

The Trinity

Is the Evidence There?

Contents

Forward	6
Chapter One	7
What is the Trinity?	7
Is God a Monad?	7
Does Language Reflect a Monad or a plurality in the Godhead?	8
The Language of Oneness	8
Language and the multi-personal nature of God	9
Singular uses of God	9
Plural uses of names for God	10
Plural names of God	10
Uses of אֲדֹנָי (Plural of Adonai for “Lord”)	10
Other uses of the plural to speak of God:	10
Plural pronouns	11
Plural persons	11
Theophanies	12
The Angel of the Lord	15
Chapter 2	18
There is only one God	18
This God is the “True God”	18
This one true God is the eternal God.	19
The Everlasting God is a LIVING God, not one of stone or wood.	19
God is knowable	20
God who is beyond our comprehension	20
God is not a man	21
God is a Spirit	21
God is invisible	21
God Is Eternal with No Beginning or End.	22
God Is All Knowing	22

God Is All Powerful	22
God Is Omnipresent.....	22
God Is Spirit	23
God’s Plans Never Fail.....	23
God Is Perfect Morally	23
Only God Is Immortal	23
Only God Is A Necessary Being.....	23
God Is Sovereign	23
God Is Our Savior.....	24
God’s Word Guides Us.....	24
Chapter 3	26
God the Father in the OT.....	26
God the Father is a person not an impersonal force.....	27
Deity of the Father	27
Greek Theos used to describe God	27
The term Kurios (Lord) is also used of the Father	28
Kurios in the Septuagint is used for Yahweh	28
The Attributes of the Father indicate divinity.	29
Father does the works of God	29
Father Provides the word of God	30
Father Worshipped as God	30
Chapter 4	31
Problem Statement.....	31
Is there adequate evidence to support the Trinitarian position that Jesus is God?	31
What are the primary arguments for non-Trinitarian beliefs?.....	31
Who is this Jesus?	31
Jesus the Carpenter	31
Jesus the Rabbi.....	31
Jesus the Miracle Worker	32
Jesus the Moralist	32
Jesus as a prophet	32
Evidence in the OT for anticipation of an end of time prophet.....	32

Evidence Jesus is the Messiah	33
False Messiahs and False Prophets Predicted	34
Anti Christs will arise	34
Who then is Jesus?	35
Personhood of Jesus	35
Jesus is fully human	35
Two Natures of Christ	36
Pre-existence of Jesus	37
What is the significance of prophecy?	37
God the Son Prophesied in the OT	37
Prophecies Foretelling the Messiah	37
Fulfillment of Prophecy: Jesus Came To Earth	38
Prophecies Fulfilled On Day of Crucifixion	39
Jesus Himself Made Prophecies that were Fulfilled	40
Further Evidences of Deity	42
Jesus noted to be “Greater Than”	42
Jesus Sinless	42
Jesus re-issues the Law	43
Miracles as a Marker of Deity	43
Deity of Jesus Seen in Gospels Writings	45
Deity of Jesus Seen in Remaining NT	45
Attributes of Indicating deity	46
Equal with God	47
Works of God (Creation and Salvation)	47
NT Verses About Our Redeemer, Jesus	48
No Other Savior Exists	49
How did the Church Respond to Jesus?	49
The Followers of Jesus prayed to him and through him.	49
Hymns were written to Jesus	49
Doxologies to Jesus were composed	52
The Key Question Is Do You Love Jesus?	52
Verses Comparing the Father and Son	52

The Father and Son are demonstrably separate in the following two verses.....	52
Jesus and the Father are both eternal.....	53
Jesus and the Father are both Omnipresent	53
Jesus and the Father are both Immutable.....	54
Jesus and the Father are both Omnipotent/Creator	54
Jesus and the Father are both Omniscient	55
Jesus and the Father are both Holy/Sinless.....	56
Jesus and the Father both Search Men’s Hearts	56
Jesus and the Father both Judge Mankind	57
Jesus and the Father are both Sovereign.....	58
Jesus and the Father are both Rewarders of The Faithful	59
Jesus and the Father are both the True God.....	59
Jesus and the Father are both a Source of Life.....	60
Jesus and the Father both Provide Strength and Hope.....	60
Jesus and the Father are both our Savior.....	61
Jesus and the Father are both Light	62
Jesus and the Father both forgive sin	63
Jesus and the Father are both a refuge from storms of life	64
Jesus and the Father both refresh their people.....	64
Jesus and the Father both send the Spirit	64
Jesus and the Father both guide us and receive us into glory	65
Jesus and the Father are both honored and served.....	65
Jesus and the Father both possess us.	66
Jesus and the Father are both the authors of grace.....	66
Jesus and the Father both pour out their love in us.	66
Jesus and the Father both guide us with their words of truth.....	67
Jesus and the Father are both our shepherd.....	67
Jesus and the Father both discipline believers.....	68
God and Jesus will reward our faithfulness	68
Jesus and the Father both are the ones whose names we must trust.	69
Jesus and the Father are both to be rejoiced in.	69
God and Jesus are all in all	70

Jesus and the Father both rescue us.....	70
Stone of Stumbling.....	70
Jesus and the Father are both Worshipped.....	70
Jesus and the Father are both mentioned in close proximity in several verses.	72
Other verses referring to Jesus as God.	74
The Lord’s Prayer.....	74
The Record of the Early Church Fathers	75
Jesus is God	75
Record of the Early Church Councils: The First Ecumenical Council of 325 AD	81
Chapter 5	83
Who or What is the Holy Spirit?	83
The Presence of the Holy Spirit in the OT	83
Personhood of the Holy Spirit.....	84
34 Things we need to know About the Holy Spirit.	84
The Holy Spirit is God	91
Record of the Early Church Councils: The Second Ecumenical Council of 381 AD	98
Chapter 6	99
The Trinity demonstrated in the OT.....	99
The Trinity in the NT	99
God Is Trinity.....	103
The Father Son, and the Holy Ghost are eternal.	103
The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost created all things.....	104
The Father, Son and Holy Ghost are Omnipresent	104
The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are incomprehensible and omniscient.....	105
The Father Son and Holy Spirit are true, holy and good.....	105
The Father Son and Holy Spirit have self-regulating wills.....	106
The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the fountain of life.	107
The Father, Son and Holy Spirit strengthen, comfort and sanctify us.	107
The Father, Son and Holy Spirit fill the soul with divine love.....	108
The Father Son and Holy Ghost gave the Divine Law	108
The Father Son and Holy Spirit dwell in the hearts of believers.	109
The Father Son and Holy Spirit are each by himself the supreme Jehovah and God.	
.....	110

Forward

The doctrine of the Trinity, while central to orthodox theology, is implicit and not explicit. The doctrine developed in the first centuries following the beginning of the church and was formalized in the early church councils. While settled in church history at a fairly early date, discussion and debate regarding the Trinity continue.

There is no Biblical evidence that a belief in the Trinity is necessary for salvation. Salvation is based on faith in Jesus Christ, not on the ability to be a good theologian. That said, non-Trinitarian belief systems often have a deficient understanding of Jesus and the Holy Spirit and may even misunderstand the very nature of God (monas vs non-monas). This, on an intellectual level could theoretically could prevent people from coming to a saving faith in Jesus. However, as I understand God, God is relational and personal and functions at the level of heart and soul as well as intellect.

