

Systematic Theology

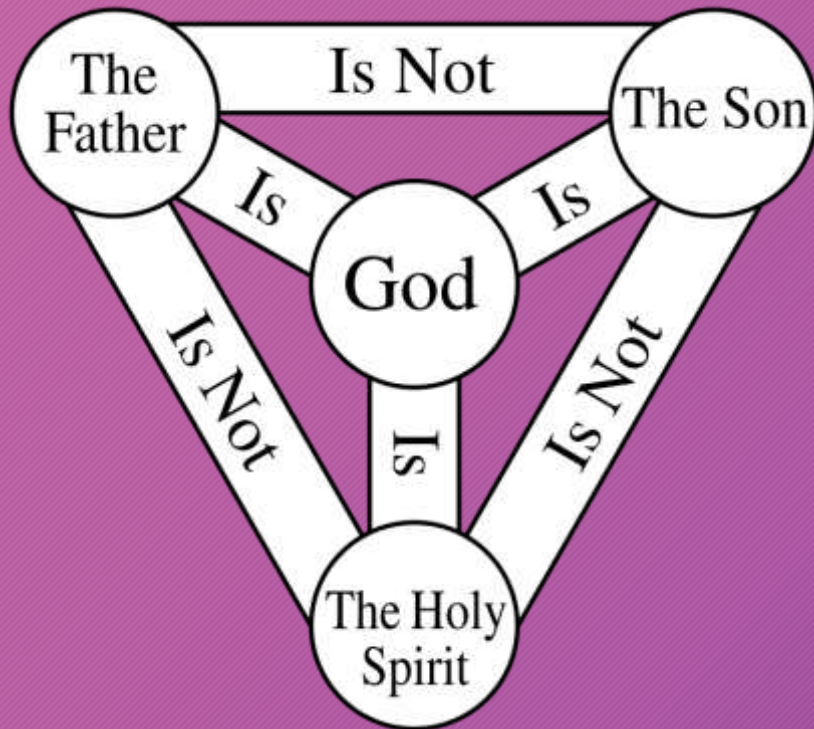
A study of the major doctrines of Scripture

Topic 2 - The Doctrine of God
Lesson 45 - The Trinity - Pt 2
MacArthur, pgs. 202-208

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture taken from the New King James Version.

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One God; Three Persons



1. The Father is God.
2. The Son is God.
3. The Holy Spirit is God.
4. The Father is not the Son.
5. The Father is not the Holy Spirit.
6. The Son is not the Holy Spirit.

The Father is God

- The name “God,” (Greek: Theos), is most often associated with the Father.
- John 6:27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”
- Romans 15:6 that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1 Cor. 8:6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

The Father is God

- Ephesians 4:6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
- James 3:9 With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God.
- 1 Cor. 15:24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

Jesus, the Son, is God

- The Son of God is equal with God.
- Matthew 26:63 But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, “I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!” 64 Jesus said to him, “It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”
- Luke 22:67 “If You are the Christ, tell us.” But He said to them, “If I tell you, you will by no means believe. 68 And if I also ask you, you will by no means answer Me or let Me go. 69 Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God.” 70 Then they all said, “Are You then the Son of God?” So He said to them, “You rightly say that I am.” 71 And they said, “What further testimony do we need? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth.”

Jesus, the Son, is God

- I AM
- John 8:24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins.”
- John 8:28 Then Jesus said to them, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and that I do nothing of *Myself*; but as *My Father* taught *Me*, I speak these things.
- John 8:58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”
- John 13:19 Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am *He*.

Jesus, the Son, is God

- I AM
- I am the bread of life - John 6:35, 48
- I am the light of the world - John 8:12
- I am the door - John 10:19
- I am the good shepherd - John 10:11, 14
- I am the resurrection and the life - John 11:25

Jesus, the Son, is God

- God with us - Matt. 1:23
- Romans 9:³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, ⁴ who are Israelites, to whom *pertain* the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service *of God*, and the promises; ⁵ of whom *are* the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ *came*, who is over all, *the* eternally blessed God. Amen.
- Colossians 2:8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Jesus, the Son, is God

- Our great God and Savior Jesus Christ - Titus 2:13
- Our God and Savior Jesus Christ - 2 Peter 1:1
- The Lord and Savior Jesus Christ - 2 Peter 2:20
- Jesus is God, Savior, and Lord.

