

## Theology Proper

### Table of Content

#### Unit 1: Foundations

Session 1: Why Study About God?

Session 2: Can we know God?

Session 3: How has God revealed Himself? Part 1: General Revelation

Session 4: How has God revealed Himself? Part 2: Special Revelation

Session 5: How has God revealed Himself? Part 3: God's Names

#### Unit 2: Trinity

Session 6: Foundations for the Trinity Part 1: Creator/Creature Distinction

Session 7: One God

Session 8: Multiple Persons Hints in the Old Testament

Session 9: The Angel of the Lord

Session 10: Jesus Christ is God Part 1: Classic Passages

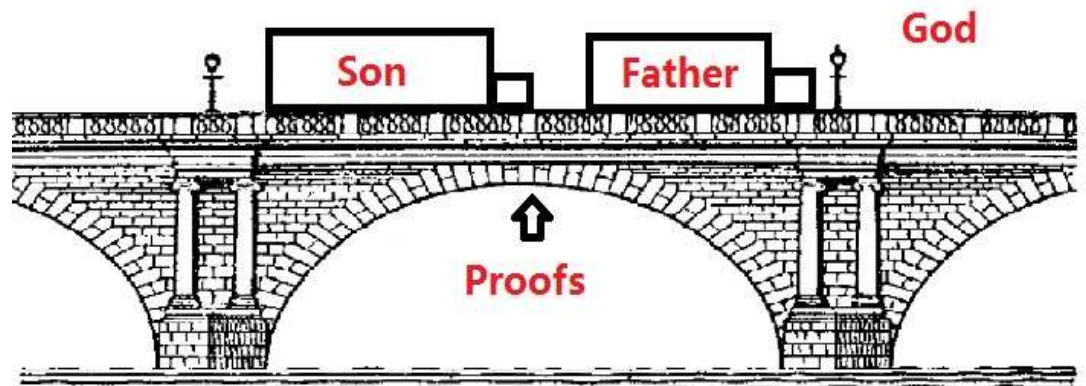
Session 11: Jesus Christ is God Part 2: Old Testament "Son" Passages

Session 12: Jesus Christ is God Part 3: Jesus' Name

Session 13: Jesus Christ is God Part 4: Jesus' Divine Title

Session 14: Apologetics' Method in proving the Person and Divinity of the Members of the Trinity

- I. Session 14: Apologetics' Method in proving the Person and Divinity of the Members of the Trinity
- Establish the need: What is the best way proving to someone that the members of the Trinity are persons and also God?
  - Purpose: In this session we will think about the method we want to pursue in proving someone that Jesus or the Holy Spirit is God when they believe in the Bible and that the Father is God.
  - Illustration of the method



- - In the picture above, we want to put the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to the side in which we labeled "God." As analogy, our goal to prove them as "God" is our destination on one side of the bridge.
  - We need to give arguments proving the Father, the Son and the Spirit is God. As an analogy, to move them to our destination require us to rest on a good and strong bridge which represent our "proofs."
  - We want to use the same proofs that someone would use to demonstrate the Father is God and use the same method of proofs for the Son and the Spirit. As an analogy the strong bridge that allows the Father to get through is also the very same bridge we want to use for the Son and the Spirit.
  - What if someone reject our conclusion that the Son and the Spirit is God? We would turn back their rejection of our conclusion and press to them that they should also reject their argument for the Father being God. As an analogy, if someone wants to blow up the bridge to not let the Son and Spirit go through, then they lose the Father as well.
- d. Proving the personhood of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- It is futile to try to prove the Deity of any of the three if it is not first established that they are persons instead of things.
  - Most who reject the Trinity from a cult background accept the Father and Son as persons but not the Holy Spirit. We demonstrate the Father and Son as persons and then use the same methodology to show the Holy Spirit is a person. To deny any as persons is to deny them all.
  - FATHER:
    - He has a will: *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter."* (Matt. 7:21)

2. He has senses such as being able to see (Matt. 6:4) and speak (Matt. 3:17), have the ability to forgive and not forgive (Matt 6:15) or send off (1 John 4:14).
- iv. SON:
1. He has a will: *“And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”* (Matt. 26:39)
  2. The Son, namely Jesus is able to see (John 9:1), speak (Matt. 5:2), forgives (Mark2:5) or send off (Matt. 28:19).
- v. SPIRIT:
1. He has a will: *“But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.”* (1 Corinthians 12:11)
  2. The Spirit can see or witness (Acts 5:32), speak (Acts 8:29), guides (John 16:13) and send off (Acts 13:1-4)
  3. The Spirit does things no rock or electricity can do, he loves: *“Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,”* (Romans 15:30)
- e. Proving the Divinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- i. What are the attribute of God (worshipped, prayed to, All-knowing, etc) given to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
  - ii. FATHER:
    1. He is called God in Galatians 1:1, Philippians 2:11, 1 Peter 1:2
    2. He is prayed to (Matthew 6:9), eternal (Romans 1:20), worshiped (Phil. 4:20) and we can have fellowship with anywhere (1 John 1:3)
  - iii. SON:
    1. He is called God: See John 20:28, Titus 2:13
    2. Jesus, the Son is eternal (John 17:5), involved in Creation (Colossians. 1:16) and we can have fellowship with Him anywhere (1 John 1:3).
  - iv. SPIRIT:
    1. He is called God: See Acts 5:3 in light of Acts 5:4
    2. The Spirit is eternal (Hebrews 9:14), searches the things of God (1 Corinthians 2:10), involved in Creation (Genesis 1:2) and we can have fellowship with Him anywhere (2 Corinthians 13:14).