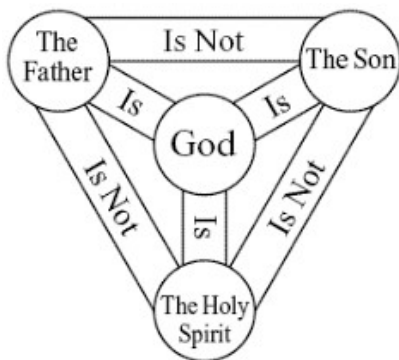
Unfortunately, the implicit rather than explicit nature of the doctrine has made it a focus for conflict with cult groups. This discord is rooted in part in theological differences concerning the nature of God. However, it is equally likely the discord can be seen as an avenue to discredit Christian doctrine while deflecting discussion from deficiencies within the cult group.

The goal of this article is to present an affirmative argument for the Trinity. On occasion it will be necessary to discuss language, theology, history, or philosophy. However, as much as possible, Scripture, with pertinent context, will be presented. At a bare minimum, this article should serve as list of Scriptures that support the Trinity. In order to keep the paper a reasonable length, categories with large numbers of Scripture will be limited to a maximum of ten Scriptures.

Chapter One

What is the Trinity?

A modern and very concise definition of the Trinity is provided by the Southern Baptist Convention. “God is revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence or being.”¹ A more traditional description of Trinity is “a word used to express the doctrine of the unity of God as subsisting in three distinct Persons. This word is derived from the Gr. trias, first used by Theophilus (A.D. 168–183), or from the Lat. trinitas, first used by Tertullian (A.D. 220), to express this doctrine. The propositions involved in the doctrine are these: 1. That God is one, and that there is but one God (Deut. 6:4; 1 Kings 8:60; Isa. 44:6; Mark 12:29, 32; John 10:30). 2. That the Father is a distinct divine Person (hypostasis, subsistentia, persona, suppositum intellectuale), distinct from the Son and the Holy Spirit. 3. That Jesus Christ was truly God, and yet was a Person distinct from the Father and the Holy Spirit. 4. That the Holy Spirit is also a distinct divine Person.”² A graphic that displays this is:



Is God a Monad?

One of the first questions that must be considered is the nature of God. Platonic philosophers believed God was indivisible. If this were so it would automatically rule out the possibility of Trinity. Arius, brought this understanding of God to Christian theology and denied the possibility of the Trinity. Robert Morey states:

Arius had been exposed to Greek philosophy and he came to understand that God was indivisible. Arius clearly adopted the Monas of the Middle Platonists as his God. In other words, Arius’ god was nothing more Plato’s Monas! William Rusch comments, “As a result, Arius blurred Christianity and paganism.” Morey continues, “According to Plato, the Monas was indivisible by nature, i.e., it could not be divided into more than One Person. It had to be indivisible in order to be immutable. This was an idea Plato derived from the pre-Socratic philosopher Parmenides. After stating that God was the Monas, Arius concluded that Christ

¹ James Petigru Boyce, *Abstract of Systematic Theology* (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2010), 125.

² M. G. Easton, *Illustrated Bible Dictionary and Treasury of Biblical History, Biography, Geography, Doctrine, and Literature* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1893), 675.

could not be eternal because the nature and attributes of the Monas cannot be divided into Two Persons.³

Arius was not alone in his concerns about the nature of God. Much of Judaism has traditionally considered God a monad. There were, however, exceptions from the Jewish Second Temple era. Rabbis of that time wrote concerning a potential multiplicity within God. This understanding was based on the use of Yahweh in the OT, which to them indicated a possible “son”. This belief was prevalent up to and shortly after the time of Jesus. However, with the ascension of Christianity, Judaism returned to a strict monotheism for obvious reasons. Later, in the mid-600s, Islam came into existence. Islam has always considered God to be a monad.

Research of the Old and New Testaments refutes the idea that God is a Monas and supports a Trinitarian understanding of God. However, the trinitarian conflict, ignited by the intrusion of Greek philosophy into Christianity, continues until this day. In the following passages, evidence will be evaluated demonstrating it is unlikely that God is a monad.

Does Language Reflect a Monad or a plurality in the Godhead?

The Language of Oneness

The first question is how did the biblical authors, under the inspiration of God, conceive of the oneness of God? There are different Hebrew words which at times are translated as “one”. One of those terms has the sense of being indivisible while another term understands “one” as potentially composed of multiple parts. When speaking of God, the Hebrew Scriptures avoided the word that meant one in an indivisible sense. Instead, the author of the Scriptures used a word meaning “one” that allowed for multiple components. For example, in Genesis 2:24, two (man and woman) become one in marriage (**עַל־כֵּן יַעֲזֹב־אִישׁ אֶת־אָבִיו וְאֶת־אִמּוֹ וְדָבַק בְּאִשְׁתּוֹ וְהָיוּ לְבָשָׂר (אֶחָד)**).⁴

Below are the words which are associated with the term one. Only **אֶחָד** has reference to God in the Scripture and that is the composite one. The following is a brief analysis of the language. The Hebrew words that are used at least once in the Old Testament as one are below. The first four are not pertinent to our discussion as they are not applied to God.

1. **אִישׁ** Man, never used of God
2. **אִשָּׁה** Woman, never used of God
3. **נַפְשׁ** Soul, never used to speak of God
4. **אֶלְמָנִי** It is not used of God. There are three occurrences; it is translated as “and such” twice, and “a one” once. It has the sense of someone, a certain one.

The remaining two terms are pertinent. The first, like the others, is not applied to God but would likely have been if God were considered a “monas”. (a unitary being). The second is used because it reflects a whole made up of parts. This term is used with God.

³ Robert A. Morey, [*The Trinity: Evidence and Issues*](#) (Iowa Falls, IA: World Pub., 1996), 472.

⁴Christo van der Merwe, [*The Lexham Hebrew-English Interlinear Bible*](#) (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2004), Ge 2:24.

5. **יְהִיד** This term occurs 12 times in OT. It has the sense of “only child”, “desolate”, “solitary”. It reflects the sense of singularity found in Arius’s “Monas”. In Plato’s teaching the Monas was indivisible by nature, meaning it could not be more complex than one person. If God was an indivisible unity this would be the term we would expect to find used for God. It is not.
6. **אֶחָד** “one, i.e., that which is united as one in contrast to separate parts (Ge 2:24; Dt 6:4)” from Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Hebrew (Old Testament).⁵ Use of this term would allow for a plurality in the Godhead and this is actually what we find.

Language and the multi-personal nature of God

Language is the means by which we communicate ideas. There are nuances that make intent clear. If an author is trying to clearly indicate the nature of something the words chosen will assist in describing the object.

If God is not a monas but is instead multi-personal, language can convey that. The author of Scripture had the ability to clarify God’s nature. When given the choice, the author chose to use a word for “one” that had the idea of complexity within it. The term indicating an indivisible nature was available but that term was never used to modify God. A non-Trinitarian would be expected to use **יְהִיד** a term indicating God has a solitary or indivisible nature. This is not what we see. Instead, the author of Scripture uses a word that expresses a compound oneness. The word used in Scripture to modify God is **אֶחָד**, a word for one that describes a compound unity. Examples of this compound unity are found at Gen. 1:5, Gen. 2:24, Gen. 3:22, Gen. 11:6, Gen. 34:16, 22, 2 Chron. 30:12, Ezra 2:64, Jer. 32:39. An especially pertinent use of **אֶחָד** is found at Deuteronomy 6:4 which reads “Hear, O Israel, [Yahweh] our God, Yahweh is one!” Note that the term **אֶחָד** is used here. **שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד:**

In practice both singular and plural verbs and nouns are used to modify God. Some have suggested the plural terms can be ignored because the plural is an indication of majesty as seen in the language of the British monarchy. However, this usage was completely unknown to the Hebrews so is not useful for understanding the use of plural verbs and nouns describing God.

