

# IV. Theology, the Doctrine of God:

## The Trinity

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

- a. God is three persons.
- b. Each person is fully God.
- c. There is one God.

2. The Trinity in the OT:

- a. Gen. 1:26, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."
- b. Gen. 3:22, "And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil."
- c. Gen. 11:7, "Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."
- d. Isa. 6:8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
- e. Isa. 63:10, "Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit."

3. The Trinity in the NT:

- a. Matt. 3: 16-17, "As soon as Jesus 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 lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
- b. Matt. 28: 19, "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"
- c. II Cor. 13:14, "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."
- d. Eph 4:4-6, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called, one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."
- e. I Peter 1:2, "who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood"

4. Heresies concerning the Trinity:

- a. Sabellianism: A "modal trinity." There are 3 manifestations of one personality. Only denomination that holds this- United Pentecostal Church.

- b. Arianism: Son and Holy Spirit were created by the Father.
- c. Swedenborgianism: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are 3 essential of just one God.
- d. Tritheism: There are 3 Gods.

5. Deeper understanding of, **“God is Three Persons.”**

- a. God the Father is not God the Son is not God the Holy Spirit.
- b. Jn 1: 1-2, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.”
- c. Heb. 7:25, “Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.”
- d. Jn 14:26, ‘But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.’
- e. Rom. 8:27, “And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.”

6. Deeper understanding of, **“Each Person is fully God.”**

- a. God the Father is seen throughout scriptures as fully God. Gen 1:1, ‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.’
- b. God the Son is fully God. Jn 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- c. The Holy Spirit is fully God. Acts 5:3,4, “Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God.”

7. Deeper Understanding of, **“There is One God.”**

- a. The Shamah, Deut. 6:4-5, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”
- b. Isa. 45:5-6, “I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God...from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other.”
- c. James 2:9, “You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that, and shudder.”