

4. The Trinity

BC 8-11

The Trinity

What is meant by the Trinity?

God is one single essence in which are three persons [BC 8].

Proof for this in the OT

[Gen. 1:26,27, Ps. 33:6; Ps. 110:1; Is. 61:1]

Messenger of Jehovah [Gen. 18:22; 19:24; Ex. 3:2,6]

Proof for this in the NT

The baptism of Jesus [Mt. 3:16,17]

The command to baptize [Mt. 28:19]

The benediction [II Cor. 13:14]

Prove that the Spirit is a real Person and not an impersonal force.

He speaks to us, guiding us into all truth [John 15:26].

He is the one who calls men to the mission field [Acts 13:2].

He searches the deep things of God [I Cor. 2:10].

What does the truth of the Trinity teach us about the covenant?

God has fellowship within Himself and brings us into fellowship with Him.

Who denies the oneness of God?

Those who teach that 3 Persons are 3 different Beings.

The Threeness

The Apostles' Creed is divided into 3 parts. Name them.

Father [creation]; Son [redemption]; Holy Spirit [sanctification]

Names of the Persons make known what's unique to each. How?

Father begets; Son begotten [John 1:18]; Spirit breathed forth [John 15:26; 20:22]

What does the Belgic Confession say about the 3 persons [BC 8]?

[Father] Cause, Origin & Beginning of all things visible & invisible

[Son] Word, Wisdom & Image of the Father

[Holy Spirit] Eternal Power & Might of God [Lk. 1:35; 24:49]

Is the Father greater than the Son and the Holy Spirit? Explain.

No. All three are coequal and coeternal.

Who denies the threeness of God?

Unbelieving Jews, Muslims, Unitarians, Jehovah's Witnesses

Those who hold to modelism or subordinationalism