Singular uses of God

1. **Genesis 33:20** There he erected an altar and called it El (**אֱל**)-Elohe-Israel.
2. **Numbers 23:19** God (**אֱל**) is not a human being, that he should lie, or a mortal, that he should change his mind. Has he promised, and will he not do it? Has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?
3. **Isaiah 40:28** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator **בּוֹרֵא** of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. (creator is singular)

⁵ Swanson, James. *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)*. Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997.

4. **Isaiah 45:11** Thus says the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker **וְיִצְרֵנוּ**: Will you question me about my children, or command me concerning the work of my hands?
(maker is singular)

Plural uses of names for God

Elsewhere the Bible uses the plural of both God and Lord to describe God. In addition, the Scripture uses verbs which are plural. This makes sense to a Trinitarian but is not what the non-trinitarian would expect.

The plural of **אל** (God) is **אלהים** (God). **אלהים** is used most frequently for God. In the following verses God is plural and the corresponding verbs are plural.

Plural names of God

אלהים

1. **Genesis 20:13a** And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, He is my brother.' "
2. **Genesis 35:7** and there he built an altar and called the place El-bethel, because it was there that God had revealed himself to him when he fled from his brother.
3. **Exodus 21:6** then his master shall bring him before God. He shall be brought to the door or the doorpost; and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him for life.
4. **Exodus 22:7–8** 7 When someone delivers to a neighbor money or goods for safekeeping, and they are stolen from the neighbor's house, then the thief, if caught, shall pay double. 8 If the thief is not caught, the owner of the house shall be brought before God, to determine whether or not the owner had laid hands on the neighbor's goods.
5. **Exodus 22:27–28** 27 for it may be your neighbor's only clothing to use as cover; in what else shall that person sleep? And if your neighbor cries out to me, I will listen, for I am compassionate. 28 You shall not revile God, or curse a leader of your people.

Uses of **אדני** (Plural of Adonai for "Lord")

1. Genesis 15:2 But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"
2. Genesis 18:27 Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes.

Other uses of the plural to speak of God:

(The nouns for maker and creator are plural)

1. **Job 35:10** But no one says, 'Where is God my **Maker** (plural), who gives strength in the night,
2. **Psalms 58:12** People will say, "Surely there is a reward for the righteous; surely there is a God (plural) who **judges** (plural) on earth."
3. **Psalms 149:2** Let Israel be glad in its **Maker** (plural); let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

4. **Ecclesiastes 12:1** Remember your **creator** (plural) in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”;
5. **Isaiah 54:5** For your **Maker** (plural) is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.

Plural pronouns

1. **Genesis 3:22** Then the LORD God said, “See, the man has become like one of **us**, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”—
2. **Genesis 11:7** 7 Come, let **us** go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another’s speech.”
3. **Isaiah 6:8** Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for **us**?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Plural persons

Places where there seems to be more than one God present.

1. **Genesis 1:26** Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”
2. **Genesis 19:24** Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven;
3. **Psalms 45:6–7** 6 Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; 7 you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
4. **Isaiah 48:15–17** 15 I, even I, have spoken and called him, I have brought him, and he will prosper in his way. 16 Draw near to me, hear this! From the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there. And now the Lord GOD has sent me and his spirit. 17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the LORD your God, who teaches you for your own good, who leads you in the way you should go.
5. **Isaiah 48:16–17** Draw near to me, hear this! From the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there. And now the Lord GOD has sent me and his spirit. 17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the LORD your God, who teaches you for your own good, who leads you in the way you should go.
6. **Hosea 1:7** But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.”
7. **Zechariah 3:1-2** Then he showed me the high priest Joshua standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. 2 And the Lord said to

Satan, “The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this man a brand plucked from the fire?”

8. **Hebrews 1:8** But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

Theophanies

John 1:18 creates a dilemma for the non-trinitarian for we learn that “no one has seen God at any time.” Additionally, Scriptures in the OT explain that no one can see God and live. Exodus 33:20 states, “But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” It would appear logical that we should not find any examples of God appearing to people. We have been clearly told that no one has seen God at any time and that anyone who did see God would die. However, in spite of this the Scriptures give us multiple examples of God appearing to people. It is difficult to see how a non-Trinitarian could reconcile these claims. The options are limited. The Trinitarian does not have this problem. They understand that it is God, the Father, who cannot be seen and that Jesus, the son, appears to people. Below are some examples of this.

Seven visual theophanies in the OT

1. **Genesis 18:1–15** 1 The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. 3 He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5 Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” 6 And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” 7 Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. 8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. 9 They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” 10 Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?” 13 The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ 14 Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” 15 But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”
2. **Genesis 32:24–30** 24 Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. 25 When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. 26 Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” 27 So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” 28 Then the

man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. 30 So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

3. **Exodus 3:2–10** 2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." 4 When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 6 He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. 7 Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9 The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. 10 So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."
4. **Numbers 22:22–35** 22 God's anger was kindled because he was going, and the angel of the LORD took his stand in the road as his adversary. Now he was riding on the donkey, and his two servants were with him. 23 The donkey saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand; so the donkey turned off the road, and went into the field; and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back onto the road. 24 Then the angel of the LORD stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side. 25 When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it scraped against the wall, and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck it again. 26 Then the angel of the LORD went ahead, and stood in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right or to the left. 27 When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it lay down under Balaam; and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff. 28 Then the LORD opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" 29 Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!" 30 But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you this way?" And he said, "No." 31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand; and he bowed down, falling on his face. 32 The angel of the LORD said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? I have come out as an adversary, because your way is perverse before me. 33 The donkey saw me, and turned away from me these three times. If it had

not turned away from me, surely just now I would have killed you and let it live.” 34 Then Balaam said to the angel of the LORD, “I have sinned, for I did not know that you were standing in the road to oppose me. Now therefore, if it is displeasing to you, I will return home.” 35 The angel of the LORD said to Balaam, “Go with the men; but speak only what I tell you to speak.” So Balaam went on with the officials of Balak.

5. **Joshua 5:13–15** 13 Once when Joshua was by Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?” 14 He replied, “Neither; but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and he said to him, “What do you command your servant, my lord?” 15 The commander of the army of the LORD said to Joshua, “Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy.” And Joshua did so.
6. **Judges 13:1-25** 1 The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines forty years. 2 There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. His wife was barren, having borne no children. 3 And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, “Although you are barren, having borne no children, you shall conceive and bear a son. 4 Now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, or to eat anything unclean, 5 for you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor is to come on his head, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth. It is he who shall begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines.” 6 Then the woman came and told her husband, “A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like that of an angel of God, most awe-inspiring; I did not ask him where he came from, and he did not tell me his name; 7 but he said to me, ‘You shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth to the day of his death.’ ” 8 Then Manoah entreated the LORD, and said, “O LORD, I pray, let the man of God whom you sent come to us again and teach us what we are to do concerning the boy who will be born.” 9 God listened to Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field; but her husband Manoah was not with her. 10 So the woman ran quickly and told her husband, “The man who came to me the other day has appeared to me.” 11 Manoah got up and followed his wife, and came to the man and said to him, “Are you the man who spoke to this woman?” And he said, “I am.” 12 Then Manoah said, “Now when your words come true, what is to be the boy’s rule of life; what is he to do?” 13 The angel of the LORD said to Manoah, “Let the woman give heed to all that I said to her. 14 She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine. She is not to drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing. She is to observe everything that I commanded her.” 15 Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, “Allow us to detain you, and prepare a kid for you.” 16 The angel of the LORD said to Manoah, “If you detain me, I will not eat your food; but if you want to prepare a burnt offering, then offer it to the LORD.” (For Manoah did not know that he was the angel of the LORD.) 17 Then Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, “What is your name, so that we may honor you when your words come true?” 18 But the angel of the LORD said to him, “Why do you ask my name? It is too wonderful.”

