

# Unity and Oneness

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## **I. The unity of the Trinity**

### **A. The Bible declares that God is one God**

**Deu 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

### **B. The Bible declares that the One God is three**

**1Jn 5:7** For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

#### **1. It takes three distinct persons to *bear record*—The Bible speaks of them as distinct**

**Mat 3:16** And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water...and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

**Mat 3:17** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

**Joh 14:16** And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

**Joh 14:17** *Even* the Spirit of truth...

#### **2. The persons are distinct—Yet God does what He does—Together with Himself**

##### **a. The unity of the Trinity in creation—*The Three are One***

—Father: **Gen 1:1** *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth*

—Son: **Joh 1:1-3** *In the beginning was the Word...All things were made by him...*

—Spirit: **Job 33:4** *The Spirit of God hath made me...*

##### **b. The unity of the Trinity in raising Christ—*The Three are One***

- Father: *Act 3:26* ...God, having raised up his Son Jesus...
- Son: *Joh 10:17* ...I (Jesus) lay down my life that I might take it again...
- Spirit: *Rom 8:11* ...the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead...

**C. The unity of the Trinity in salvation—The three are united in saving God’s people**

*Rom 8:30* Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

**1. Note the unity in God’s plan of salvation**

- All that the Father predestinated—The Spirit called
- All that the Spirit called—The Son justified
- All that the Son justified—End up glorified.

**2. Note that God is working together with God to save God’s people**

- All the *whoms* end up the *thems*—None is lost along the way

**3. Note that —The Three are One**

- The all-wise, all-powerful, all-knowing God must have always known the plan
- Jesus knew the plan at the cross—The Spirit knows the plan in ‘born-again’

**4. Man’s so-called plans of salvation always introduce disunity in the Trinity**

- There is no unity in the Trinity with the idea of universal redemption
  - No unity in Jesus redeeming all—Father electing some—Spirit calling only some
- There is no unity in the Trinity with the idea of God universally loving all
  - The cross proves the Father’s and Son’s unquestionable, unasked-for love
  - The Spirit’s love is questionable, if He refuses to come unless He is asked

**D. Regarding any purpose or action of God —Trinity without unity is uncertainty**

- What would be the result of three equal Gods going in three different directions?

**E. Regarding God’s attributes—Trinity without unity is absurdity, even impossibility**

- If all are equally God in all attributes—Then all must be together in all will and action

**II. The unity of you in Christ—Your eternal life is based on you being ‘IN Christ’**

*1Co 15:22* For as in Adam all die, even so **IN Christ** shall all be made alive.

*Rom 8:1* *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are **IN Christ Jesus**...

*2Co 5:21* For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God **IN him**.

*1Co 1:30* But of him are ye **IN Christ Jesus**...

*Eph 1:4* According as he hath chosen us **IN him** before the foundation of the world...

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted **IN the beloved**.

Eph 1:7 **IN whom** we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins...

Eph 1:11 **IN whom** also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

### III. The unity of Christ in you—Your spiritual life now is based on ‘Christ in you’

Col 1:27 ...**Christ in you**, the hope of glory:

1Jn 4:4 ...greater is **he that is in you**, than he that is in the world.

Gal 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth **the Spirit of his Son into your hearts**, crying, Abba, Father.

1Co 3:16 ...ye are the temple of God, and *that* **the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?**

2Co 6:16 ...God hath said, **I will dwell in them**, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Joh 17:21 ...as thou, **Father, art in me**, and **I in thee**, that **they** also may **be one in us**...

Joh 17:23 **I in them**, and **thou in me**, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

### IV. The unity and oneness of husband and wife in marriage

Mat 19:5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

Mat 19:6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Eph 5:28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

### V. The unity and oneness of separate members coming together in church

Act 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any *of them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

Rom 12:5 ...we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

1Co 12:25 That there should be no schism in the body; but *that* the members should have the same care one for another.

1Co 12:26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it...

Eph 4:3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Col 3:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but **Christ is all, and in all.**

## VI. What about unity and oneness in truth?

A. **In essentials unity** *Truth matters: It honors God—It makes you free*

B. **In non-essentials liberty** *“They even shake with the left hand”*

C. **In all things charity** *Be careful about praying for fire*

## VII. What about unity and oneness in societal relationships?

A. **In some ways—The Bible teaches not to be one with—But separate from society**

2Co 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

1Co 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Jas 4:4 ... know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

1Th 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

Rom 14:16 Let not then your good be evil spoken of:

B. **The Bible does not teach total isolation from—But good influence upon society**

1Co 5:9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:

1Co 5:10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.

Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

1Pe 2:12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

C. **The Bible teaches to live in peace in society**

Rom 12:17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Rom 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Rom 12:19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Rom 12:20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Rom 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

**D. The Bible teaches to live in a manner as to love all men**

Mat 5:44 ...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Mat 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Mat 5:46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

1Co 13:4-7 Charity suffereth long ... is kind ... seeketh not her own ... is not easily provoked ... thinketh no evil ... beareth all things ... endureth all things.

1Co 13:8 Charity never faileth ...