



True Bible Teaching About... “The Trinity”

The Trinity?...Absolutely none! The Bible teaches nowhere of three Gods all co-equal, all eternal...three persons, yet one person.

The Encyclopedia Britannica agrees with this statement, and in Book 11, page 928 has this to say:

“Neither the word “Trinity”, nor the explicit doctrine appears in the New Testament, nor did Jesus and his followers intend to contradict Deut. 6:4: *“Hear, O Israel; the LORD our God is one LORD.”*

The doctrine developed gradually over several centuries, and through many controversies. Initially, both the requirements of monotheism inherited from the Old Testament, and the implications of the need to interpret the biblical teaching to Greek-Roman religions seemed to demand...”

As Greek and Roman religions had to do with the worshipping of idols, it would appear that the “Trinity” came from pagan mythology mixed with the new Christianity.

The Athanasian Creed which was fully developed in the 5th century, is too long to quote in full, but the following extract from it shows the doctrine of the Trinity:

“The Catholic faith is this: That we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity. Neither confounding the Persons, nor dividing the substance. For there is one Person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Ghost is all all one; the Glory equal, the Majesty co-eternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son; and such is the Holy Ghost. The Father uncreate, the Son uncreate, and the Holy Ghost uncreate. The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible. The Father eternal, the Son eternal, and the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet they are not three eternals, but one eternal... He therefore that will be saved must think of the Trinity.”

This is a complete change in doctrine from the **Apostles’ Creed**, which was formulated about the middle of the 2nd century, and is in Scriptural terms and understandable:

“I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost (Spirit), born of the virgin Mary.”

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We should not be surprised at this turn of events in face of the earnest warnings that changes would come in the Church, which would be a turning from Truth to Fable:

2 Tim 4:3,4 : *“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine...and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”*

Acts 20:30 : *“Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.”*

2Tim. 3:13 : *“But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.”*

Bible teachings indicate that:



God - is a unity



Jesus Christ - is the Son of God, not God the Son



Holy Spirit - is power emanating from God, by which He fulfills His will.

Verses you may question:

John 10:30 : *“I and My Father are one.”*

This is explained in John 17:21-25, in Jesus' prayer to His Father, where He asks that His disciples may be “one” with Him, even as He and His Father are “one”. That is, One in mind and purpose.

John 20:28 : *“My Lord and my God”,* cried Thomas to Jesus Christ.

It is true that the title of God is sometimes applied to the Lord Jesus; but it is also applied to mortals who derive their authority from God. Jesus explains this in John 10:33-36 by quoting Psalm 82:6. Those who were called “gods” were God's representatives, - the priestly judges of Israel. In Exod. 7:1, “God” is applied to Moses, because he represented God to Pharaoh.

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John 14:9 : *“He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father.”*

Jesus’ character was so like God’s that He could say this. He was, in character, a “manifestation” of God.

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

This passage is well-known to be fictitious, that is, is not in the original Greek manuscript, and has been falsely inserted by the translator. It is omitted by later translations, with a footnote to this effect.

John 6:51 : *“I am the living bread which came down from heaven...”*

The “manna” which the Israelites ate in the wilderness was not actually manufactured in heaven, but it was produced on earth by God’s Holy Spirit power. “From heaven” emphasizes the divine origin of the bread. Similarly, Christ came down from heaven, not literally, since it was the Holy Spirit which descended upon the virgin Mary to effect the conception. He is speaking of His divine origin.

There are two Bible principles it would be well to keep in mind, while studying this subject of the Trinity.

Firstly:

Acts 15:18 : *“Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world.”*

Jesus Christ was in the mind and purpose of God from the very beginning. All things were formed with Him in mind. All verses that seem to suggest that Jesus existed before He was born of Mary should be looked at from this standpoint.

Secondly:

Col. 1:15,18 : *“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature...the firstborn from the dead.”*

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Jesus Christ is the firstborn of a new creation; not the creation of light, dry land, etc. of Genesis 1, but the creation of new men and women in Him. 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15; Eph. 2:10.

All verses that connect Jesus with creation should be looked at from this standpoint.

There is no equality between God and Jesus Christ.

In the days of his flesh - John 14:28: *“My Father is greater than I.”*

After his exaltation and ascension - 1Cor. 11:3; *“the head of Christ is God.”*

After his 1,000 years rule on earth - 1 Cor. 15:28; *“then shall the Son also Himself (Jesus) be subject unto Him (God) that put all things under Him,(Jesus) that God may be all in all.”*

The importance of a correct understanding of this subject is stated in John 17:3:

*“And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, **and** Jesus Christ, Whom Thou hast sent.”*