19 So Manoah took the kid with the grain offering, and offered it on the rock to the LORD, to him who works wonders. 20 When the flame went up toward heaven from the altar, the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife looked on; and they fell on their faces to the ground. 21 The angel of the LORD did not appear again to Manoah and his wife. Then Manoah realized that it was the angel of the LORD. 22 And Manoah said to his wife, “We shall surely die, for we have seen God.” 23 But his wife said to him, “If the LORD had meant to kill us, he would not have accepted a burnt offering and a grain offering at our hands, or shown us all these things, or now announced to us such things as these.” 24 The woman bore a son, and named him Samson. The boy grew, and the LORD blessed him. 25 The spirit of the LORD began to stir him in Mahaneh-dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

7. **Daniel 3:16–28** 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. 17 If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. 18 But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.” 19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, 20 and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. 21 So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. 22 Because the king’s command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. 23 But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire. 24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, “Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?” They answered the king, “True, O king.” 25 He replied, “But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god.” 26 Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. 27 And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics were not harmed, and not even the smell of fire came from them. 28 Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king’s command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.

The Angel of the Lord

Occasionally there is discussion about the “Angel of the Lord”. This title is not especially helpful in this day and age. Since the 1500s there has been an emphasis on a particular class of heavenly

beings known as angels. These beings are inferior to God but are one of His creations. When we see the term angel we often think of a special being, an ontological character. The entertainment industry, whether in stories or movies, often portrays these “angels” as winged heavenly beings. However, the word angel was originally a transliteration for the word “messenger” (מַלְאָךְ in Hebrew) and does not always mean an angel. Instead, it simply means “messenger.” Both מַלְאָךְ and ἄγγελος can be, and in many cases should be, translated messenger not angel. The import of this is that when God is described by those terms it is not what God is, but what function God is performing. When God is described as מַלְאָךְ or ἄγγελος it does not diminish divinity. This is often not an ontological term but rather a functional term. This is important because in a number of settings Yahweh will be sending Yahweh to speak for Yahweh. However, both make up the one composite Yahweh. This underscores the multi-personal nature of God. One God yet Yahweh on earth is a distinct Person from the Yahweh in heaven. The early church understood this nature of God and had no difficulty with the “The Messenger of Yahweh” who appeared in the Old Testament. They understood that it was Jesus Christ appearing in human form before His Incarnation.

The non-trinitarian assumes that the “Messenger of Yahweh” is a created being, i.e., an “angel,” and not God. The Trinitarian assumes the “Messenger of Yahweh” is actually Yahweh in human form delivering a message.

The first explicit reference to the “Messenger of Yahweh” is found in Genesis 16:7–14. We can look at this passage for some guidance. After Hagar had become pregnant by Abraham, Sarai, the wife of Abraham, became jealous and treated her harshly. So Hagar ran away into the desert:

Genesis 16:7 Now the angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. 8 And he said, “Hagar, Sarai’s maid, where have you come from and where are you going?” And she said, “I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.” 9 Then the angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit yourself to her authority.” 10 Moreover, the angel of the LORD said to her, “I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they shall be too many to count.” 11 The angel of the Lord said to her further, “Behold, you are with child, and you shall bear a son; And you shall call his name Ishmael, because the LORD has given heed to your affliction. 12 “And he will be a wild donkey of a man, his hand will be against everyone, and everyone’s hand will be against him; And he will live to the east of all his brothers.” 13 Then she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, “Thou art a God who sees;” for she said, “Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?” 14 Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.

There is no question that she was talking to a person who had found her at the Spring. In verse 10 that person makes a claim that no one but God could make. (“I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they shall be too many to count.”) Then, in verse 11 this Yahweh who is talking to her references Yahweh in heaven who had compassion on her. That she was definitely talking to God is seen in verse 13 as she is amazed that she had seen God but was still alive. (“Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?”)

So we have a meeting between Hagar and a man at a desert oasis. He knows where she had come from and where she was going. He knew who she was and that she was pregnant. He even predicted the future of her child. He was a messenger, Yahweh from Yahweh.

From this we recognize that the Angel of the Lord is not a created being but the Divine Being Himself.

1. He identifies Himself with Yahweh on various occasions.
2. Those who encounter him recognize Him as Divine.
3. He is called Yahweh.

How can we explain this? How can we have a “Messenger from God” who is God? The answer to this apparent contradiction is that God is multi-personal. God can (and does) send God to deliver a message from God. A person with a Trinitarian perspective would expect this passage in its current form a person with a non-Trinitarian perspective would not.

The monotheistic notion, as voiced by Jews, Mohammedans, the Unitarians, is of a God who is one Person, indivisible; while the Christian’s idea is of *One God* who answers every claim of Biblical monotheism, yet subsists in three equal Persons. The Father is not the One God of the Bible any more than is the Son or the Spirit. The Three are *One God*.⁶

1 John 2:23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; everyone who confesses the Son has the Father also.

In Trinitarian theology, the first Person of the Trinity is not just the “Father” in a functional sense. He is *ontologically* the Father because He is the eternal Father of the eternal Son. He was always the Father and will continue to be the Father for all eternity. He was never anything less than the Father. Thus, God the Father functions as a Father because He *is* the Father. If every human being ceased to exist, He would still be the Father because He is the eternal Father of the eternal Son.⁷

Since the Arians deny the eternity of the Son, they also deny the eternity of God as Father. The Arian deity became a “Father” when he created the Son. Thus, the Arian god is not the same God as the eternal Father of Trinitarian theology. Arians cannot worship the first Person of the Trinity because they deny the Trinity itself. This fundamental fact cannot be ignored.⁸ In the following chapters we will begin exploring verses that identify and describe the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

⁶ Robert A. Morey, [*The Trinity: Evidence and Issues*](#) (Iowa Falls, IA: World Pub., 1996), 249–250.

⁷ Robert A. Morey, [*The Trinity: Evidence and Issues*](#) (Iowa Falls, IA: World Pub., 1996), 257.

⁸ Robert A. Morey, [*The Trinity: Evidence and Issues*](#) (Iowa Falls, IA: World Pub., 1996), 257.

Chapter 2

There is only one God.

Verses that insist that there is only one true and sovereign God are found throughout the Scriptures. A partial list would include:

1. **Deuteronomy 32:39** See now that I, even I, am he; there is no god besides me. I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and no one can deliver from my hand.
2. **1 Kings 8:60** so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other.
3. **1 Chronicles 17:20** There is no one like you, O LORD, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.
4. **Isaiah 43:10** You are my witnesses, says the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.
5. **Isaiah 44:6** Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.
6. **Isaiah 44:8** Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.
7. **Isaiah 45:5–6** 5 I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, 6 so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.
8. **Isaiah 45:21–22** 21 Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the LORD? There is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is no one besides me. 22 Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.
9. **1 Timothy 2:5** For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,
10. **James 2:19** You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder.

