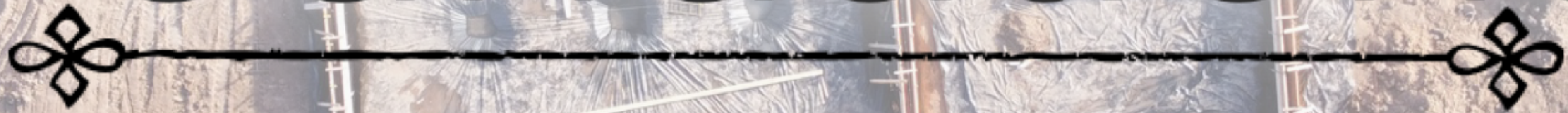


An aerial photograph of a construction site. In the center, a large rectangular foundation is being prepared. The interior of the foundation is filled with a dense grid of steel rebar. The perimeter of the foundation is lined with wooden formwork. The surrounding ground is dirt and gravel, with some construction equipment and materials visible. The text "Foundations" is overlaid in a large, black, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Foundations



God the Father



# Areas of Controversy...

Die for

Divide for

Debate for

Decide for

## On Heresy

“...10 Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, 11 knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.”

Titus 3:10-11 NASB95

# Definitions

**Heresy** - a contrary position to accepted and approved of doctrine.

**Factionous** - dissenting from majority

## On Heresy

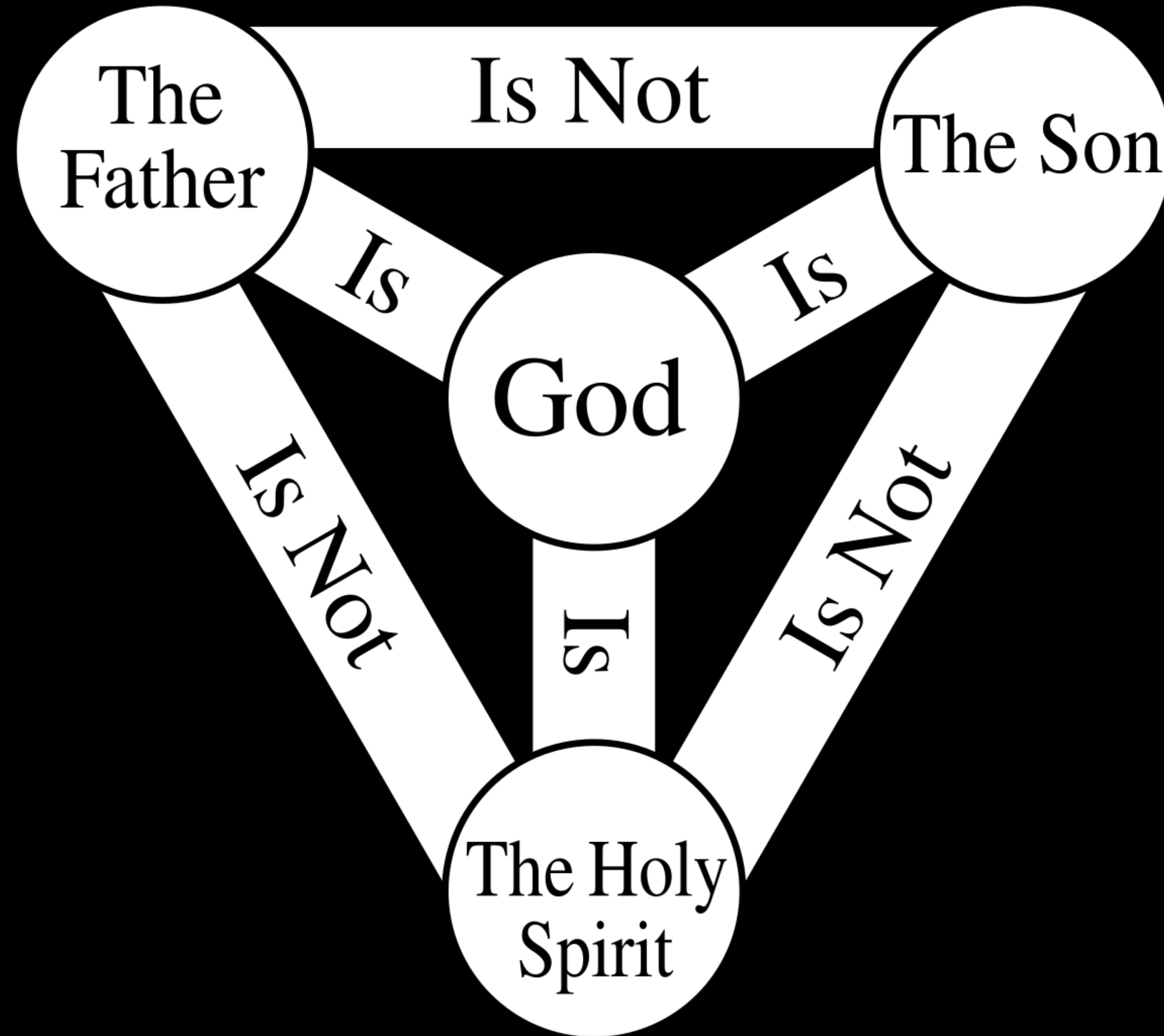
“22 Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. 23 No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.”

