

Series: Foundational Truth (7/30/17)

Title: The Savior: Trinity/Deity of Christ

Text: (Deut 6:4) *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD [YHWH] our God is one LORD:"*

We believe in a triune God, manifesting Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all being equal in divine perfection.

We believe in the deity, virgin birth & sinless humanity of Jesus Christ.

Introduction - The Trinity is a bible truth.

The Trinity is under attack and has been perverted by the cults to teach heresy.

Do you know what it is? Can you explain it?

(1 Pet 3:15) ... *be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you ...*

(Jude 3-4) This Doctrine is under attack/being perverted.

The word "Trinity" is not found in scripture.

The concept of the "Trinity" is that God consists of three persons who are ONE in Being & Nature.

The concept of the "Trinity" is not defined by a specific verse
The reason the "Trinity" is a concept, is because the way God describes Himself through out the entire bible.

God is a Trinity of persons: the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit.

The Father is not the same person as the Son;

The Son is not the same person as the Holy Spirit;

The Holy Spirit is not the same person as Father.

They are separate persons; yet, they are all the one God.

The 3 are in perfect harmony consisting of one substance.

They are co-eternal, co-equal, and co-powerful.

God is not one person, the Father; with Jesus as His creation, & the Holy Spirit as a force. (*Jehovah's Witnesses*)

God is not one person who took three consecutive forms, i.e., the Father who became the Son who then became the Holy Spirit (United Pentecostal, or "Oneness" Pentecostal).

God is not an office held by three separate men who became Gods. (Mormonism).

The concept is derived out of the scriptural evidence.

I. There is one God.

"I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me:" (Isaiah 45:5)

II. This one God is the single divine being known in the OT as Jehovah or Yahweh ("the LORD").

(Deut 6:4) *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD [YHWH] our God is one LORD:"*

III. The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is God.

(Rom 1:7) *To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.* (Pretty Self Explanatory)

IV. The Son, Jesus Christ, is God.

(Doc Statement) **We believe in the Deity, Virgin Birth and Sinless Humanity of Jesus Christ.**

Lets break this down...

We believe in the Deity of Christ: Jesus Is God

(John 1:1-3,14) The WORD is God.

(John 10:30) *I and the Father are One!*

(Titus 2:13) Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

We believe in the Virgin Birth

(Isa 7:14) Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, & shall call his name Immanuel. (God with us) fulfilled (Matt 1:18-21)

We believe in the Sinless Humanity

(Phil 2:8) And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Illus: Hypostatic Union of Christ (100% God, 100% Man)

Why is this important? If He is not Virgin Born He cannot our Sinless Substitute. We are still Lost!

Earthly Fathers Pass their Sin Nature to their kids!

(Rom 5:12) Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Christ was not sired by an Earthly Father

(2 Cor. 5:21) For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

THUS: (Doctrinal Statement) **We believe that the suffering and death of Jesus Christ was substitutionary for all mankind and is efficacious only to those who believe.**

(Isa. 53:6) All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

(1 John 2:2) And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

(1 Pet 3:18) For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

V. The Holy Spirit is God.

*(Acts 5:3-4) But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast **not lied unto men, but unto God.***

A Person can be lied to, an impersonal force can only be ignored or resisted, but not LIED TO.

VI. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are each someone distinct from the other two. (Matt 28:18-20)

All Three were present at the Baptism of Jesus

(Luke 3:22) "And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased."

(2 Cor 13:14) The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

VII. Conclusion: The Bible teaches the Trinity.

There is only one God, one Being, yet He exists as three separate persons; each is fully God, co-equal & co-existent.

The Trinity is the basis of our reality.

(Rom 1:20) *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

The entire creation is based on His characteristic of the trinity
Time, Space, & Matter
(Gen 1:1) *In the Beginning (Time), God created the Heavens (Space), and the Earth (Matter).*

He exists above and apart from all that He created.
Any being bound by one of these is not God.

The Creation is A Trinity of Trinities
Time: Past Present, Future
Space: Length, Width, Height
Matter: Solid, Liquid, Gas

A Trinity of Trinities in continuum
If you have Time and Matter, Where would you create it?
If you had Space and Matter, When would you create it?

