



# 4

Parts A and B. Part A:

## 5 Things about the Trinity or Triunity of God



*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*

### 1.) Definition of Trinity

The word trinity can refer to any grouping of three. When in reference to God it embodies the teaching that there is One God who exists in Three Persons, commonly called the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. ( “For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.” I John 5:7). The term “Triunity” refers uniquely to God and is even more accurate because it reflects the “three in one” aspect of God. The Biblical teaching of the trinity is one of the most difficult truths to understand, and there is no known way to illustrate it<sup>1</sup>. Although many mistakenly suggest that the Catholic church invented this teaching, it was clearly taught by the apostles themselves, and can easily be taught from both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. We normally demonstrate what the Bible teaches about the Triunity by showing the next two of our five facts:

### 2.) The Bible First Teaches the Unity of God

The Bible clearly says that there is only one God and not many: “The LORD our God is one LORD,” Deuteronomy 6:4. “For there is one God...,” I Timothy 2:5. The false gods are contrasted to the one and only true God: “You shall have no other gods before Me.”Exodus 20:3. “Is there a God beside Me? Indeed, there is no other Rock; I know not one.” Isaiah 44:8. “Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one.”I Corinthians 8:4.

### 3.) The Bible Then Teaches That God is Made Up of Three Persons.

The “threeness” of God is shown in the Old Testament: “Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord GOD, and His Spirit, have sent me (Jesus).” Isaiah 48:16. In Genesis 1:1 this plurality of God that is in harmony with the teaching that God is one can be evidenced by the construction of Hebrew words used: “In the beginning God (plural noun) created (singular verb) the heavens and the earth” Throughout the New Testament the three Persons of God are given by their titles: “Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,” Matthew 28:19. (I John 5:7 says plainly that the three are one).

### 4.) The Persons are equally God

The Father is declared to be God— “Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him,” John 6:27. The Son is declared to be God— “In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God,” John 1:1. The Spirit is recognized as God— “But Peter said, Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit... you have not lied to men, but to God,” Acts 5:3-4. They are

each 100% God and yet they are not three separate Gods. They are never separate! They are God. And so it is called the Trinity.

### 5.) The Trinity is Eternal

The Bible teaches that God has never had a beginning and will never have an end and therefore is eternal. Since God is Three in One and this Triunity cannot be separated then each Person must be equally eternal without beginning or end, or else God would not be God.

Each of these Bible references sets forth the eternality of God as given in the Three Persons: Father—Psalm 90:2; Son—John 1:2, Revelation 1:8, 17; Holy Spirit—Hebrew 9:14.

Adapted from a submission by J. Cornelius.

Advanced Resources: Most any mainstream theology book or visit: <https://answersingenesis.org/who-is-god/the-trinity/the-trinity/>

<sup>1</sup>It is important for the reader to understand that because something does not seem *reasonable* does not make it untrue. We cannot comprehend the Triunity because we simply are not God. Be sure to avoid fanciful theories such as Modalism, Arianism, Adoptionism, and Unitarianism. None stand the test of God's Word.

Parts A and B. Part B:

## 5 Things about the Deity of Christ

### 1.) Christ's Own Words Acknowledged that He was God

When Christ claimed to be one or equal with His Father He was declaring His Deity. Christ was claiming to be God. The Scriptures lay out an abundance of evidence that Jesus considered himself equal with the Father. Comments that Jesus made about His relationship with the Father would be unusual if Jesus did not consider himself equal with the Father. In John 10:30, Jesus says, "I and My Father are one." Jesus was saying that to see Him was to see the Father. In John 14:7-9 Jesus told Philip that to know Him is to know the Father. John 8:58 is probably one of Jesus' strongest claims to His deity, "Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I Am.'" Jesus was declaring that He existed before His incarnation on earth.

### 2.) The Jews Understood Christ was Claiming Deity

During Jesus' trial He made a clear statement regarding who He was. In Matt. 26:63-64, the high priest said to Jesus, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God! Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you,

hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” At this time, one would think that Jesus would try to clear up any misunderstanding about His relationship with God the Father, but instead, He placed Himself in a position of equality and of unique power and authority. So, once again, the Jews knew what Jesus was saying. Matt. 26:65, “Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, “He has spoken blasphemy...!” Then, in John 19:7 the Jews argued with Pilate saying: “We have a law, and according to our law He must die, because He made Himself the Son of God.” In John. 8:59, after the Jews had heard what Jesus claimed about His pre-existing Abraham, they obviously understood the nature of His claim by their reaction. They picked up stones to stone Jesus for blasphemy; hence, the Jews clearly understood that Jesus had declared Himself to be God.

### 3.) Christ Coexisted with God the Father Before Time

John 1:1-2 contains an important declaration of *both* Christ’s deity and His full humanity. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.” When the world began, the Word, the Son of God, was already here. The “Word” co- existed with God and predates time and creation. The second phrase, “The Word was with God” has a dual claim of both equality and distinction of identity. Then in John 1:14, this “Word” became flesh and walked among them. This points to Jesus as this “Word” becoming flesh or God incarnate.

#### 4.) Jesus Christ is the Creator of the Universe

Allow God's Word to speak for itself and notice how Christ's deity is clearly defended. Hebrews 1:2-3, "...has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power..." Colossians 1:15-17 says, "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things consist." Jesus is described as the Creator of all things!

#### 5.) Christ was God Incarnate

When Christ came to earth He took on humanity, an event which, we refer to as incarnation. Philippians 2:5-6 defends Christ's deity, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God." Jesus exists as God in His incarnate body. In reference to Christ's deity, Scofield asserts, "God may change form, but He cannot cease to be God."

<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, in John 1:18, one finds another stunning proof to Christ's deity. "No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." No

Sec II 4a Five Things About the Trinity and Deity of Christ

one has seen God in His spiritual essence, but they have seen God through Jesus Christ incarnate. Titus 2:13 admonishes: “Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.” This verse is referring to both God and Savior as the same.

Hebrews 1:8-9 also defends the deity of Jesus Christ. Within these verses, God the Father is referring to His Son as (lit.) “the God”. In addition, Colossians 2:9 states, “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.” This is a powerful description of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is God-man. The Old Testament is rich with scripture passages referring to Christ’s deity. Isaiah 9:6 is just one example, “...His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Jesus Christ was truly God-man, just as He claimed to be!

“...Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the anti-christ...”

1 John 4:2-3 reminds us that whoever acknowledges that Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and that whoever denies the deity of Christ is of the spirit of antichrist. Now it is your decision, will you take God at His word and lay hold of the reality of Christ’s deity?

Sec II 4a Five Things About the Trinity and Deity of Christ

Adapted from a submission by L. LaBrier

The Deity of Christ is one of the most important truths in the Bible. The reader who is unsure of Christ's deity cannot be sure of his/her own salvation. If you need more information regarding this important truth, by all means, feel free to contact us.

*Advanced Resource:* Any good, mainstream, study Bible. See below.

<sup>1</sup>The Scofield Study Bible (any edition) includes copious notes on the Deity of Christ. We encourage every Bible student to own one and to learn how to use the indexes in the back of this study Bible for further growth.