

Vol 24 The Trinity

The Doctrine of The Trinity is as follows:

There are three persons making up God. Each is God and thus equal to each other

Each has a separate personality and can be related to separately to the other two members of The Trinity

They work as one so that there is uniformity in what each does in their role as God

They all have the same Character so how one expresses the other two will also express it the same way.

They have chosen to express their roles in certain areas so that we can understand better what each does

Each desires an intimate personal relationship with each of us and all work together to make this possible for us.

Why do we need to know about The Trinity?

The persons of The Trinity control our eternal destiny

They give us life and sustain it

They make the rules we are to live by

They judge us for the way we keep these rules

Salvation is a relationship with them

They Love us and desire for us to enter into a personal, intimate relationship with them.

According to our responses to them is determined our eternal salvation or damnation

Our response will be determined by what we know about each of The Trinity members.

How do we know there is a Trinity?

The Bible says there is one and I personally have been in a room when The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit were all present.

Remember, when you approach the subject of The Trinity, you are on Holy Ground. Satan will never malign the Name of The Trinity. That is how much Satan fears it. Satan will blaspheme the name of Jesus and try to bring The Holy Spirit into disrepute. But he never attacks The Trinity or The Father in this way.

Do not try to understand The Trinity. Only God can really understand it. Anyone who says they can understand The Trinity is saying they understand God and are deluding themselves because we can understand only as much as God tells us about Himself and The Trinity is beyond our comprehension (Duet 29:29).

All you can really do is reason about it and try to imagine with your finite mind what an infinite God is like. But imagination or reason does not lead to good doctrine when it is based on the assumptions of a person and not the guidance of The Holy Spirit (Jn 16:13).

Trying to understand The Trinity can result in one or more of the following:

- Fear, when you realise how greater God is than you are
- Confusion about The Trinity and the roles of each person in it
- Error as you try to reason and understand The Trinity
- A pounding headache.

Understanding God

Finite man cannot understand an infinite God and they are deluded if they think they can do so. They will only comprehend the little God allows them to know. Anything else is conjecture and is not worth pursuing and may be provided by Satan to mislead them into error.

So do not try to understand God or The Trinity as you cannot. Deut. 29:29 applies.

References to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

A few verses directly reference the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit at the same time:

"As soon as Jesus Christ was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and landing on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased'"(Matt 3:16-17}.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing, them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt 28:19}.

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you (2 Cor 13:14}."

If you do not believe in The Trinity then you do not believe in The God of The Bible. He said there is a Trinity of three different persons acting in unison as one God. So, if do not believe God then you will need to find a Bible you can believe in as you cannot believe in His Bible because you do not know what else is in error in it.

What does each member of The Trinity do?

The Father provides all we need.

Every good thing comes from The Father. He also calls people to follow Jesus and transfers those that respond and follow Jesus as Lord, from the kingdom of Satan to The Kingdom of His Son, Jesus. The Holy Spirit changes our spirit so that we can enter The Kingdom of God (Titus 3:5).

The Lord Jesus,

He the ruler of The Kingdom of God, is also our Redeemer, the person who explained the Kingdom of God to us and also explained the requirements of a citizen of this Kingdom. His death removed all the spiritual consequences of our sins so that we could enter heaven and relate to God on a 24 hour basis.

The Holy Spirit.

He marks us as belonging to the Kingdom of God (Rom 8:17)

The Holy Spirit is our guide and Teacher who gives us understanding of the Kingdom and its

requirements as well as giving us the empowerment to do The work of The Kingdom and to Live as a citizen of The Kingdom should!

Do not try to understand how The trinity interacts. Just realise what each member at The Trinity has chosen to do as their chosen role so that you address the correct person of The Trinity.

All are equally God so all need to be addressed and worshipped as God!

When anything happens, all Three of The Trinity are involved in some way and whatever occurs will advance The Kingdom of God in some way and if it involves you, it will mature you as a citizen of The Kingdom of God as well if you do your part in it correctly.

Examine the roles each person of The Trinity fulfils and you will see what part each person of The Trinity plays in an event as well as in your life!

They work as a harmonious unity and not in isolation from each other, complementing each other in the activity or event.

