



The Trinity

Note: The Scripture references in this hand-out are taken from the New King James Version.

Do you expect to have a complete, detailed understanding of the Trinity as a result of this study?

The word “Trinity” is not even found in the Bible, so why do we study it?

What kind of analogies have you heard people use to try to explain the Trinity?

What is the problem with all these analogies about the Trinity?

How does 1 Thessalonians 5:23 provide a better analogy for the triune nature of God?

1 Thessalonians 5:23 - Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

How does Genesis 1:26 reveal the triune nature of God?

Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness”

How does Deuteronomy 6:4 contradict the concept of the Trinity?

Deuteronomy 6:4 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!

Despite all this evidence in the Old Testament for the triune nature of God, Jews still deny the Trinity. How do they deal with passages such as Genesis 1:26 that refer to God in the plural form?

How is the Trinity revealed in Genesis 18:1-2?

Genesis 18:1-2 - Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground,

How is the Trinity revealed in Psalm 2:7?

Psalm 2:7-8 - I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You.

How do we know that this Son in Psalm 2:7 is a reference to God?

What does it mean that “*I have begotten you*,” does this mean that the Son is a created being?

Which terms refer to the three persons of the Godhead in Isaiah 48:16-17?

Isaiah 48:16-17 - 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. Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.

What is the distinction between “the Lord God” in verse 16 and “the Lord your God” in verse 17?

If you were going to do a detailed study on what the Bible teaches about the Trinity, what part of the Bible would be the best place to focus?

How is the Trinity revealed in John 8:18?

John 8:18 - I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.

What was Jesus claiming about Himself in John 8:18 that the Father corroborated?

What kind of witness did the Father give that confirmed that Jesus was who He claimed to be, Messiah-God?

Is Jesus making a circular argument when He attributes the miracles to the Father yet uses these miracles as testimony from the Father that Jesus is who He claimed to be?

How do you reconcile the fact that Jesus attributes His miracles to the work of the Father in John 14:10 yet He promises to resurrect Himself in John 2:19-21?

John 2:19-21 - Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" But He was speaking of the temple of His body.

How is the Trinity revealed in Luke 1:35?

Luke 1:35 - And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

How is the deity of Christ seen in Luke 1:35?

How is the Trinity revealed in Matthew 3:13-17?

Matthew 3:13-17 - Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Why do you think the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove on this occasion?

Can you think of another occasion when God the Father verbally expressed His pleasure in the ministry of Jesus?

How is the Trinity revealed in Matthew 28:19-20?

Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

How do you reconcile the commandment of Jesus about being baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit with occasions in Acts where people were only baptized in the name of Jesus (Acts 8:16 & 19:5)?

How does the way the Trinity is expressed in Matthew 28:19-20 reveal the complex unity of the Godhead?

How is the Trinity revealed in Romans 8: 16-17?

Romans 8:16-17 - The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.