

## Asking For a Friend – What's the Deal with the Trinity?

### Three key questions

#### 1. What is the Trinity?

Christians believe there is only one God, and this one God exists in one being as three persons

#### There is (only one God)

*"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!"*  
Deuteronomy 6:4 NASB

*"For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me"*  
Isaiah 46:9 NASB

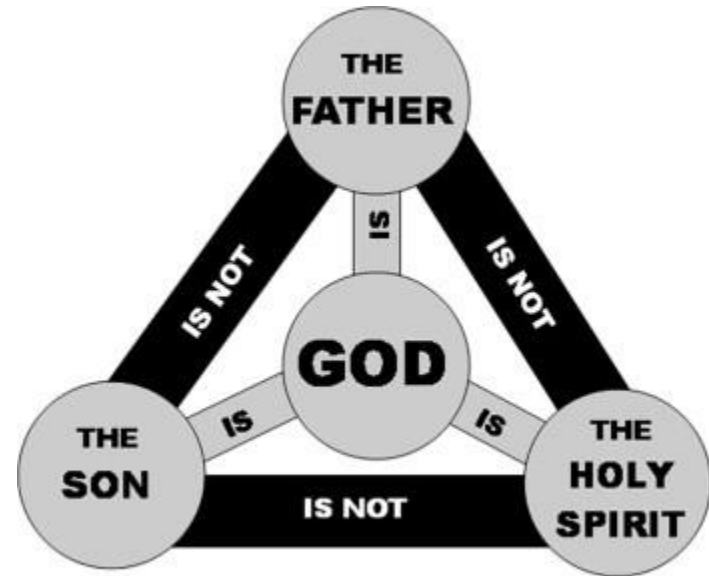
*"This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."* John 17:3 NASB

*You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.*  
James 2:19 NASB

#### This one God exists (in three persons):

- God the (Father)
- God the (Son)
- God the (Spirit)

Early Christians used this diagram to help explain the Trinity.



#### We have nothing to truly compare to God

*"For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me,"*  
Isaiah 46:9 NASB

#### 2. Where did the concept of the Trinity come from?

##### Old Testament

#### Trinity was there (at the beginning of time)

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.*  
Genesis 1:1-2 NASB

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God ... And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory*  
John 1:1, 14 NASB

### **Trinity was there (at the creation of man)**

*Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;"*  
Genesis 1:26a NASB

### **Trinity was there (at the calling of Isaiah)**

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*  
Isaiah 6:8 NASB

## **New Testament**

### **Trinity was there (at the conception of Jesus)**

*The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God."*  
Luke 1:35 NASB

### **Trinity was there (at the baptism of Jesus)**

*And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."—* Matthew 3:16-17 ESV

### **Jesus' Reveals His True Identity**

*Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." John 8:58 NASB*

*Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" John 14:9 NASB*

## **3. How does the Trinity impact my faith?**

### **The Trinity (deepens our worship)**

- The greater our understanding of God as Father, Son and Spirit, the greater our love for Him

*All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.* Psalm 86:9-10 NIV

### **The Trinity (empowers our prayer life)**

- We pray to the Father - through the Son - in the Spirit

*But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ ... for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.* Ephesians 2:13, 18

### **The Trinity (provides the way of salvation for us)**

- God the Father planned our salvation
- God the Son accomplished our salvation
- God the Spirit sealed our salvation

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ... In him [Jesus] we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins ... having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise."* Ephesians 1:3,7,13 NASB

**Bottom Line** – The God revealed in the Bible is one God who exists as one being in three persons.