The Holy Spirit is God

- Spirit of God - Matt. 3:16
- Spirit of the Lord - Luke 4:18
- Spirit of Your Father - Matt. 10:20
- Spirit of Christ - Rom. 8:9
- The Lord, the Spirit - 2 Cor. 3:17-18
- Acts 5:3 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

The Holy Spirit is God

- The New Testament claims that the Holy Spirit spoke the words of Old Testament passages, words that those passages declare come directly from God.
- Acts 28:25-27 says that the Spirit spoke Isaiah 6:9-10
- Hebrews 3:7-11 quote Psalm 95:7-11
- Hebrews 10:15-17 quote Jeremiah 31:31-34

Three Persons with Divine Perfections

- God the Father is powerful (Matt. 19:26), omnipresent (Matt. 6:4, 6), omniscient (Matt. 6:4, 6, 8), true (John 3:33), righteous (John 17:25; Acts 10:34), and living (Matt. 26:63; John 5:26; 6:57).
- God the Son is eternal (John 1:1; 8:58; 17:5; Rev. 1:8; 21:6; 22:13), omniscient (John 1:47-48; 2:24-25; 16:30; 21:17; Rev. 2:23), omnipresent (Matt. 18:20; 28:20; John 1:48-50), omnipotent (Matt. 8:26-27; 9:25; 21:19; 28:18; Mark 5:11-15; Luke 4:38-41; 7:14-15; John 2:11; 5:36; 10:25, 38; 11:43-44; Heb. 1:3; Rev. 1:8), immutable (Heb. 1:10-12; 13:8), loving (Eph. 5:2), holy (Luke 1:35; John 8:46; Heb. 7:26-27; 1 John 3:5), life (1 John 1:2; 5:20), and truth (John 14:6).
- God the Holy Spirit is eternal (Heb. 9:14), holy (Eph. 4:30), omniscient (John 14:26; 16:12-13; 1 Cor. 2:10-11), omnipotent (Luke 1:35, 37; 1 Cor. 12:11; Rom. 15:19), glory (1 Peter 4:14), life (Rom. 8:2), truth (John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13; 1 John 4:6), and grace (Heb. 10:29).

Three Persons with Divine Prerogatives

- Divine prerogatives are rights that no other creature or Being has.
- The right to receive worship - Father (John 4:23; James 3:9), Son (Matt. 14:33; 28:9; John 20:28; Heb. 1:6), Spirit (Eph. 4:30; 1 Thess. 5:19; Heb. 10:29).
- The right to give commands - Father (John 14:31), Son (John 15:12, 14), Spirit (Acts 8:29; 10:19-20).
- The right to forgive sin - Father (Mat. 6:14), Son (Mark 2:8-12).
- The right to judge - Father (John 5:30), Son (Matt. 25:31-32; John 5:22; Acts 10:42; 17:31; Rom. 14:10-11; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1; 1 Peter 4:1, 5; Rev. 19:11-15; 22:12-13), Spirit (John 16:8).

Three Persons performing Divine Acts

- God the Father creates (1 Cor. 8:6), sustains life (Matt. 6:26), reveals truth (Matt. 16:17; Heb. 1:1-2), raises the dead (Rom. 6:4), and judges (Matt. 15:13; Acts 17:31).
- God the Son creates (John 1:3, 10; 1 Cor. 8:6; Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2), sustains all things (Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3), reveals truth (John 16:12-13), raises the dead (John 5:28-29; 10:17-18), and judges (John 5:22, 27).
- God the Spirit creates (Gen. 1:2; Job 26:13; Psa. 33:6), reveals truth (John 16:13; 1 Cor., 2:12-13; 2 Peter 1:21), raises the dead (Rom. 8:11), regenerates (John 3:5-6; Titus 3:5), indwells (2 Tim. 1:14), secures by sealing (Eph. 1:13-14), gives God's love (Rom. 5:5), and guides (Rom. 8:14).

Athanasian Creed

- “And in this Trinity none is afore, or after another; none is greater, or less than another. But the whole three Persons are coeternal, and coequal. So that in all things, as aforesaid: the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshipped.”