This God is the “True God”

1. **2 Chronicles 15:3** For a long time Israel was without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law;
2. **Jeremiah 10:10** But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation.
3. **John 17:3** And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
4. **1 Thessalonians 1:9** For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,

5. **1 John 5:20** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

This one true God is the eternal God.

1. **Genesis 21:33** Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba, and called there on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.
2. **Isaiah 40:28** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
3. **Jeremiah 10:10** But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation.
4. **Romans 16:26** but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—

The Everlasting God is a LIVING God, not one of stone or wood.

1. **Deuteronomy 5:26** For who is there of all flesh that has heard the voice of the living God speaking out of fire, as we have, and remained alive?
2. **1 Samuel 17:36** Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God.”
3. **Psalms 42:2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?
4. **Psalms 84:2** My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
5. **Isaiah 37:4** It may be that the LORD your God heard the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.”
6. **Jeremiah 10:10** But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation.
7. **Hosea 1:10** Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”
8. **Matthew 16:16** Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”
9. **Matthew 26:63** But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.”
10. **1 Thessalonians 1:9** For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,

God is knowable

1. **Jeremiah 9:23-24** Thus says the LORD: Do not let the wise boast in their wisdom, do not let the mighty boast in their might, do not let the wealthy boast in their wealth; 24 but let those who boast boast in this, that they understand and know me, that I am the LORD; I act with steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I delight, says the LORD.
2. **Daniel 11:32** He shall seduce with intrigue those who violate the covenant; but the people who are loyal to their God shall stand firm and take action.
3. **John 17:3** And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
4. **Galatians 4:8-9** 8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods. 9 Now, however, that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits? How can you want to be enslaved to them again?
5. **1 John 4:4-8** 4 Little children, you are from God, and have conquered them; for the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. 5 They are from the world; therefore what they say is from the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and whoever is not from God does not listen to us. From this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.
6. **1 John 5:18-21** 18 We know that those who are born of God do not sin, but the one who was born of God protects them, and the evil one does not touch them. 19 We know that we are God's children, and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

God who is beyond our comprehension

1. **Job 1:21** He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."
2. **Job 5:8-9** 8 "As for me, I would seek God, and to God I would commit my cause. 9 He does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things without number. 9 He does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things without number.
3. **Job 9:10-12** 10 who does great things beyond understanding, and marvelous things without number. 11 Look, he passes by me, and I do not see him; he moves on, but I do not perceive him. 12 He snatches away; who can stop him? Who will say to him, 'What are you doing?'
4. **Job 11:7-11** 7 "Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? 8 It is higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? 9 Its measure is longer than the earth, and broader than the sea. 10 If he

passes through, and imprisons, and assembles for judgment, who can hinder him? 11 For he knows those who are worthless; when he sees iniquity, will he not consider it?

5. **Psalm 139:6** 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.
6. **Proverbs 25:2** It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.
7. **Isaiah 40:28** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
8. **1 Corinthians 2:14** Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
9. **Ephesians 3:19** and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
10. **Philippians 4:7** And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

God is not a man

1. **Numbers 23:19** God is not a human being, that he should lie, or a mortal, that he should change his mind. Has he promised, and will he not do it? Has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?
2. **1 Samuel 15:29** Moreover the Glory of Israel will not recant or change his mind; for he is not a mortal, that he should change his mind."
3. **Job 9:32** For he is not a mortal, as I am, that I might answer him, that we should come to trial together.
4. **Isaiah 31:3** The Egyptians are human, and not God; their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD stretches out his hand, the helper will stumble, and the one helped will fall, and they will all perish together.
5. **Hosea 11:9** I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.
6. **Matthew 16:17** And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.
7. **1 Corinthians 15:50** What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

God is a Spirit

1. **John 4:24** 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

God is invisible

1. **John 1:18** No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.
2. **Colossians 1:15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;
3. **Hebrews 11:27** By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger; for he persevered as though he saw him who is invisible.

4. **Romans 1:20** Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse;
5. **1 Timothy 1:17** To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

God Is Eternal with No Beginning or End.

1. **Job 36:26** Surely God is great, and we do not know him; the number of his years is unsearchable.
2. **Psalms 48:14** that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.
3. **Psalms 90:2** Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
4. **Psalms 102:12** But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever; your name endures to all generations.
5. **Isaiah 40:28** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
6. **Isaiah 57:15** For this is what the high and exalted One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.
7. **1 Timothy 1:17** To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

God Is All Knowing

1. **Hebrews 4:13** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

God Is All Powerful

1. **Nehemiah 9:6** “You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.”
2. **Isaiah 44:24** “Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: “I am the Lord, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself.”
3. **Matthew 19:26** Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

God Is Omnipresent

1. **1 Kings 8:27** “But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!
2. **Psalms 113:4–6** 4 The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. 5 Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high, 6 who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

3. **Psalm 139:7–10** 7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.
4. **Proverbs 15:3** The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.
5. **Isaiah 57:15** For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite.
6. **Isaiah 66:1** Thus says the LORD: Heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is my resting place?
7. **Jeremiah 23:23–24** 23 Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? 24 Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD.
8. **Acts 17:24** The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,
9. **Acts 17:27** so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.

God Is Spirit

1. **John 4:24** God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

God’s Plans Never Fail

1. **Psalm 33:11** But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.
2. **Hebrews 6:17** Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath.

God Is Perfect Morally

1. **Mark 10:18** “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone.
2. **1 John 1:5** This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

Only God Is Immortal

1. **1 Timothy 6:16** who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

Only God Is A Necessary Being

1. **John 5:26** For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

God Is Sovereign

1. **Psalm 33:11** But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

2. **Psalm 33:13-15** From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind; 14 from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—15 he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.
3. **Isaiah 45:12** It is I who made the earth and created mankind on it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts.
4. **Hebrews 6:17** Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath.

God Is Our Savior

1. **Isaiah 43:11** I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no savior.
2. **Isaiah 45:21-23** Declare what is to be, present it—let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me. 22 “Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.

God’s Word Guides Us

1. **Joshua 1:8** This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful.
2. **Psalm 19:7–11** 7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; 8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; 9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
3. **Psalm 119:9** How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word.
4. **Psalm 119:105** Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
5. **Isaiah 55:11** so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
6. **Jeremiah 23:29** Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?
7. **Matthew 4:4** But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”
8. **Matthew 22:29** Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God.
9. **Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

10. **Romans 10:17** So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.
11. **Romans 15:4** For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.
12. **2 Timothy 3:16** All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
13. **Hebrews 4:12–14** 12 Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. 14 Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.

Chapter 3

God the Father in the OT

It is important to note that we are going to find evidence of the Trinity in the OT when we look at the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Like the NT there is evidence of the Trinity throughout the OT.

Below are verses in which we see the Father, in name or function, being spoken of or speaking.