Deut 6:4 *“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD”*

The concept of the Trinity is present from the opening verse of the Bible

The word "God" here is the same as in (Gen 1:1) is "elohim."
This is not a simple plural of the word 'god.'
The plural of that word, which means 'two,' is "elohe."
"Elohim" means "three or more."
(Gen 1:26) *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:*

SO then maybe we need to see what God meant by One!
Consider what Jesus said about His relationship to the Father.
(John 10:30) *I and the Father are One!*
(John 17:22) *“And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:”*
Jesus calls us to be one with Him as He is one with the Father

God gave us a picture of this in Marriage: (Gen. 2:24).
God created man & woman to be united as *one flesh*
“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

This could not simply be a reference to the bearing of children, which are in a sense, a one flesh result of their union

It must refer to the marriage itself, for certainly they were *“one flesh”* before they had any children.
Married people do not lose their individual traits, such as their own thoughts, emotions, etc.
Couples don't develop the same blood type after they're married, if their blood types were different before.

God gave us a picture of this in the local church: it is referred to as “one body in Christ”, yet we retain our identity and sense of “self”.

(Rom 12:5) *So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.*
(1 Cor 10:17) *For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.*
(1 Cor 12:20)
The oneness of the marriage and the body of Christ are reflective of the nature of God Himself.

What exactly does "one" then mean?

The Hebrew word used for God as one is *echad*.

Echad - refers to a plural unity of multiple parts.

(Num 13:23) *echad* refers to a cluster of grapes.

(Gen 11:6) Those who built the tower of Babel are referred to as "one people."

Echad is used to describe "one flesh" of marriage (Gen. 2:24)

The word which is NOT used there to mean "one" is "yachid."

"Yachid" means a unique singularity.

In English: Nice FISH "one", or Nice FISH a Stringer full.

Nice Deer "one" or Nice Deer, a herd of them.

Determined by contextual grammar, just like Echad.

Since God is referred to Himself as an *echad* in the same way as man and woman are referred to as *echad* implies that the oneness of marriage reflects the oneness of God.

The individuals do not become a homogeneous consciousness or a physical singularity of any sort.

We are dealing on a spiritual level of oneness, which is reflective of God's nature.

VIII. What difference does it make?

You are basing your entire existence & future on this god you refer to.

What do we believe about God, determines Who God is?
"We all serve the SAME god, just with different names & methods."

How do you know that? What is your proof?

How do you know we are worshipping the same god?

It's all wishful thinking B/c no one likes to be offensive.

Life would be simpler if we were worshipping the same god.
(John 8:54-55) *it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God: 55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.*

Which God are you referring to?

Jesus was saying, You are not talking about my Father.

Why does it Matter? Which God you trust in answers the questions of...

How I got here, Why I am Here, & Where am I Going?

There are 8747 False God's listed in the online directory.
They are Not Jehovah. ex. Allah is NOT the God of the Bible!
(Mark 12:32) *for there is 1 God; & there is none other but he*

How Do You Know that? - I know this because...

Jehovah is different in His Being

He is Infinite, Limitless in Power, in Presence, in Knowledge.

Jehovah is different also in His Nature

God is by nature a spirit (**Jn 4:24**) and as such He is invisible and without flesh and bone (**Lk 24:39**).

He cannot be represented by an image, but is revealed to us only in the person of God the Son, Jesus Christ (**Heb.1:1**)

Jehovah is different in His Person

God is a being with a personality, and not a thing or a force.

He has intelligence, mind, will, reason, individuality, self-consciousness, and self determination.

Because He is personal, He may be known by man personally.

(James 2:23) *And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.*

Jehovah is different in His Emotions

He grieves: (Gen 6:6)
He has anger: (1Kings 11:9)
He feels: (Deut 6:15)
He loves: (Rev 3:19)

Jehovah is different in that His Emotions don't Rule Him

(Zech 9:9) *behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is Just.*
(Acts 10:34) *God is no respecter of persons:*

He Created, Sustains, Provides, Guides, & He cares for us.

I believe in the unity of God in that He is not three different gods, but one God.

There is only one God, one Being, yet He exists as three separate persons; each is fully God, co-equal, co-eternal.

(Deut 6:4) *“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD”*

Who is the god you serve? - So what is your God like?

You are basing your Entire Existence, Purpose, & Eternal Future on this god you say you believe in.

The God of the bible is the only one that can save you!

(Acts 4:12) *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*