

GOD: A Short Autobiography

“GOD is a Trinity!” Matthew 28:18-20

Pastor Jason Dennett’s Teaching Notes

NKJV - “*And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*”

I. The Trinity’s **PROCLAMATION**.

II. The Trinity’s **DEMONSTRATION**.

III. The Trinity’s **APPLICATION**.

I. **The Trinity’s PROCLAMATION**. - “*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..*”

- This is the mission statement given to the New Testament Church by Jesus Himself. Christians are to go throughout the nations of the earth making disciples of Christ, teaching them to obey His commands, and baptizing them in the name of the Trinity!

• **What is the “TRINITY” and where does this word come from??**

- **Tertullian, a early Christian defender of the faith and theologian, was the first Christian to use the word “Trinity,” in about 180AD, though the truth of the Trinity was taught in the New Testament and by church Fathers before him. He declared:**
 - *“We define that there are two, the Father and the Son, and three with the Holy Spirit, and this number is made by the pattern of salvation...[which] brings about unity in Trinity, interrelating the three, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit...They are of one substance and power, because there is one God...Father, Son and Holy Spirit...I testify that the Father, the Son, and the Spirit are inseparable from each other...”*
- **Nicene Creed (325AD):** “*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.*
- *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.*

• **The Trinity is based on 2 core biblical teachings:**

- *“There is only **1** true and living God; this God exists in **3** separate and distinct co-equal persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.”*
 - ***The Trinity may be a “mystery”, but it is certainly NOT a contradiction.** God is not saying that He is 1 Person and 3 Persons at the same time - that would be impossible (**same categories**). Nor is He saying that He 1 God and also 3 Gods at the same time - that would be illogical (**same categories**). However, there is **NO CONTRADICTION**, for Him to say that He is 1 God, but also 3 Persons. (**different categories**)*

- *"In the LORD we find a Being who is 3 Persons, while still remaining just one GOD. Much like a triangle has 3 sides and 3 angles, but remains only one triangle." - CS Lewis*
 - *The story is told of a criminal who was thrown into prison, into a deep dark cell, all alone in solitary confinement...*

II. The Trinity's DEMONSTRATION.

• Thinking Logically: Proves the Trinity!

- Only in the **TRINITY**, can God be **Love** eternally, for love requires a recipient.
- Only in the **TRINITY**, can God first have **Relationship**, for it requires a partner.
- Only in the **TRINITY**, can God first have **Communication**, for it requires others.

• The New Testament: Explicitly declares the Trinity!

- **Matt 3:16-17** - "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 lighting upon Him. And suddenly **a voice** came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
- **Matt 17:1-5** - "**Jesus** took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves...while he was still speaking, behold, **a bright cloud** overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is **My beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"
- **Matt 28:19** - "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in **the name** of the **Father** and of the **Son** and of the **Holy Spirit**..."
- **2 Cor 13:14** - "The grace of the **Lord Jesus Christ**, and the love of **God**, and the communion of the **Holy Spirit** be with you all."
- **Rev 4:8** - "The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "**Holy, holy, holy**, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"
○ (**Father** is seated on the Throne; **Son** is before the Throne; **Spirit** around Throne)

• The Old Testament: Implicitly hints at the Trinity!

- **Gen 1:1** - "In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth."
- **Gen 1:26** - "Then God said, "Let **Us** make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness.."
- **Deut 6:4-5** - "Hear, O Israel: The **Lord our God**, the Lord is **one**! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.."
- **Num 6:22-26** - "And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, "This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: "**The Lord** bless you and keep you; **The Lord** make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; **the Lord** lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."
- **Isa 6:1-3** - "I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, cwith two he covered his

feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”

- **Isa 48:16** - “Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord God and His Spirit have sent Me.”

III. The Trinity’s APPLICATION.

• The Trinity teaches us the importance of FAMILY.

- The Trinity is also referred to by many bible teachers as the “DIVINE FAMILY”. As such, the love and harmony that exists in the Trinity, can become a practically model for our families today. Are we walking in love towards each other? HUSBANDS, are you sacrificial loving your wives? WIVES, are you respecting and honoring the leadership of your husband? CHILDREN, are you obeying and honoring your parents, as commanded by God? The perfect agape love in the “Divine Family” between Father, Son, and Spirit is the ultimate model for our families on earth.

• The Trinity teaches us the importance of UNITY.

- Though the Persons of the Trinity are separate and distinct from each other, they always function and operate in perfect unity and harmony. There is never any disagreement, friction, or fighting amongst them...and so they are a perfect model for Body of Christ and the UNITY that should exist between us as believers.
 - **1 Cor 12:24-27 NLT** - “God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.” (John 13:35)

• The Trinity teaches us the importance of STUDY.

- The doctrine of the Trinity is the priceless gem of the Christian faith, for it shows us the true identity of the Living God: He is one GOD, who exists in 3 separate and distinct divine Persons. Since that is true, we should study each of the Persons of the Trinity, and seek to grow in personal relationship with God the Father, and also with God the Son, and with God the Holy Spirit. Each of them have a different function in your life, your salvation, and your glorification. We should study the scriptures to develop a deep intimate relationship with each of the 3 Persons of the Trinity!