

Sunday, July 23, 2023

**Doing Life with The Spirit
The Trinity II**

1. Western Christianity

God Eternally and Necessarily Exists as the Trinity:

John 1: 1 – 3 (NLT)

Father & Son

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He existed in the beginning with God. ³ God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.

Genesis 1: 2 (NLT)

Holy Spirit

The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

If all three members of the Trinity are Equally & Fully Divine,

then all three existed Eternally,

and God has eternally existed as a Trinity.

John 17: 5 (NLT)

Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.

**God can not be other than He is,
For He is unchanging...**

Malachi 3: 6 (NLT)

I am the Lord, and I do not change...

3 Essential Summary Statements:

- 1. God is three persons.**
- 2. Each person is fully God.**
- 3. There is only one God.**

Deuteronomy 6: 4 & 5 (NASB)

Exodus 20: 3

The Shema

*“Hear, Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is **one!** ⁵ And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*

Exodus 15: 11 (NLT)

Moses sings...

“Who is like you among the gods, O LORD— glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders?

God is Unique... Water Spirits...

1 Kings 8: 60 (NLT)

Then people all over the earth will know that the LORD alone is God and there is no other.

When God speaks – He alone is speaking – He is NOT speaking as one God among three who are to be worshipped.

Isaiah 45: 5 – 6 (NLT)

I am the LORD; there is no other God. I have equipped you for battle, though you don't even know me, ⁶ so all the world from east to west will know there is no other God. I am the LORD, and there is no other.

He calls everyone on earth to turn to Him:

Isaiah 45: 21 & 22 (NLT)

YHWH Challenging Israel over Idols...

... For there is no other God but me, a righteous God and Savior. There is none but me. ²² Let all the world look to me for salvation! For I am God; there is no other.

Why is the doctrine of the Trinity important?

Is it really essential to hold to the full deity of the Son and Holy Spirit?

Each person in the Trinity has a unique role / function.

Creation:

Genesis 1 & 2

God spoke the creative words to bring the universe into existence.

Colossians 1: 16 (NLT)

Jesus carried out the Father's creative decrees...

¹⁶ for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see —such as

thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

Genesis 1: 2 (NLT)

And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

Apparently sustaining and manifesting God's immediate presence in His creation.

Psalm 33: 6 (NLT)

*The LORD merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He **breathed** the word, and all the stars were born.*

Redemption:

God planned redemption and sent His Son into the world...

John 3: 16 & 17 (ESV)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Also:

Galatians 4: 4 & Ephesians 1: 9 & 10

Jesus obeyed the Father and accomplished redemption...

John 6: 38 (NLT)

For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will.

Neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit died for our sins...

The Holy Spirit is the One who gives us regeneration or new spiritual life...

John 3: 5 – 7 (NLT)

Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. ⁷ So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.'

After Jesus ascended, He said we would receive the Holy Spirit...

John 14: 26 (NLT)

Holy Spirit sent by the Father...

Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. ²⁶ But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit — he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

John 16: 7 (NLT)

Jesus will send the Holy Spirit...

... it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

John 15: 26 (NLT)

"But I will send you the Advocate- the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.

The Holy Spirit reminds us of Christ's teachings and continues the work of Redemption...

The Holy Spirit also sanctifies us...

Romans 8: 13 (NLT)

For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live.

The Holy Spirit empowers us for service...

Acts 1: 8 (NLT)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere — in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

In general, the work of the Holy spirit sees t be to bring to completion the work that ha been planned by the Father and begun by the Son.

John 3: 18 (ESV)

¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.