

Lesson 2 The Triune God

The doctrine of the Trinity is foundational to the Christian Faith since knowing God is at the heart of biblical religion and God is fully revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in Scripture.

God is a Triune God:

Genesis 1:26

²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness."

Genesis 11:7

⁷ Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 | We are Triune Beings

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.

Based off this scripture, we can see we are comprised of 3 elements: Body, soul, and spirit. Notice after reviewing the elements below, you are still one.

- Body: This is what you wear in this life. This is an extension of your soul and spirit.
- Soul: Your mind, will and emotions.
- Spirit: You are a spirit. God gives you a spirit when you are born-again.

The Lord is One:

Deuteronomy 6:4

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

Genesis 2:24

²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

- The word "one" in this Scripture is the same word used to describe a husband and wife becoming "one."
- The husband and wife are one, yet they are two distinct persons. So, it is with the Trinity - one God in three Persons.

Bible verses referencing all three members of the Trinity:

Isaiah 48:16

¹⁶ 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.

Matthew 3:17

¹⁷ 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."

Matthew 12:38

³⁸ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Matthew 28:19

¹⁹ 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.

John 14:26

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

Acts 1:4

⁴ And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me."

Acts 2:33

³³ Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

Galatians 4:6

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Ephesians 2:18

¹⁸ For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Hebrews 9:14

¹⁴ How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

1 Peter 1:2

² Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

What does Trinity mean?

- That God is one, and that there is but one God (see Deuteronomy 6:4 / Isaiah 44:6 / Mark 12:29, 32 / John 10:30).
- That the Father is a distinct divine Person, distinct from the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- That Jesus Christ was truly God, and yet was born in human flesh and blood, distinct from the Father and the Holy Spirit. The apostle John specifically calls Jesus God (John 1:1, 18; 8:58). In several places, Paul identifies Jesus as God (Romans 9:5 / Philippians 2:6 / Titus 2:13), as does Peter (2 Peter 1:1).
- That the Holy Spirit is also a distinct divine Person. The Holy Spirit is declared to be God by Peter (Acts 5:4) and is listed alongside the Father and the Son (Matthew 28:19 / 2 Corinthians 13:14).