An example is when God Blesses you.

The Father gives you the item that Blesses you. Jesus, as ruler of The Kingdom organizes things so you will receive it. The Holy Spirit guides you so that you will be where you need to be to receive The Blessing and gives you the understanding to know how you have been blessed as well as how God desires you to use the blessing!

Every good thing we have is from The Father, administered by Jesus and guided by The Holy Spirit.

So, when we thank God for what He has done for us we should:

Thank The Father for giving it to us

The Lord Jesus for making certain we receive it and protecting it

The Holy Spirit for guiding us to be in a position to receive it!

The way they work together is also an example of how a husband and wife should work together in a marriage. It is a ministry of equals where each has been assigned roles by God that complement the role their spouse has. Both guided by The Holy Spirit to minister to each other and run the household in the way God desires them too, either in their domestic role in the marriage or spiritually to each other and/or others are God directs.

It is also how people should minister in The Body of Christ. Complimenting each other's giftings as well all being guided by The Holy Spirit to minister in a unity.

The Character of each member of The Trinity

What is the character of each member of The Trinity like?

Jesus said that anyone who had seen him had seen The Father. This was because The Father and Jesus are God and both have the same character. This of course means that The Holy Spirit, being God has the same character as The Father and Jesus. So, if you study the character of Jesus you will understand the character of The Father and The Holy Spirit (Jn 14:9).

The basic character of God is Love and it is expressed in everything He does. So, what is God's Love like?

God's Love

(Author unknown)

Based on 1 Corinthians 13

Because God Loves me, He is slow to lose patience with me.

Because God Loves me, He takes the circumstances of my life and uses them in a constructive way for my growth.

Because God Loves me, He is for me. He wants to see me mature and develop in His love.

Because God Loves me, He does not send down His wrath on every little mistake I make, of which there are many.

Because God Loves me, He does not keep score of all my sins and then beat me over the head with them whenever He gets the chance.

Because God Loves me, He is deeply grieved when I do not walk in the ways that please Him because He sees this as evidence that I don't trust Him and Love Him as I should.

Because God Loves me, He keeps on trusting me when at times I don't even trust myself

Because God Loves me, He never says there is no hope for me; rather He patiently works with me, Loves me, and disciplines me in such a way that it is hard for me to understand the depth of His concern for me.

Because God Loves me, He never forsakes me, even though many of my friends might.

Because God Loves me, He stands with me when I have reached the rock bottom of despair, when I see the real me and compare that with His righteousness, holiness, beauty, and love.

God's character is also expressed in The Fruit of The Spirit. The Spirit expresses the character of God, which is Love, and the expression of this love results in certain attitudes which can only occur if God's type of Love is the attitude behind them.

We know the fruit of the Holy Spirit is love, from which the other fruit: joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance all flow. So how does God express these in His dealings with us?

He joys in the relationship with us which He delights in it.

He gives us His peace during all of our problems and trials.

He patiently waits for us to learn our lessons so that He can help us even more.

His is gentle towards us like a parent is to their child and does not punish us as He should. However He is bound by Galatians 6:7-8 and must allow us the consequences of our actions but helps us to cope with these.

In everything He does He seeks our best and all He does for us is for our good.

He puts His faith (trust) in us even though He knows at times we will fail him.

He humbles himself to help us, even placing His presence in us. Demons despise us as lumps of earth, but God ignores our physical state because He Loves us for who we are as a person and not because of what we look like, achieve, or are made of.

God is temperate in all He does to us for us. He never gets overexcited or rejects us. But always deals with us in a calm, reasonable way.

What is the depth of God's Love towards us?

God is infinite so we can never reach the depth of His love.

A person was taken to heaven, to the banqueting room where the marriage supper of the Lamb is to be held. And there they spoke to The Father who was weeping.

The father told him that he had prepared this banquet everyone but that so many would not be there. The Father was weeping over those lost to Jesus.

If God weeps over the lost. How much more should we.

Relating to God

How do you relate to God? The question really is: How do you relate to each member of the Trinity? Each member of the Trinity is a person and you need to know how to correctly relate to each one of them.

The basis of any relationship is God's type of love. So, the questions really are:

Why should I relate to God.?

