

Cornerstone Bible Church

Systematic Theology

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Acknowledgment & Credits:

LECTURES ON INTRODUCTION TO
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY TAUGHT BY
RAFAEL ALCANTARA IN 2009 DURING THE
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT IGLESIA BIBLICA DEL
SEÑOR JESUCRISTO. MATERIAL ADDED AND
EXPANDED FOR THIS CLASS

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July 10, 2011

For this Lesson I used my notes from
Sugel Michelen Lectures on Systematic
Theology in 1986

THEOLOGY PROPER

General Contents:

1. The Existence of God
2. The Attributes of God
- 3. The Trinity**
4. Creation
5. Providence

The Trinity

The Trinity

1. Definition
2. Explanation
3. Demonstration
4. Heresies against the Trinity
5. The relation of this Doctrine with
 - a) Creation
 - b) The Godhead

The Trinity

This is one of the most mysterious subjects on the study of the Doctrine of God and yet it is at the same time a fundamental tenet of the Christian faith namely, The Doctrine of the Trinity

The Doctrine of the Trinity teaches us at that the only and true God subsists in three distinct persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and that the three are fully God

There are three persons of one **substance**, **power** and **eternity**

The **Father** is not begotten, the **Son** is eternally begotten and the **Holy Spirit** proceeds from both

The Trinity

In the Old Testament we find some traces of this truth

Gn 1:26, 3:22 – Then God said “let us make”

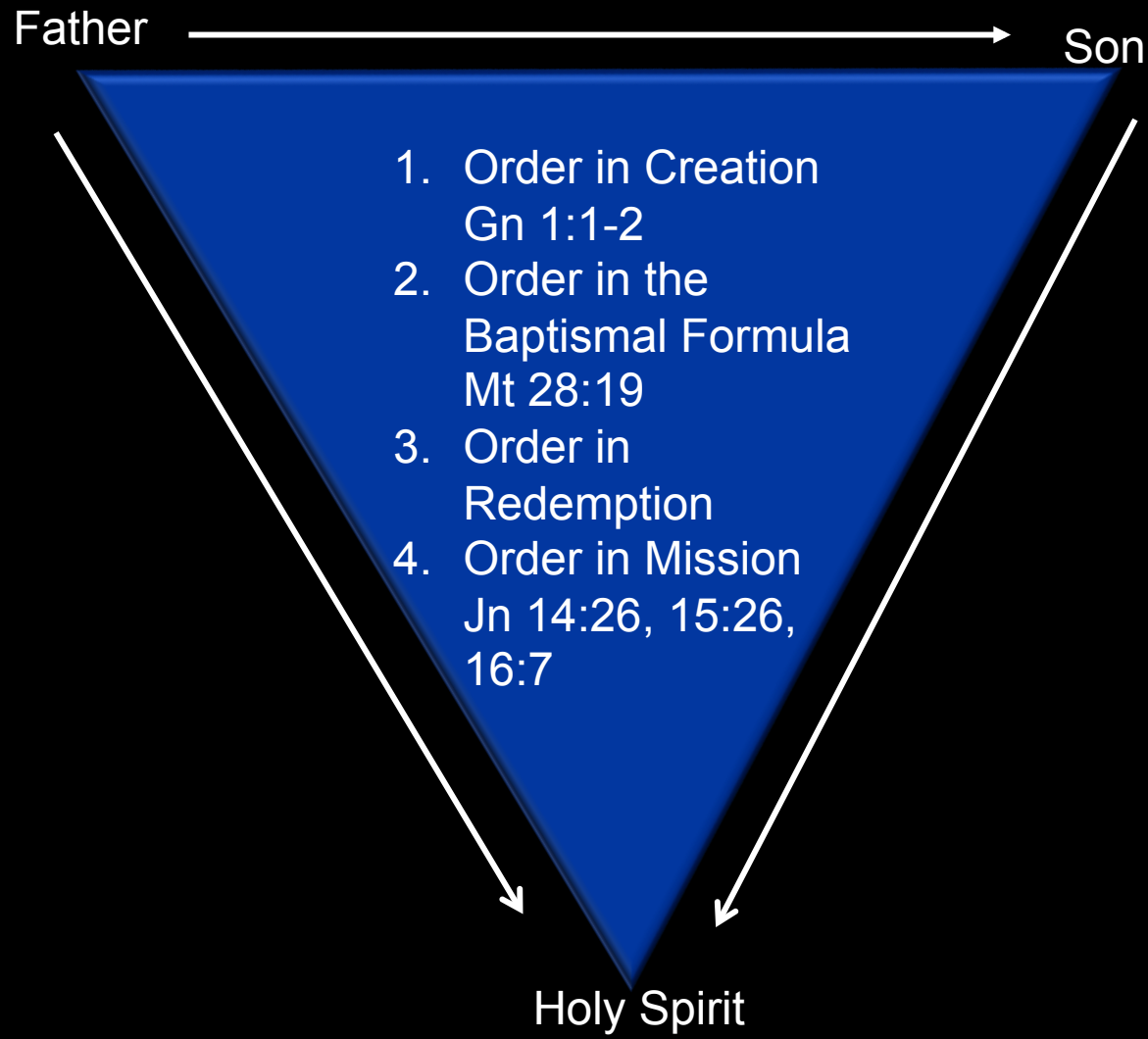
Sal 45:6-7 – “The Lord said to my Lord”

Gn 16:13; Ex 3:2-6) The Angel of the Lord treated as God

Ps 51:11, Is 63:10-11 The Holy Spirit grieved and in the midst of God’s people

However it is in the New Testament where we find this doctrine clearly revealed; it is possible then, that the Jews had a very minimum understanding of these things

The Trinity



The Trinity

Summary of the Doctrine

1. There is only one and true God Dt 6:4, Is 44:6, Mt 12:32, I Co 8:6
2. Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three distinct persons who can communicate using the personal pronouns I, You, He (Jn 14 to 17)
3. The Bible ascribes the same attributes equally to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
4. There is one divine essence (substance), with one will, intellect and affections; but three distinct persons subsist and coalesce in that unique divine essence eternally

Calvin said: *“a person is a subsistence within the divine essence which is distinguished by an incommunicable property from the other persons”*

The Trinity

Summary of the Doctrine

5. There are distinguishable “operations” within the Trinity
The Father sent the Son and both Father and Son Sent the Holy Spirit
6. There are AD-INTRA operations within the Trinity
The Generation belongs to the Father
The Filiation belongs to the Son
The Procidence belongs to the Spirit
7. There are AD-EXTRA operations within the Trinity
Creation is predominantly ascribed to the Father
Redemption is predominantly ascribed to the Son
Sanctification is predominantly ascribed to the Spirit