

Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics

The Doctrines of God: The Trinity Part 1

The Heights Church January 10, 2016

The Trinity

LOGIC 101

Basic Definition: God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God, and there is one God.

- The word Trinity does not appear in the Bible. BUT The Doctrine of the Trinity is progressively revealed in Scripture.
- **The Trinity is both a paradox and a mystery but NOT a contradiction.**
 1. **The Law of non-contradiction:** Something cannot be what it is and what it is not at the same time and in the same relationship.
 2. **Paradox** is something that appears to be a contradiction but on closer examination is revealed to not be a contradiction.
 3. **Mystery** is something that presently cannot be understood but may be understandable later.

The Trinity

The Doctrine of the Trinity is progressively revealed in Scripture.

1. The Old Testament

And the **Spirit of God** was hovering over the face of the waters.

Genesis 1:2

Then God said, “Let **us** make man in our image, after **our** likeness.

Genesis 1:26

Behold, the man has become like one of **us** in knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:22

The Trinity

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1. The Old Testament

Jesus asked them a question, saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the **Spirit**, calls him **Lord**, saying,

The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet? (Quoted from Psalm 110:1)

If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions. Matthew 22:41-46

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1. The Old Testament

- In light of the NT Psalm 110:1 says God the Father said to God the Son, Sit at my (God the Father's) right hand.
- There is clearly a plurality of persons in one God in the OT.
- The Pharisees would not admit to Jesus a plurality of persons in one God (Matthew 22:41-46) and hence could not answer Jesus' question. To this day Jews still have the same problem. The messiah was not to be just a great warrior/king but the Son of God!