

# Trinitarian God

*The Trinity can seem very confusing. That's because what we're talking about is how God Himself exists in heaven. And God does not exist like we exist. We have limitation of only being able to be in one place at one time. God does not have that limitation. We have a limitation of only being able to do so much at any one time. God does not have that limitation. God does not exist like we exist. What we say is He is a completely different order of reality. That means simply that He just ain't like us. And because we are limited in our thinking to the experiences we have had. We find it hard to conceive of God as He is so different from us.*

1. God is One God.  
Deut. 6:4, Isaiah 44:6-7

*The key of the Trinity is that God is one God. What we see in the Bible is God revealed to us in three different expressions. We see Him as God the Father like when He spoke to Moses. We see Him in the person of Jesus Christ, God with us, Emmanuel. We see Him in the Comforter that Christ sends the Holy Spirit. But even though we see Him in three different separate expressions. It is the same God that is revealed to us. There was no clear way for Jesus to express this to us in the New Testament. Because he's talking about something that is completely beyond our ability to conceive it, because we have no experience in that. So Jesus does so by talking about being one. That is a Hebrew way of saying they are the same. There is no distinction. There is no separation. They are one. So throughout the New Testament we find Him telling us that God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit are one. He makes specific comments about Jesus and the Father being one. He makes comments about Jesus and the Holy Spirit being one. And God and the Holy Spirit being one. God does not exist like we exist. But the One God is revealed to us in three different expressions. And we see them differently in our mind. But we have to remember God does not see Himself differently in his expression of God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He is one God, revealing Himself to us in three different expressions.*

- A. God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit are one.

1 Peter 1:2, Matt. 12:31, John 3:16, John 5:32-47,  
Eph. 4:4-6, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Matthew 28,

- B. Jesus and the Father are one.

John 10:30, 1 Corinthians 8:6, 2 Cor. 5:19

John 10:30-36, Matthew 1, Romans 14:17-18, Philippians 2:5-8

C. Jesus and the Holy Spirit are one.

John 14:16-18, 23

D. God and the Holy Spirit are one.

Acts 5:3-4, 1 Cor. 3:16, 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

## Summary - Trinitarian God

1. The concept of the Trinitarian God is necessary to correctly understand the actions of God in Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

*The concept of the Trinity is something that we need to correctly understand God in Jesus and the Holy Spirit being God. The words that Jesus spoke were the words that God was speaking to us. The actions, the things that Jesus did were the things that God was doing. This is the reason Jesus said to Philip, if you want to see the Father, look at me. Emmanuel. God with us. Jesus was God with us.*

2. The Trinity could only be understood after Pentecost.

*We only understood the Trinity after Pentecost. Because it was at Pentecost, we saw the reality of God being present with us in spirit. This is the reason the Comforter that Jesus promised He would send, we call the Holy Spirit. It is God's holy presence with us personally. With us, in us guiding us to live in relationship with Him.*

3. The Trinity has its foundation in the nature of the existence of God.

4. God = Father = Son = Holy Spirit = God

*Classically, there are two ways people look at the Trinity. This can be shown with a pencil and piece of paper. First, draw one big large circle. Then in this large circle, draw three smaller circles with them all just touching each other. Then in one of the small circles, write God. In one of the others, Jesus. And in the last one, the Holy Spirit. This is a way of showing some people's conception of the Trinity. It is not a truly correct way. Because the picture represents the idea that there are three different people and together they make God. A more correct way to represent it with a pen and piece of paper. Is to draw one circle. Now in the middle of the circle, write God. Now, directly over that, write Jesus. And now directly over that, write the Holy Spirit. All three names written directly over each other in 1 circle. Because they are all the same God. They are God. We just see them reveal to us in three different ways. So this becomes a more accurate way to look at the trinity. Because you cannot separate God from the Holy Spirit, from Jesus from God from the Holy Spirit. They are all written on top of each other and you cannot erase one without erasing the other.*

*A more human way I like to use as an example is I like to bring one man up from the people listening. I ask him if he is a father? And his answer is yes. And so I say, well, then you're a husband. And he says, well, yes. But you're a son. And he says yes. And I say, but I thought you were a father. And he says I am. But you said you're a son. And he says I am. But I thought you were a husband. And he says I am. So then I just turn to everyone and I say this is really getting very confusing. I tell them we need to fix this. Then I pull out a very large knife that I have kept hidden. And I say we're going to separate the father from the husband from the son. And it's fun to see the look on the man's face. The key is this. You cannot separate the Father in this man. From his also being a son. And you cannot separate his being a husband from his being a father. If you try to separate one from the other, you lose who he is. He is one man. But in him is a father, a husband and a son. And they cannot be separated. Because they are all the same man. God the Father cannot be separated from God Jesus and God the Holy Spirit.*

5. How God exists is beyond our experience. Because of this it is beyond our understanding.

**Key:** The characteristics of God are the characteristics of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16-17, 1 John 5:5-8, 1 Peter 1:1-2, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, Colossians 1:15-17, John 14:9-11, John 10:30-36

*In summary, the most important thing for us to remember. Is all the characteristics that we see in God the Father. Are the same that we see in Jesus the Son. And all the caring and compassion that we see in Jesus the Son is the same in the Holy Spirit. This is because God is one God. So this is the reason we say if you want a very clear picture of God. Look at Jesus. God with us, Emmanuel. And in Jesus we see God in relationship with His creation. Doing everything that He can to bring his creation to salvation. God is one. Just as Jesus is one. And the Holy Spirit is one. We have three different experiences of the same God. But that does not make them three different gods. God is one.*