

26 QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ASKING!

QUESTION #3: HOW MANY GODS ARE THERE?

1. THE TRIUNE GOD

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

God is three persons. In essence, in divinity, each of these three is identical, but in their persons each is distinct. The Trinity is comprised of the Father who is God but is not the Son or the Spirit, of the Son who is God but who is not the Father or the Spirit, and of the Spirit who is God but is not the Father or the Son.

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. (John 14:26)

B. EACH PERSON IS FULLY GOD

Each of the persons of the Trinity is fully God. Each person is fully, entirely and equally divine. They are not each a part of God; God is not divisible by three persons. God is not like a pie that can be divided into three parts. We cannot say that God the Father is more fully God than the Holy Spirit.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God. (Acts 5:4)

C. THERE IS ONE GOD

While God is three persons and while each of these persons is fully God, there is but one God.

I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:5-6)

God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God, and there is one God. The doctrine of the Trinity affirms that God's whole and undivided essence belongs equally, eternally, simultaneously, and fully to each of the three distinct Persons of the Godhead.

2. BEHOLDING THE WONDER OF THE TRIUNE GOD

The Trinity is not merely a concept or a relationship. We must not lose the wonder of the persons of the Trinity behind the doctrine.

To those who are elect exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood. (1 Peter 1:1-2)

A. BEHOLDING THE WONDER OF THE FATHER

Behold the wonder of the Father as the Author, the Designer and the Architect of all that was, is and is to come.

B. BEHOLDING THE WONDER OF THE SON

Behold the wonder of the Son in both submission and authority.

C. BEHOLDING THE WONDER OF THE SPIRIT

Behold the wonder of the Spirit in humility, being eternally but joyfully subordinate to both Father and Son.

3. LIVING IN GRATITUDE AND PRAISE TO THIS TRIUNE GOD.

A. AUTHORITY

The Trinity teaches us that authority and submission are built into the fabric of all that exists. The Trinity, which exists from eternity past, has always had a structure of authority and submission. Therefore authority and submission are inherently good.

B. HUMILITY

When we express humility, we imitate the Holy Spirit who joyfully and willingly has a role subordinate to both the Father and Son.

C. DELIGHT

We delight in a God who is incomprehensible. This is not a God made with human hands or created by a human mind. This is a God who is eternally, infinitely great.

*Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!
For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?
Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?
For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen. (Romans 11:33-36)*