1. **Exodus 4:22–23** 22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD: Israel is my firstborn son. 23 I said to you, “Let my son go that he may worship me.” But you refused to let him go; now I will kill your firstborn son.’ ”
2. **Deuteronomy 32:6** Do you thus repay the LORD, O foolish and senseless people? Is not he your father, who created you, who made you and established you?
3. **Psalms 2:7** I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have begotten you.
4. **Proverbs 30:4** Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in the hollow of the hand? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is the person’s name? And what is the name of the person’s child? Surely you know!
5. **Isaiah 1:2–4** 2 Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth; for the LORD has spoken: I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me. 3 The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master’s crib; but Israel does not know, my people do not understand. 4 Ah, sinful nation, people laden with iniquity, offspring who do evil, children who deal corruptly, who have forsaken the LORD, who have despised the Holy One of Israel, who are utterly estranged!
6. **Isaiah 63:16** For you are our father, though Abraham does not know us and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our father; our Redeemer from of old is your name.
7. **Isaiah 64:8** Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
8. **Jeremiah 31:9** With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.
9. **Malachi 1:6** A son honors his father, and servants their master. If then I am a father, where is the honor due me? And if I am a master, where is the respect due me? says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. You say, “How have we despised your name?”
10. **Malachi 2:10** Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

God the Father is a person not an impersonal force

1. **Matthew 3:17** And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”
2. **Matthew 6:4** so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
3. **Matthew 6:6** But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
4. **Matthew 6:8** Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.
5. **Matthew 6:15–16** 15 but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. 16 “And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
6. **Matthew 6:32** For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
7. **Matthew 7:11** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!
8. **Matthew 7:21** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.
9. **Matthew 11:25** At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;
10. **Mark 1:11** And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Deity of the Father

Greek Theos used to describe God

1. **Galatians 1:1** Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—
2. **1 Peter 1:2** who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood: May grace and peace be yours in abundance.
3. **2 John 3** Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father’s Son, in truth and love.
4. **Jude 1** Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, To those who are called, who are beloved in God the Father and kept safe for Jesus Christ:

However, the term Theos is also used of Satan and demons as well as pagan Gods.

1. **1 Corinthians 8:5** Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—
2. **1 Corinthians 10:20** No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons.

3. **2 Corinthians 4:4** In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
4. **Galatians 4:8** Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods.

The term Kurios (Lord) is also used of the Father

1. **Matthew 4:7** Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”
2. **Matthew 5:33** “Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’
3. **Matthew 11:25** At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;
4. **Matthew 21:9** The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”
5. **Mark 12:36** David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.”’
6. **Acts 4:26** The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers have gathered together against the Lord and against his Messiah.’
7. **Acts 7:49** ‘Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?’
8. **2 Corinthians 6:18** and I will be your father, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”
9. **Hebrews 12:5–6** 5 And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children— “My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, or lose heart when you are punished by him; 6 for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves, and chastises every child whom he accepts.”

Kurios (Lord) can be used of men as well

1. **Mark 13:35** Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn,

Kurios in the Septuagint is used for Yahweh

1. **Psalms 118:26** Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.

And in the NT when the OT is quoted Kurios is a stand in for Yahweh

1. **Psalms 118:26** Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.
2. **Matthew 23:39** For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

3. **Mark 11:9** Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
4. **Luke 13:35** See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”
5. **Luke 19:38** saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”
6. **John 12:13** So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord— the King of Israel!”

The Attributes of the Father indicate divinity.

1. **Matthew 5:48** Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is **perfect**.
2. **Matthew 6:14** For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also **forgive** you;
3. **Matthew 6:32** For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father **knows** that you need all these things.
4. **John 17:3** And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the **only true God**, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
5. **Romans 1:20** Ever since the creation of the world his **eternal power** and divine nature, **invisible** though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse;
6. **Romans 16:26** but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the **eternal** God, to bring about the obedience of faith—
7. **1 Timothy 1:17** To the King of the ages, **immortal, invisible**, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
8. **1 Timothy 6:16** It is he alone who has **immortality** and dwells in unapproachable light, whom **no one has ever seen or can see**; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.
9. **1 Peter 1:15** Instead, as he who called you **is holy**, be holy yourselves in all your conduct;
10. **Revelation 19:6** Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the **Almighty** reigns.

We have fellowship with God. The Apostle John clearly assumed that all believers in all places at all times in all generations under all circumstances can fellowship with the Father who is in heaven. This is possible only if the Father is eternal, immortal, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, etc. John tells us, “**1 John 1:3** we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have **fellowship** with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ”.

Father does the works of God

1. **Matthew 5:45** so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

2. **Matthew 6:26** Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
3. **Ephesians 1:4** just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.
4. **Hebrews 2:10** It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Father Provides the word of God

1. **Romans 1:1–3** 1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh
2. **Hebrews 1:1–2** 1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

Father Worshipped as God

1. **Matthew 5:16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
2. **Matthew 6:9–13** 9 “Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.
3. **John 4:23–24** 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”
4. **Ephesians 3:14** For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,
5. **Philippians 4:20** To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.
6. **Revelation 4:9–11** 9 And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, 11 “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

The only possible argument against the divine nature of the Father is that the Father never claims to be God in the NT. This argument from silence is unlikely because everyone assumed that He was God.

In summary: The Father is divine and is a Person, not a metaphor for divine power. The Father clearly thinks, plans, chooses, saves and condemns. The Father is distinct from both the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 4

Problem Statement

Is there adequate evidence to support the Trinitarian position that Jesus is God?

Trinitarianism affirms the position that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God. The nature of Jesus has been an area of debate since the first few hundred years of the church's existence. Modalism developed first around 206 AD. Arianism followed developing from teachings available about 260 AD. The Trinity is an area of contention and virtually all cult groups have arrived at a different understanding of the nature of God. These understandings lead to a different Jesus. It is important therefore, to understand the arguments made by these groups and to carefully evaluate the evidence that exists.

What are the primary arguments for non-Trinitarian beliefs?

When people or groups deny that Jesus is God, they generally do so under one of two headings. They either believe that Jesus was no more than a man, howbeit an excellent man or they believe Jesus, while divine, is not God. This is because they believe God is a monad and it is not possible for Jesus to be God. However, they do leave the door open for Jesus being supernatural. Three primary heresies that have existed throughout church history are Dynamic Monarchism, Arianism and Modalism. Dynamic Monarchism denies any divinity to Jesus. Jesus was adopted by God at the Baptism and through him God was able to accomplish His mission. Jesus was never divine. Arianism claims that Jesus is a created being who, while divine, is not God. Modalism understands that one God exists but that this God is expressed in one of three modes depending upon the circumstances. A third less common and different heresy is polytheism. Polytheists understand Jesus to be a separate God from God the father and recognize multiple Gods.

Who is this Jesus?

The New Testament notes that they were varied and conflicting accounts of Jesus nature. Some thought he was no more than a Carpenter, some believed he was a miracle worker, some believed it was a prophet while others claimed he was the Messiah. Following are several Gospel portrayals of Jesus demonstrating ways his compatriots viewed him.

Jesus the Carpenter

1. **Mark 6:2-4** On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4 Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house."

Jesus the Rabbi

1. **John 3:2** He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God."

Jesus the Miracle Worker

1. **Matthew 4:23-24** Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. 24 So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them.
2. **John 3:2** He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

Jesus the Moralist

Liberal theologians throughout church history presented Jesus as a great man. He was a teacher of love and moral precepts. He was neither a miracle worker nor a purveyor of supernatural truths. This view fails to consider the vehement response religious Jews had to his ministry. If he was merely a moral teacher, why was he hated and persecuted? There appear to have been many teachers in that day who were not subjected to persecution. Why Jesus?

1. **Matthew 12:14** But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him.
2. **Mark 14:1** It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him;
3. **Luke 4:28–29** 28 When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. 29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.
4. **Luke 22:2** The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they were afraid of the people.
5. **John 8:59** So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.
6. **John 11:53** So from that day on they planned to put him to death.

Jesus as a prophet

1. **Matthew 16:13–14** 13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” 14 And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”
2. **John 6:14** When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

Evidence in the OT for anticipation of an end of time prophet

1. **Deuteronomy 18:18–19** 18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. 19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

2. **Malachi 4:5–6** 5 Lo, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes. 6 He will turn the hearts of parents to their children and the hearts of children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse.

