

# The Lord

## The Holy Trinity—a doctrine that is the most unpopular with believers and unbelievers alike

- Give some examples of unbelievers who don't accept this doctrine
- Give some examples of believers who don't find this doctrine popular. Why wouldn't they?
- The Doctrine of the Trinity is a 'test case' for whether someone is really a Christian. Why do we believe any of the things we believe? See HC #25

## The Lord God

1. The LORD is translation for YHWH, or **hwby**> This is the personal name for God.
2. God named HIMSELF this. (Exodus 3:14-15) Nobody else has that right!
  - a. The name means ....[a fire without fuel] Exodus 6:1-8

## The Lord Jesus

1. Jesus endorsed the Old Testament faith in one God. Yet the word used for that one God is used in the New Testament FAR more times for Jesus. Sometimes it is simply a title of respect 'master, lord, sir.' However, it is also used to call Jesus, Yahweh, the One true God.
  - a. OT prophecies about Yahweh are connected with Jesus as the Lord. (Romans 10:13; Mark 1:3, John 12:38,41)
  - b. In contrast to pagan lords and gods, Christians worship the One Lord Jesus (1 Cor. 8:5-6)
  - c. Explicit declarations that Jesus is God (John 1:1,18; 20:28; Romans 9:5; Titus 2:13)
2. STRANGE doctrine, especially to radical monotheists like Jews and Muslims
  - a. The One God consists of more than one Person
  - b. One of the divine Persons, without ceasing to be divine, became human and still is
  - c. While this Person was sharing the limitations of human existence on earth, He was at the same time holding the universe together "by the word of His power" (Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3)

## The Lord the Spirit

1. 'Holy,' a word used often in the OT to describe God's character, is a word used mostly in the NT not for the Father nor the Son, but for the Spirit. Thus we read, "Holy Spirit"
2. Holy Spirit is a Person, distinct from the Father and the Son. HE is not an IT!
  - Against rules of grammar, John 16:14 uses a masculine pronoun for an impersonal word 'spirit'
  - personal title (John 14:26, 15:26, 16:7)
  - personal actions—speaking, deciding, forbidding, showing the future, sending missionaries (Acts 8:29; 15:28; 16:7; John 16:13; Acts 13:4)
3. Holy Spirit is a Divine Person.
  - Triune Name of God (Matthew 28:19)      -The Blessing from God (2 Corinthians 13:14)
  - linked with F and S in applying and finishing the work of divine salvation (Eph. 1:3-14; Rom. 8)
  - Spirit is worthy of divine respect (Acts 5:3-4; 2 Corinthians 3:16-18)

## The Gospel of the Trinity

1. A good summary is from the Athanasian creed, "So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; and yet they are not three gods, but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Spirit Lord; and yet they are not three lords, but one Lord."
2. "The Trinity is the basis of the gospel, and the gospel is a declaration of the Trinity in action" (J.I. Packer) See HC #24 for illustration of this