How should I relate to God?

When should I relate to God?

Where should I relate to God?

Why should I relate to God?

I should relate to God because it is vital to my eternal fate to be in a correct relationship with God in my daily life and when I am dying.

This means I need to know Gods' requirements of me as well as how I am to carry them out.

In what attitude should I relate to God?

God's quality of Love should be the basis of all relationships and this is specifically so when relating to God.

Where can I relate to God?

As God is everywhere) I can relate to Him wherever I am and at any time of the day or night. I am never alone as The Holy Spirit's Presence is in me and accompanies me throughout my life. He is my friend and companion in all things Godly and never deserts me when I do wrong, but patiently guides me back to God and what I should be doing at that time.

Why should I love God

Out of appreciation and thanksgiving for what He has done for me.

It is out of my love for and appreciation of Him that I obey Him. Any other reason for obedience is selfish and personal and is not a form of worship. Loving God is a form of worship and should be a natural expression of my attitude toward Him.

It should also result from the intimate, personal, relationship we have with each member of The Trinity.

Salvation is a relationship (Jn 17:3)

We relate to The Father as a spiritual child of His

We relate to Jesus as our Lord and spiritual step-brother

We relate to The Holy Spirit as a ward of His because He is our Guardian on earth to help us get to heaven and live as we need to on earth.

This is the most important relationships we have with anyone.

Appreciation of each person in the Trinity.

Each person in the Trinity has different roles and should be appreciated individually for the roles they carry out towards us. Even though they have different roles they work in unison with one mind and purpose.

God.

We are told in the Bible that The Spirit of God makes us and that the breath of the Almighty gives us life. So, the first thing we thank God for is that we exist.

He did not need to make us and knew what problems we would cause Him. But He still loved us sufficiently to make us and endure all we would do to Him as well as to do all that was necessary to sustain us now on earth, and in eternity.

The Father.

The Father guides people to a knowledge of Jesus and then hands them over to Jesus to become citizens of His Kingdom. In this process The Holy Spirit regenerates them as they are translated from the kingdom of darkness to The Kingdom of life (The Kingdom of Jesus).

He provides all we need to live and to serve Jesus in the way a citizen of The Kingdom of God needs to live and serve Jesus, their king.

Jesus

Jesus came to earth and taught what was required of a citizen of The Kingdom of God. He then died to redeem us and make this lifestyle possible.

As a king:

He accepts us as His step brother or step sister and He protects us and all we need to do His work.

He prepares all we need in heaven (including a mansion and rewards for faithful service)

He in charge of the battle plan against Satan.

He has given us His delegated authority to defeat Satan (Mark 16:16-17, although you cannot use a modern version for this as they imply this delegation is not part of scripture).

He sent The Holy Spirit to guide us to do the work of The Kingdom and empower us in our service of The Kingdom of The Father which Jesus is controller of (King) as well as to live as a citizen of The Kingdom of God should live.

The Holy Spirit.

Just as Jesus humbled himself and came to earth to become one of us so He could relate to us and teach us, The Holy Spirit has come to earth and places His Presence in us so He knows what we experience, and is able to correctly intercede for us, guide us and relate to us on a personal level.

He informs for us The Father telling Him what we need when we do not know what to pray and can do this because His presence is in us so He knows our innermost thoughts, feelings and needs.

He teaches us the mysteries of God and guides us into all truth (spiritual and everyday truth - ALL TRUTH) as well as how to live, serve and relate to God as we should.

He walks with us through everything that happens to us in our life and guides us on the Ephesians 2:10 path God has prepared for us from before creation, so that we will walk in all the good things, including trials designed by God to mature us and prepare us for heaven.

His strengthens and empowers us to stay on this path and guides us back to it when we stray from it.

The current work of Jesus.

Jesus is in heaven now working on our behalf:

He intercedes for us with The Father

He does The Father's will for us.

He protects us because we are his citizens

The Father provides the angels for Jesus to send out to do the work of the kingdom.

Jesus is the judge of all who die and gives them their reward according to the king whose kingdom they belong too when they died. The reward will either be in heaven or in hell (Gal 6:7-8 applies). You serve Jesus voluntarily as your Lord or by default you serve or assist Satan in his plans.

