

The Trinity

In Christian usage the term Trinity expresses the belief that there is only “one God” (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 2:5) who exists as three distinct divine persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19), who are co substantial, coeternal, and coequal. While each divine person has particular roles and functions (e.g., Ephesians 1:3–14), all three work together in perfect accord (John 5:17, 19; 10:28–30). The doctrine of the Trinity is to be distinguished (1) from tri-theism, which teaches the existence of three gods rather than only one God (cf. Deuteronomy 6:4), and (2) from modalism, which denies the coexistence of the three divine persons by teaching that God exists and manifests Himself as only one divine person at once (cf. Matthew 3:16–17).

- ♦ In unity: **Deuteronomy 4:35, 39; Isaiah 45:21; Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:5; James 2:19**
- ♦ OT implications of: **Genesis 1:1–2, 26; 3:22; 11:7; Psalm 2:7; 110:1; Proverbs 30:4; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; 48:16**
- ♦ Their Presence together: **Matthew 3:16; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14**

NT indications of distinction of the three persons: **Matthew 3:16–17; 28:19; John 14:16–17; 15:26; Romans 5:5–6; 8:11, 16–17; 1 Corinthians 12:4–6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Galatians 4:4–6; Ephesians 2:18; 4:4–6; 5:18–20; 1 Thessalonians 1:2–5; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Titus 3:4–6; 1 Peter 1:2; 3:18; 1 John 4:2; Jude 20–21**

Who raised Christ from the dead?

- ♦ The Father: **1 Thessalonians 1:10; Acts 3:15**
- ♦ The Son: **John 2:18-21**
- ♦ The Spirit: **Romans 8:11**

Deity of each person

- ♦ The Father: **John 6:27; Galatians 1:1; 2 Peter 1:17**
- ♦ The Son: **Exodus 3:12-14; John 8:51-58; John 10:30-33; John 1:1, 14; 10:30; Philippians 2:6; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:8; Revelations 1:8; 22:13, 16, 20 – Revelations 1:17-18**

Claims to Deity:

- **Isaiah 7:14 – Matthew 1:23**
- **Isaiah 9:6**
- **John 1:1,14 – Revelations 19:13**
- **John 20:28**

Worship accepted:

- **Hebrews 1:5-8**
- **Luke 4:8**
- **Exodus 20:3-5**
- **Acts 10:25-26**
- **Matthew 14:33**

- ♦ The Spirit: **John 14:16; Acts 5:3–4; 13:2-4**

Bible teaches there is one God

- ♦ **Isaiah 43:10-12**
- ♦ **Isaiah 44:6**
- ♦ **Isaiah 45:22**
- ♦ **1 Timothy 2:5**

Conclusion:

If the Bible teaches there is one God and three persons are referred to as God you have to conclude that the three are one God