

Subject: *Blessed by the Trinity*

Scripture: *John 14:7-20*

One of the most distinctive truths of the Christian faith is the doctrine of the Trinity. We believe there is only one God who exists in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you were to sit beside an atheist he would tell he there is no God. If you were to sit beside a Jew he would tell you there is one God, but he denies the Trinity. If you were to sit beside a Muslim he would tell you there is one God, but he rejects the Trinity. If you were to sit beside a Gentile from Bible times, he would tell you there are many gods, not just one. And billions of people still believe in many gods. The Bible tells us there is only one God who exists in three persons and we describe this by the word Trinity (tri, “three” and unity “oneness”). Trinity means God is three in one. The word “Trinity” is not found in the Bible, but the teaching of the Trinity is clearly taught.

God is one – **Deuteronomy 6:4** *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.*

God is three persons in one – **Matthew 3:16-17**¹⁶ *And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:*¹⁷ *And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

A. W. Tozer said: “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” John 14 gives us a clear picture of the Trinity and reminds us how blessed we are to know the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is more than knowing about them. It is a personal knowledge of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and the many blessings we have from them.

WE ARE BLESSED BY THE FATHER

- We believe in the Father (vs. 1)

On our American money we have the words “IN GOD WE TRUST.” Which God? We put our faith in the one true God, the Father of all. He is the true God revealed in the Bible.

- We are going to the Father’s house (vs. 2)
- We come to the Father only through the Son (vs. 6)
- We know the Father through the Son (vs. 7-11)

Jesus speaks the Father’s words and does the Father’s works. Since the Father is invisible, Jesus came to reveal Him and explain Him to us. **John 1:18** *No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.*

- We receive the Holy Spirit from the Father (vs. 16)

WE ARE BLESSED BY THE SON

- We believe in the Son (vs. 1)

- We have a place in heaven prepared by the Son (vs. 2-3)
- We have entrance to the Father through the Son (vs. 6)
- We know the Father through the Son (vs. 7-11)

John 10:37-38 ³⁷ *If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not.* ³⁸ *But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.*

- We are enabled to do great works through the Son (vs. 12)

Through Christ believers are enabled to do the works of Christ and even greater works than Christ. These works are not greater in kind, but greater in extent. Jesus did His earthly work in a fairly small geographic area. Through Christ's power and presence believers have spread the gospel around the world.

- We can have our prayers answered in the Son's name (vs. 13-14)

To pray in Jesus' name means more than just adding those words to the end of a prayer. To pray in His name means we line up with His purpose, we ask on the basis of His worthiness, and we ask for His glory. **1 John 5:14-15** ¹⁴ *And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:* ¹⁵ *And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

- We receive the Holy Spirit because of the Son's request (vs. 16, 18)

Jesus had been the Comforter of the disciples, but now another Comforter will be sent to them. He does not leave us comfortless (orphans), but He comes to us in the person of the Holy Spirit.

- We have eternal life through the Son's resurrection (vs. 19)
- We have spiritual union with the Son (vs. 20)

The Bible reveals three special kinds of unity. Each unity is real, yet it cannot be fully explained or understood. There is the unity of the three persons of the Trinity. There is the unity of the divine and human nature of Christ. There is the unity of Christ and His people in salvation. Over and over in the New Testament we read that believers are in Christ and Christ is in us. This union with Christ is pictured in believer's baptism.

WE ARE BLESSED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

We have more truth about the Holy Spirit in John 14-16 than any other portion of the Bible.

- We have a Comforter just like Jesus (vs. 16)

In the original Greek there are two words for "another." One word means another of a different kind and one word means another of the same kind. This word means another of the same kind. The Holy Spirit is another Comforter just like Christ.

Like Christ, the Holy Spirit is a person, not an influence, power, or a thing. Notice the personal pronoun (“he” not it). We have no problem thinking of the Father as a person or the Son as a person, but the Holy Spirit is also a person. When we speak of three persons in the Trinity we must not think of three persons as three bodies. We should think of each person having mind, emotion, and will, the elements of a person. The Holy Spirit can think, feel, and choose. He does the works of a person (He commissions, searches, speaks, testifies, encourages, teaches, leads, convicts, intercedes, gives life, and glorifies God). He is affected like a person (He can be lied to, resisted, blasphemed, grieved, and insulted).

Like Christ, the Holy Spirit is our Comforter. The word Comforter means someone called alongside to help. It is the same word translated “Advocate” in ***1 John 2:1** My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.* Christ is our helper in heaven, and the Holy Spirit is our helper on earth.

- We have the Spirit of truth living in us (vs. 16-17)

The Holy Spirit lives inside every believer. He lives personally and permanently. Your heart is a home, not a hotel. We have so much more to learn about the Holy Spirit and His ministry for us and in us. The Holy Spirit is the very presence of Christ in us (vs. 18).

We are blessed by the Trinity. The Father loved us and sent His Son to die for us so that we can live with him in the Father’s house. The Son loved us and came to die and rise again. And because He lives, we will live forever if we receive Him. The Son loves us and came to be our personal helper and guide us into all truth. He will never leave us or forsake us.

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*