

The background features a dark blue gradient with faint, light blue concentric circles and degree markings (40, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260) on the left side, suggesting a circular or orbital theme.

The Trinity

Whitesburg Baptist Church

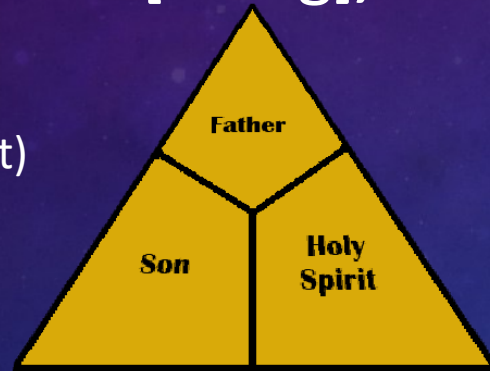
Dr. Ron Nyberg

7/16/2025

Trinity—Definition

The Trinity is one God [Being], eternally existing in three Persons:

- **God-the-Father**
- **God-the-Son** (Jesus Christ)
- **God-the-Holy Spirit**



1 God exists in 3 Persons (Father, Son, and Spirit)

Trinity—False Definitions—Why?

False Definitions or Misunderstandings. The Trinity or Trinitarianism is NOT:

- 1 initial God, with 2 later (created), lesser gods; a pseudo-trinity—*There is 1 eternal God, with 3 co-equal eternal Persons.*
- 3 Gods (Tritheism, polytheism, or social trinitarianism)—*There is only 1 God, not 3 (not $1+1+1=3$).*
- 3 parts, %, or pieces of God—*God is 100%, wholly, fully, and completely God (not partialism: $\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{3}=1$).*
- 3 roles or functions of God—*Wrong, as it makes each person the same person with different roles or functions, some of the time. The Trinity is 3 distinct persons. Our 1 God is all 3 Persons simultaneously, functioning with 3 distinct roles, all the time.*
- 3 forms or modes of God—*God does not change form or modes to become a different person. He does not change back and forth between each member of the Trinity. He is eternally the triune God. The Athanasian and Nicene Creeds (4th century AD, both historically accepted by all churches), defended the Trinity, rejected modalism (1 person in 3 modes), and Arianism (deny Christ's deity).*

1 God exists in 3 co-equal, co-eternal Persons—not 1 alone, or 3 of anything else

Trinity—Analogies

Sometimes Helpful Analogies (though all limited/imprecise).

- **Egg** (1 egg has a shell, egg-white, and yolk; 1 egg with different parts/pieces).
- **H₂O** (Liquid [Water], Solid [Ice], Gas [Steam]; all the 1 compound, but in different forms, modes, or states).
- **Father, Son, and Brother.**
- **Triangle** (Each corner has the same angle, is part of the 1 triangle, distinct, identical, and united).

There is nothing comparable to our awesome God (Isa. 40:18, 25)

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (1 of 7)

There is 1, and only 1 God; monotheism.

- Deu. 6:4—“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our **God is one LORD.**”
- Isa. 45:5—“I am the LORD, and **there is none else**, there is **no God beside Me**; I girded thee, though thou hast not known Me.”
- John 10:30—“**I [Jesus] and My Father are one.**”
- John 14:7-11—“⁷If ye had **known Me [Jesus]**, ye should have **known My Father** also: and from henceforth **ye know Him, and have seen Him.** ⁸Philip saith unto Him, Lord, **shew us the Father**, and it sufficeth us. ⁹Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet **hast thou not known Me**, Philip? **he that hath seen Me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? ¹⁰Believest thou not that **I am in the Father, and the Father in Me**? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but **the Father that dwelleth in Me**, He doeth the works. ¹¹Believe Me that **I am in the Father, and the Father in Me**: or else believe Me for the very works' sake.”
- 1Ti. 2:5—“For there is **one God**, and one mediator between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus.**”

1 God exists (Monotheism)

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (2 of 7)

Only 3 Persons (Father, Son, and Spirit) are fully God.

- **Father** (called “**God the Father**” 12 times, Joh. 6:27; Gal. 1:1, 3; Eph. 6:23; Php. 2:11; 1Th. 1:1; 2Th. 1:2; Tit. 1:4; 1Pe. 1:2; 2Pe. 1:17; 2Jo. 1:3; Jude 1:1): 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.*”
- **Son** (called “**Son of God**” 48 times, “**the Son of God**” 45 times, and “**the only begotten son of God**” in John 3:18): John 1:1, 14—“*¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ¹⁴And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*” Heb. 1:8—“*But unto **the Son** He saith, ‘Thy throne, O **God**, is forever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom.’*”
- **Spirit** (called “**Spirit of God**” 26 times, “**the Spirit of God**” 25 times, “**the Spirit of the Lord**” 31 times, “**Holy Ghost**” or “**Holy Spirit**” 97 times): Acts 5:3-4—“*³But 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? ⁴Whiles 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.**’*” 1Co. 2:10—“*But **God hath revealed** them unto us **by His Spirit**: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, **the deep things of God.**”*

Only 3 Persons fully God

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (3 of 7)

All 3 Persons are co-equal (baptism and benediction).

- Mat. 28:19—“Baptizing them in the name of **the Father**, and of **the Son**, and of **the Holy Spirit**.”
- 2Co. 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.”

3 Persons co-equal

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (4 of 7)

All 3 Persons (simultaneously) are eternally distinct (not the same person).