As the greatest of prophets it is appropriate to note that Jesus stood between God and man.

1. **1 Timothy 2:5** For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,

Acts notes Jesus was the predicted end time prophet

2. **Acts 3:17–26** 17 “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, 20 so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, 21 who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets. 22 Moses said, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. 23 And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people.’ 24 And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. 25 You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ 26 When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.”

However, the role of prophet falls short of His real identity.

Evidence Jesus is the Messiah

1. **Matthew 16:15–18** He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.
2. **Matthew 26:63–68** 63 But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” 64 Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” 65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. 66 What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.” 67 Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, 68 saying, “Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?”
3. **John 5:17–18** 17 But Jesus answered them, “My Father is still working, and I also am working.” 18 For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

4. **John 8:58–59** 58 Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am.” 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.
5. **John 10:30–33** 30 The Father and I are one.” 31 The Jews took up stones again to stone him. 32 Jesus replied, “I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?” 33 The Jews answered, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for blasphemy, because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.”

False Messiahs and False Prophets Predicted

Jesus himself warned that many would come claiming to be the Messiah. It was not long before Paul and the Apostles had to contend with wrong and heretical ideas about who Jesus was.

1. **Matthew 24:24** ²⁴ For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce great signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.
2. **Mark 13:22** ²² False messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, the elect.
3. **2 Corinthians 11:3–4** But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by its cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. 4 For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you submit to it readily enough.
4. **2 Corinthians 11:13–15** For such boasters are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15 So it is not strange if his ministers also disguise themselves as ministers of righteousness. Their end will match their deeds.
5. **Galatians 1:7** 7 not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.
6. **2 Peter 2:1** 2 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive opinions. They will even deny the Master who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.

Anti Christs will arise

1. **1 John 2:22** Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son.
2. **1 John 4:1–3** 1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. And this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming; and now it is already in the world.
3. **2 John 7–11** 7 Many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh; any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist! 8 Be on your guard, so that you do not lose what we have worked for, but may receive a full reward. 9 Everyone who does not abide in the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it,

does not have God; whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. 10 Do not receive into the house or welcome anyone who comes to you and does not bring this teaching; 11 for to welcome is to participate in the evil deeds of such a person.

Who then is Jesus?

What information do we have about Jesus? There are those who claim that we have no information at all about Jesus and that he is a myth. Others speak of him as some form of mystical avatar while yet others acknowledge that he existed. What can we know?

Personhood of Jesus

It seems fairly self-evident that Jesus has personhood. He is not a metaphor, nor is he a fictitious being. Here we see Jesus experiencing human emotions and thoughts.

1. **Matthew 5:1** When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
2. **Matthew 11:27** All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
3. **Matthew 26:39** And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."
4. **Mark 2:5** When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."
5. **Mark 10:21** Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."
6. **John 1:48** Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."
7. **John 2:24** But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people
8. **John 20:21** Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
9. **1 John 1:3** we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
10. **Acts 7:59** While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Jesus is fully human

Some believed Jesus was God or a god and did not have a real human existence. Scripture points to a different understanding.

1. **2 Samuel 7:12** When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2. **Psalm 2: 2, 7** The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and his anointed, saying, ... 7 I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you.
3. **John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.
4. **Romans 1:3** the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh
5. **Romans 8:3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
6. **Romans 9:4-5** 4 They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.
7. **Galatians 4:4** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
8. **Philippians 2:6-11** who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
9. **1 Timothy 2:5** For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,
10. **1 Timothy 3:16** Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

Two Natures of Christ

The Scriptures acknowledge that Jesus was fully human and fully divine. The following Scriptures establish a human and a divine nature for Jesus.

1. **Isaiah 9:6** For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
2. **Romans 1:1-4** 1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,
3. **Philippians 2:5-11** 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human

likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

4. **1 Timothy 3:16** Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

Pre-existence of Jesus

1. **Proverbs 30:4** Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in the hollow of the hand? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is the person's name? And what is the name of the person's child? Surely you know!
2. **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
3. **Philippians 2:5-8** ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was^[a] in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

What is the significance of prophecy?

It has been long acknowledged that God could validate his message either through predictive prophecy or through miracles. They were multiple prophecies about the coming of the Messiah demonstrating that Jesus was anticipated. In addition, there were prophecies about his suffering and death that were fulfilled. Finally, Jesus himself made prophetic statements that have come to pass. If only God is capable of prophecy then he was validating the ministry of Jesus.

God the Son Prophesied in the OT

Just as we find the Father clearly represented in the OT, we also find the Son.

Prophecies Foretelling the Messiah

1. **Genesis 3:15** I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”
2. **Genesis 22:18** and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”
3. **Genesis 49:10** The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and the obedience of the peoples is his.
4. **1 Chronicles 17:11–14** ¹¹ When your days are fulfilled to go to be with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹² He shall build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever. ¹³ I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. I will not take my steadfast love from

him, as I took it from him who was before you, 14 but I will confirm him in my house and in my kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever.

5. **Isaiah 7:14** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.
6. **Isaiah 9:6-7** For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.
7. **Jeremiah 23:5** The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
8. **Jeremiah 23:6** In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."
9. **Micah 5:2** But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
10. **Malachi 4:2** But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Fulfillment of Prophecy: Jesus Came To Earth

1. **John 3:16–17** 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.
2. **John 3:13** No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.
3. **John 3:19** And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.
4. **John 3:31** The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all.
5. **John 6:38** for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.
6. **John 8:53–59** 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?" 54 Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, he of whom you say, 'He is our God,' 55 though you do not know him. But I know him; if I would say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know him and I keep his word. 56 Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad." 57 Then the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am." 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

7. **Romans 8:3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
8. **2 Corinthians 8:9** For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.
9. **1 Timothy 1:15** The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost.
10. **Hebrews 1:6** And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

Prophecies Fulfilled On Day of Crucifixion

1. **Psalms 16:10** For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.
2. **Psalms 22:6–8** 6 But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. 7 All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads; 8 “Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver— let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”
3. **Psalms 22:16** For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled;
4. **Psalms 22:18** they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.
5. **Psalms 34:20** He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.
6. **Psalms 35:11** Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me about things I do not know.
7. **Psalms 38:11** My friends and companions stand aloof from my affliction, and my neighbors stand far off.
8. **Psalms 41:9** Even my bosom friend in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, has lifted the heel against me.
9. **Psalms 69:4** More in number than the hairs of my head are those who hate me without cause; many are those who would destroy me, my enemies who accuse me falsely. What I did not steal must I now restore?
10. **Psalms 69:21** They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
11. **Psalms 109:24–25** 24 My knees are weak through fasting; my body has become gaunt. 25 I am an object of scorn to my accusers; when they see me, they shake their heads.
12. **Isaiah 50:6** I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

13. **Isaiah 53:3–7** 3 He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. 4 Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.
14. **Isaiah 53:9** They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.
15. **Isaiah 53:12** Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.
16. **Zechariah 11:12** I then said to them, “If it seems right to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.” So they weighed out as my wages thirty shekels of silver.
17. **Zechariah 11:13** Then the Lord said to me, “Throw it into the treasury”—this lordly price at which I was valued by them. So I took the thirty shekels of silver and threw them into the treasury in the house of the Lord.
18. **Zechariah 12:10** And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.
19. **Zechariah 13:7** “Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is my associate,” says the Lord of hosts. Strike the shepherd, that the sheep may be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones.

