Doctrines Made Simple 001

Capsule Series For Busy People

The Doctrine Of

TRICTY

Part O1

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Bible Doctrines Made Simple 001 Capsule Series For Busy People

The Doctrine Of TRINITY

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Dr. Johnson C. Philip Dr. Saneesh Cherian

The Doctrine of Trinity 01

Every faithful Christian needs to know his fundamental doctrines at least in summary. The great Doctrine of Trinity is the most fundamental of them all because without it the doctrine of Creation, Redemption, and Eternity becomes meaningless.

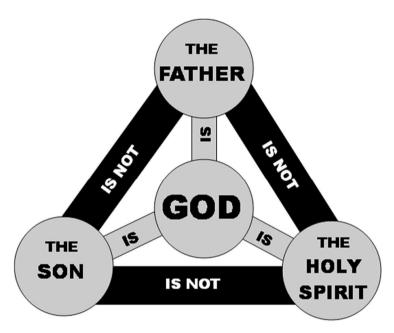


Left: Many symbols have been used to depict Trinity. This is one of them. Since it is only a SYMBOL, it is NOT an actual material representation of the triune God

The Doctrine of Trinity (in summary) goes this way: We believe in one God who eternally exists in three persons.

This is a doctrine which all the four major church streams in last 2000 years (Congregational, Roman Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox) accept. Only false cults and deviant movements deny this doctrine.

This doctrine of one God who eternally exists in three persons is found throughout the Bible. However, it finds its fullest expression in the New Testament books. In the NT there are numerous trinitarian passages. When all of them are sifted, sorted, and compared, a clear picture of the Doctrine of Trinity emerges.



Above: Many symbols have been used to depict Trinity. This is one of them. Since it is only a SYMBOL, it is NOT an actual material representation of the triune God

The doctrine of Trinity is a fundamental doctrine of the Bible. So fundamental that usually a person's response to this doctrine can

be used to measure his faith and commitment to the Bible. If a person denies this doctrine then, in effect, he denies the whole of the Christian faith. He is either a heretic, or on the path of heresy.



Left: Many symbols have been used to depict Trinity. This is one of them. Since it is only a SYMBOL, it is NOT an actual material representation of the triune God

In other words, the doctrine of Trinity can be used as a touchstone. Touchstones, as you will remember, are used to rub and see if what looks like gold is really gold.

Therefore, if a person questions or denies the doctrine of Trinity, we can safely assume that either he a babe in Christ (if he is a new believer), unable to grasp this doctrine, or a heretic (if he is an older believer) who rejects almost all the other major doctrines of the Bible. History shows us that everyone who rejected the doctrine of Trinity then went on to reject Jehovah, only to label Him as a bloody

God, and then went on to label the Old Testament as not Scriptures – not at least on par with the New Testament.

So what is the truth? Read on, and we have many goodies for you.

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par with the New Testament.
Reject the doctrine of Trinity,
and you become a heretic.

There Is Only One God

Right from Genesis the first book of the Bible, the Scripture makes it clear that there is one and only one God. We see this affirmation in numerous places in the Bible. Consider the following Bible verses:

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD" (Deuteronomy 6:4)

"Jesus replied, "This is the most important: 'Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is One Lord" (Mark 12:29)

"Since there is One God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith" (Romans 3:30)

"Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we exist" (1 Corinthians 8:6)

This is the first point related to the doctrine of trinity: God is one!

Plurality In One God

We saw in the previous section that God is one. Bible declares this truth everywhere. At the same time, right from the earliest chapter of the Genesis we see hint of a plurality. Consider the following verses:

"Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness" (Genesis 1:26)

Here the expression 'us' and 'our' shows plurality. Some people might argue that this is a royal expression similar to the way kings use the word 'us' (let us see) instead of I or me. However, look at the following statement:

"And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil" (Genesis 3:22)

Here the scripture clearly says "one of us" which means there is a plurality. Nobody can deny the implication of plurality in the above statement of the Scripture.

Response To The Unity/Plurality Concept

Having seen above that right from the first book of the Old Testament we read of ONE God in many places, but of PLURALITY in other places, we now need to understand exactly what the Scripture means by this.

The concept found in the Old Testament that God is one, but also that there is more than one person (man has become like one of "us") is known as uni-plurality – one but many, or many but one.

Uni-plurality is to be understood on the basis of what the Bible say about it, not on the basis of what man thinks about it. Many people err by trying to explain this unity versus plurality in human terms. With their human mind they come up with -- among others -- the following explanations:

- I do not care
- I accept the idea of one God, and simply reject Bible verses that hint at plurality
- There is plurality, but it is one and the same person who APPEARS in three different forms

• I reject the whole thing because I cannot understand it using human logic

Actually all the above approaches are wrong. Wrong because people are trying to explain Bible doctrine on the basis of human logic. Bible doctrine is to be accepted on the basis of what the Bible says, not on the basis of its human rationality. Those who reject the doctrine of Trinity reject it because it does not suit their human rationality.

Summary

Right from the book of Genesis, the Bible makes it clear that God is one, but also that Godhead has more than one person. This concept of uni-plurality is known as Trinity. We will explain more about this important concept in the next two volumes of this series.



About The Authors

Dr. Johnson C. Philip is an expert in Quantum-nuclear Physics and has done research about the inner structure of Protons and Neutrons (Hadrons). He has authored hundreds of books and he hopes to join hands with Dr. Saneesh Cherian to produce more



than 100 volumes of these compact Bible/Science books to bless your spiritual life.

Dr. Saneesh Cherian is an expert in Communication and Sociology. Having completed two doctorates in theology and a masters in Sociology from a prestigious University, he has been working towards his next doctorate



Together the two writers have authored several major books in Apologetics and Theology, Theology Dictionary and Bible Encyclopedias.

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