – He shows us the Word of God.

All cults and false religions disagree with the Trinitarian doctrine.

References

Found under <http://victoryfaithcentre.org.au/what-we-believe>

Victory Faith Centre, ‘ *Victory Faith Centre statement on the Word and Spirit movement* ’,

Oct 2017

Found under <http://victoryfaithcentre.org.au/the-word-of-god>

Ps. Craig Savige “What is the Biblical name of God?”