- 1 John 2:22-23 NKJV

# Essential Christian Belief - Trinitarianism

1. God is three Persons
2. Each Person is Fully God
3. There is One God

# Trinitarian Belief





# Trinitarian Belief

Personhood is:

“an individual being with a mind, emotions, and a will.”

# Trinitarian Heresies

## **Modalism**

the belief that God, rather than being three Persons, is One Person who reveals Himself in three “modes”. This heresy is also called monarchianism or Sabellianism.

# Trinitarian Heresies

**Well-meaning But Wrong**

**Trinitarian Analogies:**

- Water, Ice, Steam - All Water
- Roots, Trunk, Branches - One Tree
- Father, Worker, Son - One Man
- Seed, Flesh, Skin - One Apple

# Essential Christian Belief - Trinitarianism

1. God is three Persons
2. Each Person is Fully God
3. There is One God

“26 Then God said, “Let Us (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) make man in **Our image**, according to **Our likeness** [not physical, but a spiritual personality and moral likeness]...”

Genesis 1:26AMP trunc

# Trinitarian Belief

**Elohim - God, gods, judges, rulers**

- Means “strong one, mighty one”
- Plural form, translated as God or gods
- Used over 2500 times in the Tanakh
- Plural pronouns only used 4 times with Elohim when referring to YHWY. (Gen 1:26; 3:22; 11:22; Isa 6:8)

# Trinitarian Belief

-In OT multiple Persons called Yahweh or Messenger of Yahweh in the same place or time .

(Gen 18:1-2, 9, 16-18; Gen 19:1-2, 24;  
Zech 3:1-2; Isa 61:1)

“The **Spirit** of the **Lord God** is upon **Me**,  
Because the Lord has anointed **Me**...”

Isaiah 61:1 NKJV

God the **Holy Spirit**, God the **Father**, and  
God the **Son** in the same verse.



# Trinitarian Belief - 3 in Oneness

“4 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord(YHWH) our God(Eloheanu), the Lord(YHWH) is one!”

Deut 6:4 NKJV

“16 When **He** had been baptized, **Jesus** came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to **Him**, and **He** saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a **dove** and **alighting** upon **Him**. 17 And suddenly a **voice** came from heaven, saying, “This is **My** beloved **Son**, in whom **I** am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:16-17 NKJV

# Trinitarian Heresies

Arianism - Suggested by Arius 325AD

The belief that God the Father created God the Son and through God the Son, made all things.

# Trinitarian Beliefs

## Council of Nicaea - 325AD

-300 church bishops assembled by Emperor Constantine to settle the dispute on the divinity of Jesus.

-Rejected Arianism and wrote and signed the Nicene Creed, the official position of the Universal Church.

# Trinitarian Beliefs

Council of Nicaea - 325AD

300 church bishops assembled by Emperor Constantine to settle the dispute on the divinity of Jesus.

# Trinitarian Beliefs - Nicene Creed pt 1

“We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven

# Trinitarian Beliefs - Nicene Creed pt 2

...and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.”

# Trinitarian Heresies

## False Beliefs about Jesus in other Religions and Cults

- He is not God Almighty
- He is one of many gods
- He is was just a divine a prophet
- He was just a miracle worker
- He was just a man



# A Few NT Examples of Jesus' Divinity

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:1

“30 I and My Father are one.”

John 10:30

# NT Examples of Jesus' Divinity

“58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

John 8:58

# Trinitarian Heresies

## **Tritheism**

The belief in 3 gods. The church can err on this side of heresy if it is not careful. This is usually thrown as an accusation against Christians from Jews and Muslims. It is caused by a misunderstanding of the Triune nature of God.

# **God the Father - Paterology**

## **The Functions of God the Father in Creation & Within the Trinity**

**-He is First and He Directs and Plans**

**-He Leads**

**-He Sends**

**(Ps 33:6; Gen 1:3; 1 Cor 8:6; Jh 3:16, 5:30, 6:38,  
14:26; Gal 4:4-5; Eph 1:3-6 & 9-10; Matt 6:9-10)**

# Trinitarian Belief - Roles

“28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

1 Corinthians 15:28 NKJV

# God the Father - Paterology

## How Does God The Father Interact With Us?

-He is Our Father

-He is who our prayers are directed towards

-He is Unseen, He is Spirit

(Matt 6:9-10; Jh 1:18, 4:24, 20:17; 1 Jh 3:1-3,  
4:12; Col 1:15; 1 Tim:1:7; Ex 33:20; Gal 4:6-7; Rom  
8:14-16)

# God the Father - Paterology

“9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.11 Give us this day our daily bread.12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.” **Matthew 6:9-13**

## God the Father - Paterology

“6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, [b]“Abba, Father!”

7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.” Galatians 4:6-7



# God the Father - Paterology

“14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” Romans 8:14-15

# God the Father - Paterology

“16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,  
17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.” Romans 8:16-17

# Trinity - CMS Statement of Faith

1. We believe that there is one living and true GOD, eternally existing in three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all things (Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:8, 48:16; Matthew 28:19-20; John 10:30; Hebrews 1:3).

# God the Father- CMS Statement of Faith

3. We believe in the person of God the Father, the infinite, eternal, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love; that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men; that He hears and answers prayer; and that He saves from sin and death all those who come to Him through Jesus Christ (Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalms 90:2; Psalms 102:27; John 3:16, 4:24; 1 Timothy 1:17; Titus 1:3).