

What We Believe

Defining the Trinity

The doctrine of the Trinity describes the relationship between the three persons in the Godhead and the singular divine nature – a Trinity.

God is a tri-personal unity, a plurality of persons and a unity of *essence*.
God is revealed in 3 distinct persons,

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This is known as a “trinitarian monotheism” or “compound monotheism.”

What We Believe

Council of Constantinople (381 AD)

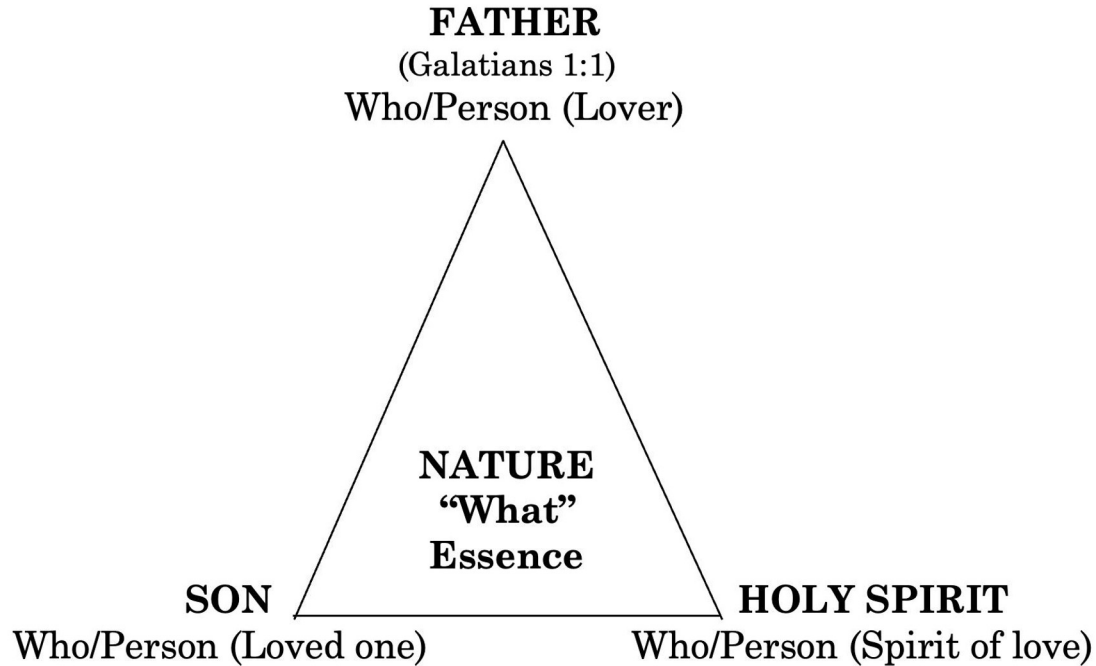
“I believe in one God the Father Almighty: maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all Worlds, Light of Light,

very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father....

And [I believe] in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life...”

What We Believe

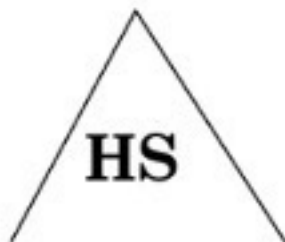
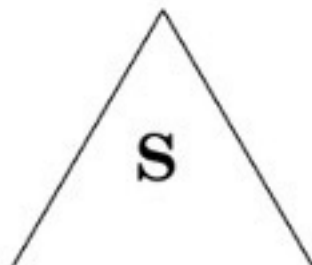
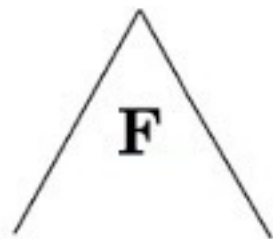