- Mat. 3:16-17—*“¹⁶And **Jesus**, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and He saw **the Spirit of God** descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: ¹⁷And lo **a voice from heaven**, saying, 'This is **My beloved Son**, in Whom I am well pleased.’”*
- Luk. 1:35—*“And the angel answered and said unto her, ‘**The Holy Ghost** shall come upon thee, and the power of **the Highest** shall overshadow thee: therefore, also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called **the Son of God**.’”*
- Joh. 15:26 (cf. John 12:28; 14:16-17)—*“But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even **the Spirit** of truth, which proceedeth from **the Father**, He shall testify of **Me** [Jesus].”*

3 Persons co-eternally distinct

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (5 of 7)

God's plural names, pronouns, and repeated reference imply the Trinity.

- **"Elohim"** (is **the plural name for God**, found 2,601 times). Deu. 6:4—"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our **God** is one LORD." (Here plural "God" context is contrasted with "one.")
- **"Us"** and **"Our"** (are the plural pronouns for God): Gen. 1:26-27—"26And God said, 'Let **Us** make man in **Our** image, after **Our** likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.'" Gen. 3:22—"And the LORD God said, 'Behold, the man is become as one of **Us**, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever..." Isa. 6:8—"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for **Us**?' Then said I, 'Here am I; send me.'" (Here plural pronouns refer to the 1 God.)
- **"Holy, Holy, Holy"** (repeated attribute only for our thrice holy triune God): Isa. 6:3—"And one cried unto another, and said, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory.'" Rev. 4:8—"And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.**" (The thrice Holy triune God for the 3 Persons of the Trinity.)

God's plural names, pronouns, & perfections prove the Trinity

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (6 of 7)

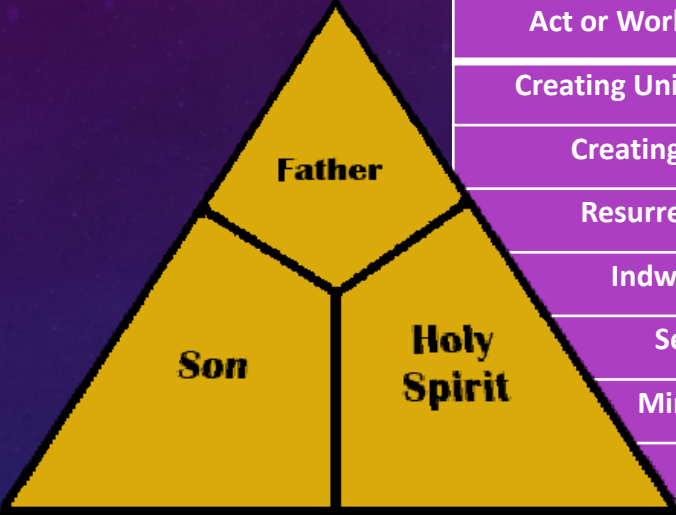
Only 3 have God's glory, exact "*image*," attributes, and names/titles.

- John 17:5—“And now, O **Father, glorify thou Me** [Jesus] *with Thine own self* **with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was.**”
- Heb. 1:2-3—“²Hath in these last days spoken unto us by **His Son**, Whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by Whom also He made the worlds; ³Who **being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person...**”
- 2Co. 4:4, 6—“⁴In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, **Who is the image of God**, should shine unto them. ⁶For God, Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of **the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**”
- Col. 1:15, 19; 2:9—“¹⁵[Jesus] **Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature.** ¹⁹For it pleased the Father that **in Him should all fulness dwell...**For **in Him** [Jesus] **dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.**”
- Heb. 9:14—“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through **the eternal Spirit** offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

Only 3 Persons equally have God's glory, exact image, perfections, & names/titles

Trinity—Scriptural Basis (7 of 7)

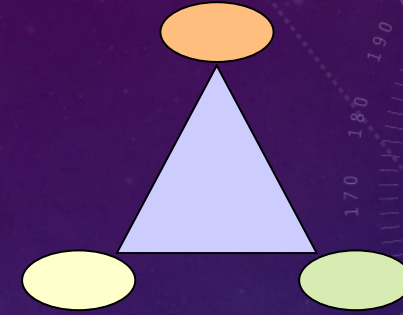
All 3 perform Divine acts or works (some cited below).



Act or Work	Father	Son	Holy Spirit
Creating Universe	Gen. 1:1; Psa. 102:25	Joh. 1:3	Gen. 1:2; Job 26:13
Creating Man	Gen. 2:7	Col. 1:16	Job 33:4
Resurrection	Act. 13:30; Rom. 6:4	Joh. 2:19; 10:17-18	Rom. 8:11
Indwelling	1Jo. 4:12, 15-16	Rom. 8:9-10	2Ti. 1:14
Sealing	Joh. 6:27	Eph. 3:17	Eph. 4:30
Miracles	Act. 2:22; 19:11	Joh. 2:11	Gal. 3:5
...			

Only 3 Persons perform Divine acts

Trinity—Scriptural Summary



The Bible clearly teaches the Trinity in 7 indisputable ways:

1. There is 1, and only 1 God (monotheism).
2. All 3 Persons (Father, Son, and Spirit) are fully God.
3. All 3 Persons are co-equal.
4. All 3 Persons are distinct.
5. God's plural names, pronouns, and perfections prove the Trinity.
6. All 3 Persons equally have God's glory, exact "*image*," attributes, and names/titles.
7. All (only) 3 Persons perform Divine works ("Acts of God").

The Trinity is a clear Scriptural teaching

Trinity—Important Applications

1. Know
2. Pray
3. Witness
4. Worship

BETTER

Know, Pray, Witness, & Worship the Triune God better