How do the members of The Trinity relate to each other?

All are equally God. So, this relationship does not mean one is lesser than the other. It just means they have chosen certain roles to follow and in these roles, they serve each other and you.

The Holy Spirit is on earth and advises The Father what is happening on earth and The Father uses this advice to determine the timing of the return of Jesus. Because He is on

earth, He is able also to intercede for us with The Father.

We are to appreciate and be thankful for what each person of the Trinity has done for us, Jesus said we were to pray to The Father and He is our example. So, to pray to Jesus or The Holy Spirit is incorrect. This does not mean that we cannot talk to them and express our joys, sorrows, and problems and who knows whether they will intercede for us if they are not doing so already. But The Father is the person we are to go to ask for our needs to be met.

But if we believe in His Love and care for us He should be already providing these things. So What are we to asking from Him then?

are doing for us and will do for us. We are also to appreciate their roles and relate to them as is appropriate to their roles.

Our understanding of the roles of each person of the Trinity will affect how we:

Pray

Worship them

Appreciate them

Be thankful for what they do for us

Serve them

As well as what we will love them for having done for us.

We are to relate to The Father as our spiritual Father and provider of every good and perfect thing we have. We are His adopted child and should relate to Him as a child relates to their parent.

How does the child relate to their parent?

They enjoy spending time with their parents.

They delight doing things with their parents.

They seek to please them and do their will.

They delight serving them

They seek to be like them.

They rely on their support and guidance.

They appreciate, respect, and love other family members as well as how they are served by them.

These are some of the things that should be exhibited in the relationship we have with each member of The Trinity if we decide to relate to them as a child relates to its parents.

Jesus is our Redeemer and King. So, we need to love him as our Redeemer and be thankful that He has done this for us. As our King He expresses only what is best for us so He should be obeyed in all He asks us to do because doing it will be what is best for us.

He is the son of God and we are adopted children of The Father. So, we have a relationship with Him as our step brother and this should also be cultivated.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher and guide and as He is part of the Trinity. We are related to him through being adopted by The Father and are like a nephew or niece to him. He is like a wise uncle who is always there to help His nieces and nephews and should be appreciated for this role in our life as well as for the empowerment He gives us to live this life as a good citizen of The Kingdom and to also do the work of The Kingdom.

As it can be seen a relationship with each person in the Trinity is personal and intimate because we belong to them as part of their family through our adoption by The Father and each should be approached with the purpose of developing the relationship and the intimacy and love we have with them.

Closing Comments

Unless you trust The Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit you will have difficulty in joyfully obeying them. If you do not trust their love, The Kingdom you will have difficulty in loving and trusting them. A Love relationship can only be there if there is trust and respect for the other person. As you experience the faithfulness and care of God towards you, you will learn to know His Love for you and will love Him back. It is only as you step out in faith, trusting God's Love, care, and faithfulness towards you that you will be able to experience or receive these things.

God Loves us which means He respects us and trusts us. What a great responsibility we have to confirm His trust in and respect of us.

You would draw closer to God? Then trust His Love, care of and faithfulness toward you and step out in faith so He can show these toward you.

God cannot show His Love and Faithfulness toward you if you do not put yourself in a position where He is able to demonstrate these in your life.

So, you need to step out in faith into new areas of faith or degrees of faith for Him to be able to show these to you in a new way as well as reveal His Love toward you.

Epilogue

If you desire to be a good citizen of The Kingdom of God then you need to know each member of the Trinity in a personal way, and not just Jesus alone.

There are many possible purposes in life. The most important one is to do with The Trinity and their purposes. Their purposes are all to do with Salvation and Redemption which is an expression of their desire for us to have a personal relationship with them.

Jn 17:3 states that eternal life is a relationship with The Father and Jesus as guided by The Holy Spirit (Rom 8:14) for the purposes of The Kingdom of God (Matt 6:33.)

This is why your life objectives should be centred on knowing The Holy Spirit's teaching and guidance (Jn 16:13, Job 32:8). As well as developing intimacy with The Father and Jesus so that you can serve them as they desire you too and so that all God has promised to you will be able to occur because you will be where He requires you to be to be able to be used and rewarded by Him!