

“We believe and teach that there is but one living and true God, an infinite, all-knowing, self-existent Spirit, perfect in all His attributes, one in essence, eternally existing in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— each equally deserving worship and obedience.”

Countryside Bible Church

“It needs the Trinity to make a Christian, it needs the Trinity to cheer a Christian, it needs the Trinity to complete a Christian, it needs the Trinity to create in a Christian the hope of glory. I always like these passages which bring us so near to the Trinity. Let us pause a while and adore: ‘Glory be unto the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end! Amen.’ It is most sweet to be called upon to offer special worship unto the one God in the Trinity of his divine Persons, and to feel your heart readily inclined thereto, as we do at this hour”

C H Spurgeon





# Roadmap

**Session # 1** – What the Bible teaches about Trinity & Introduction to 3 Heresies

**Session #2** – The Eternal Functional Subordination (EFS) Controversy

**Session #3** – The Role of our Triune God in our Salvation and Sanctification

## Goal of the Series:

“To see and to savor our triune God, by understanding the doctrine of trinity and the role of our triune God in our salvation and in our sanctification.”



# SEEING AND SAVORING THE TRINITY

# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## I. Defining the Trinity



“God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God, and there is one God.”

- Dr. Wayne Grudem (Systematic Theology)



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## II. Describing the Trinity

### A. The Trinity in the Old Testament

#### 1. The Plural Pronoun (Gen. 1:26; 3:22; 11:7)

Genesis 1:26 (NASB95)

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let **Us** make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."





# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## II. Describing the Trinity

### A. The Trinity in the Old Testament

1. The Plural Pronoun (Gen. 1:26; 3:22; 11:7)
2. 2 Persons called God (Psalm 45:6-7; 110:1; Isaiah 48:16; 63:10)

Psalm 45:6–7 (NASB95)

<sup>6</sup>Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

<sup>7</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of joy above Your fellows.



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## II. Describing the Trinity

### A. The Trinity in the Old Testament

1. The Plural Pronoun (Gen. 1:26; 3:22; 11:7)
2. 2 Persons called God (Psalm 45:6-7; 110:1; Isaiah 48:16; 63:10)
3. The 'Angel of the Lord' (Gen. 16:13; Ex. 3:2-6)



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## II. Describing the Trinity

- A. The Trinity in the Old Testament
- B. The Trinity in the New Testament
  - 1. At Jesus' Baptism (Matt. 3:16-17)

### **Matthew 3:16–17 (NASB95)**

<sup>16</sup>After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## II. Describing the Trinity

A. The Trinity in the Old Testament

B. The Trinity in the New Testament

1. At Jesus' Baptism (Matt. 3:16-17)
2. At Jesus' Ascension (Matt. 28:19-20)
3. In the Epistles (2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Pet. 1:2 and Jude 20:21)



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## II. Describing the Trinity

- A. The Trinity in the Old Testament
- B. The Trinity in the New Testament
- C. The Trinity in Summation
  1. Statement # 1 – There is One God
  2. Statement # 2 – God is Three Persons
  3. Statement # 3 – Each Person is Fully God



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

1. Statement # 1 – There is One God



**Deuteronomy 6:4** - <sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

**Exodus 15:11** - <sup>11</sup>Who is like You among the gods, O LORD? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders? (Answer – No one)

**1 Kings 8:60** - <sup>60</sup>so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no one else.

**Isaiah 45:5–6** - <sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me;

<sup>6</sup>That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other,

**1 Timothy 2:5** - <sup>5</sup>For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

**1 Corinthians 8:6** - <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.

# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

1. Statement # 1 – There is One God
2. Statement # 2 – God is Three Persons





**John 1:1–2** <sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God.

**1 John 2:1** <sup>1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

It is clear that the Father is a person and the son is a person, but is the Holy Spirit a person too?

**John 14:26** <sup>26</sup>“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

“Moreover, the names helper, counselor or *comforter* (Gk. παράκλητος, G4156) is a term commonly used to speak of a person who helps or gives comfort or counsel to another person or persons, but is used of the Holy Spirit in John’s gospel (14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7).”

Wayne Grudem



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

1. Statement # 1 – There is One God
2. Statement # 2 – God is Three Persons
3. Statement # 3 – Each Person is Fully God



## a. God the Father is God

**Genesis 1:1** <sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**Matthew 6:26–30** <sup>26</sup>“Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

<sup>27</sup>“And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?

<sup>28</sup>“And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,

<sup>29</sup>yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.

<sup>30</sup>“But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!

## **b. God the Son is God**

**Isaiah 9:6** <sup>6</sup>For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

**Hebrews 1:1–3** <sup>1</sup>God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, <sup>2</sup>in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. <sup>3</sup>And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

**Hebrews 1:8** <sup>8</sup>But of the Son He says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM."

## **b. God the Son is God**

**Luke 15:10** <sup>10</sup>“In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**Matthew 13:41** <sup>41</sup>“The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

## **b. God the Son is God**

**Matthew 25:31** <sup>31</sup>“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

**Matthew 24:30** <sup>30</sup>“And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

## c. God the Spirit is God

**1 Corinthians 3:16** <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**Acts 5:3–4** <sup>3</sup>But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land?

<sup>4</sup>“While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

I. Defining the Trinity

II. Describing the Trinity

III. Disputes on the Trinity



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## III. Disputes on the Trinity

- A. The Modalist Controversy (3<sup>rd</sup> Century)
- B. The Filioque Controversy (9-10<sup>th</sup> Century)
- C. The Arian Controversy (4<sup>th</sup> Century)



# Seeing and Savoring the Trinity

## Application

- A. Leads us to Worship God as we Ought
- B. Helps us to Appreciate the Roles within the Trinity



# Small Group Discussion

1. What are some wrong assumptions we can bring to the study of Trinity and how can we guard ourselves from heretical views?
2. What are some texts on which we can ground the doctrine of trinity?





# SEEING AND SAVORING THE TRINITY