What We Believe

False Views of God

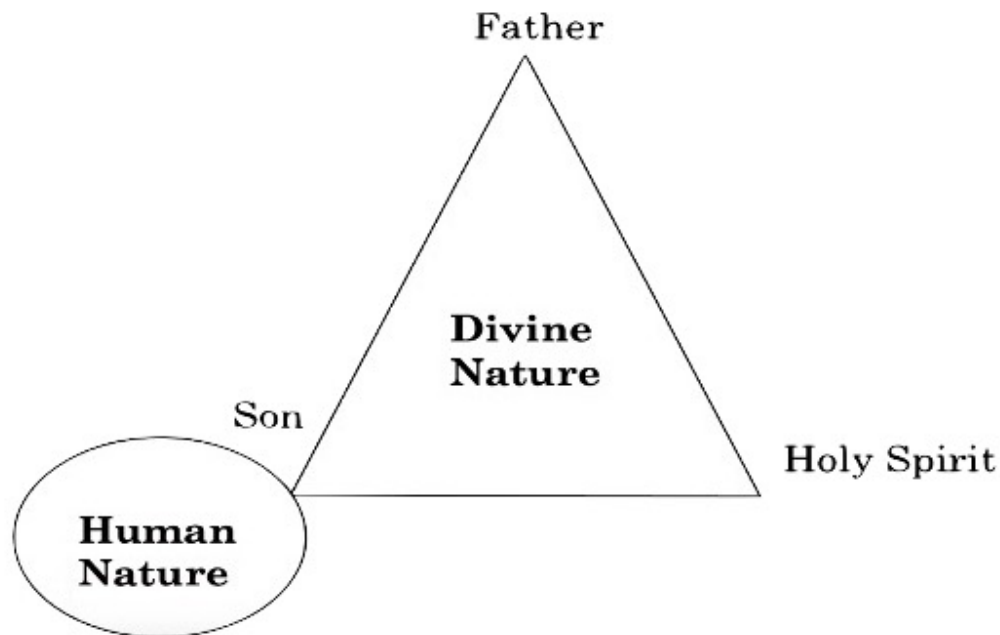
Tri-theism

(three separate gods; Jews and later Muslims accused early Christians)



What We Believe

INCARNATION (John 1:1, 14; Philippians 2:5-8)



What We Believe

"Council of Nicaea (4th AD)"

The debate between Arius and Athanasius required a discussion on whether the Son's nature is the same as the Father's nature?

Homoousios vs Heteroousios

What We Believe

"The Chalcedonian Creed (451 AD)"

“Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in God head and also perfect in manhood; **truly God and truly man**, of a reasonable soul and body; **consubstantial with the Father according to the Godhead**, and **consubstantial with us according to the Manhood**; . . . one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only begotten, to be acknowledged **in two natures**, **inconfusedly**, **unchangeably**, **indivisibly**, **inseparably**; the **distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union**, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one Person... **not parted or divided into two persons**, but one and the same Son..

What We Believe

"Christ's Intermediate State"

Abraham's Bosom #1 (Luke 16:19-31)

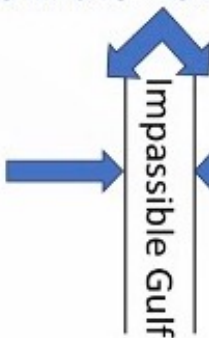
HEAVEN/GOD

(accessible to believers only after the cross)

HADES

(2 compartments in the "lower parts of the earth")

Torment
Unsaved
(Lk 16) Rich Man



Abraham's Bosom/Paradise
Saved prior to cross (comfort)
Abraham & Lazarus...
Jesus descended into the lower
parts of the earth...
(Eph 4:7-11; 1 Pet 3:18-20)

What We Believe

"Christ's Intermediate State"

Abraham's Bosom #2

(Gal 3:6-9; Gen 15:6; Rom 4:3,6)

HEAVEN/PARADISE/GOD (2 Cor 12:2-4)

(Accessible to all believers before and after the cross)

Jesus after His death (Lk 23:43, 46 – Paradise, spirit)/Moses & Elijah (Mt 17)

Abraham/Lazarus



Impassible Gulf



HADES

Rich Man/Torment/Unsaved

*"Jesus Lower parts of the earth"? (see Ps 139:15)

*Jesus went to hades to preach? (see 1 Pet 3:19b-20a)