Jesus Himself Made Prophecies that were Fulfilled

1. **Matthew 16:21** From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
2. **Matthew 24:1-2** As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. 2 Then he asked them, “You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”
3. **Matthew 24:34** Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.
4. **Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

5. **Matthew 26:2** “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”
6. **Matthew 26:11–13** 11 For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. 12 By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. 13 Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”
7. **Matthew 26:21** and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”
8. **Matthew 26:31** Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’”
9. **Matthew 26:32** But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”
10. **Matthew 26:34** Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”
11. **Luke 19:43-44** Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. 44 They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”
12. **Luke 21:20** “When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near.
13. **Luke 21:24** they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
14. **Luke 23:28–30** 28 But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 For the days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ 30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’”
15. **John 2:18–22** 18 The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” 19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” 20 The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” 21 But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.
16. **John 14:26** But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

Further Evidences of Deity

Jesus was not only predicted, and himself predicted events but has provided us with abundant evidence to recognize His deity.

Jesus noted to be “Greater Than”.

1. **Matthew 12:6** I tell you, something greater than the temple is here.
2. **Matthew 12:41–42** 41 The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here! 42 The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!
3. **John 4:12** Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”
4. **John 8:53** Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?”

Jesus Sinless

1. **Matthew 4:1–11** 1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4 But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” 7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; 9 and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.
2. **Acts 3:14** But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you,
3. **2 Corinthians 5:21** For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
4. **Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.

5. **Hebrews 7:26** For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.
6. **1 Peter 2:22** “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”
7. **1 John 3:3** And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.
8. **John 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

Jesus re-issues the Law

1. **Matthew 5:22** But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire.
2. **Matthew 5:28** But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
3. **Matthew 5:32** But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.
4. **Matthew 5:34** But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,
5. **Matthew 5:39** But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also;
6. **Matthew 5:44** But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
7. **Mark 2:23–28** 23 One sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. 24 The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” 25 And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? 26 He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” 27 Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; 28 so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

Miracles as a Marker of Deity

John 21:25 But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

1. **Matthew 8:5–13** Paralyzed servant healed at a distance.
2. **Matthew 8:23–27** Storm ended and sea calmed.
3. **Matthew 8:28–34** Demoniacs healed.

4. **Matthew 9:1–8** Paralyzed man healed and sins forgiven.
5. **Matthew 9:18–26** Jairus' daughter raised from the dead.
6. **Matthew 9:27–31** Blind men receive sight.
7. **Matthew 9:32–33** Demon cast out.
8. **Matthew 12:10–13** Withered hand restored.
9. **Matthew 12:22** Blind and mute person healed
10. **Matthew 14:15–21** Feeding of the 5000.
11. **Matthew 15:22–28** Canaanite's daughter healed.
12. **Matthew 15:32–39** Feeding of 4000.
13. **Matthew 17:14–21** Demon cast out.
14. **Matthew 20:30–34** Blind men healed.
15. **Matthew 21:18–22** Fig tree withered.
16. **Mark 1:23–28** Unclean spirit cast out.
17. **Mark 1:30–31** Simon's mother-in-law cured of fever.
18. **Mark 1:40–45** Leper healed.
19. **Mark 7:31–37** Deaf mute healed.
20. **Luke 5:1–11** Miraculous catch of fish
21. **Luke 7:11–18** Widows son raised to life.
22. **Luke 8:43–48** Woman with bleeding issue healed.
23. **Luke 13:10–17** Crippled woman healed.
24. **Luke 14:1–4** Illness healed.
25. **Luke 17:11–19** Lepers healed.
26. **Luke 22:50–51** Servants ear fixed.
27. **John 2:1–11** Changing water into wine.
28. **John 4:46–47** Royal officials dying son healed
29. **John 5:1–9** Paralytic healed.
30. **John 9:1–38** Blind man healed.
31. **John 11:1–46** Lazarus raised from dead.

32. **John 21:1–14** Second large catch of fish.

Deity of Jesus Seen in Gospels Writings

1. **Matthew 3:3** This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Mark 1:3 the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’ ” Luke 3:4 as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.
2. **Matthew 26:64** 64 Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”
3. **Mark 2:5** 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”
4. **John 1:1–4** 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
5. **John 7:41–42** 41 Others said, “This is the Messiah.” But some asked, “Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? 42 Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?”
6. **John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.
7. **John 1:18** No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.
8. **John 10:30** The Father and I are one.”
9. **John 10:33** The Jews answered, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for blasphemy, because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.”
10. **John 20:28** Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

Deity of Jesus Seen in Remaining NT

1. **Acts 20:28** Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.
2. **Romans 9:5** to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

3. **Philippians 2:6** who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
4. **Colossians 1:15–19** 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
5. **1 Timothy 3:16** Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.
6. **Titus 2:13** while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.
7. **Hebrews 1:3** He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
8. **Hebrews 1:8** But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.
9. **1 John 5:20** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
10. **2 Peter 1:1** Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith as precious as ours through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

Attributes of Indicating deity

1. **Psalm 102:25** Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. (Creation shared with the Father)
2. **Isaiah 51:6** Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended. (Salvation shared with the Father)
3. **Matthew 11:27** All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. (Direct knowledge of the Father)
4. **Matthew 18:20** For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (Omnipresence)

5. **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (Claimed deity)
6. **John 2:24–25** 24 But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people 25 and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone. (Omniscience)
7. **John 16:30** Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.” (Omniscience)
8. **Colossians 1:17** He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (pre-existence, eternity)
9. **Hebrews 1:10–12** 10 And, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11 they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; 12 like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.” (Immutable)
10. **Revelation 19:16** On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, “King of kings and Lord of lords.” (Sovereign)

Equal with God

1. **Luke 10:16** “Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”
2. **John 5:18** For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.
3. **John 5:23** so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.
4. **John 8:49** Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me.
5. **John 12:26** Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.
6. **John 15:23** Whoever hates me hates my Father also.
7. **1 John 2:23** No one who denies the Son has the Father; everyone who confesses the Son has the Father also.

Works of God (Creation and Salvation)

1. **John 1:3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being
2. **Galatians 3:13** Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”—

3. **Ephesians 5:23** For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Savior.
4. **Philippians 3:20** But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.
5. **Colossians 1:16** for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.
6. **Titus 2:14** He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.
7. **1 John 4:14** And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the **Titus 3:6** This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
8. **Titus 2:13** while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.
9. Savior of the world.
10. **Revelation 19:16** On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, “King of kings and Lord of lords.”

NT Verses About Our Redeemer, Jesus

1. **Matthew 2:11** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
2. **Matthew 3:17** And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”
3. **Matthew 4:1** Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
4. **Luke 2:11–12** 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.
5. **John 1:29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
6. **John 14:1–3** 1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. Jesus divine?
7. **John 15:24** If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father.
8. **Acts 5:31** God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins.
9. **Galatians 4:4** But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
10. **1 Peter 3:18** For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.

No Other Savior Exists

1. **John 15:24** If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not have sin. But now they have seen and hated both me and my Father.
2. **Acts 4:12** There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”
3. **1 Corinthians 3:11** For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.
4. **Galatians 1:6-7** I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

How did the Church Respond to Jesus?

The Followers of Jesus prayed to him and through him.

1. **John 15:7** 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
2. **Acts 7:59** While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”
3. **Acts 9:10** Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”
4. **Acts 22:16** And now why do you delay? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name.’
5. **1 Corinthians 1:2** To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
6. **2 Corinthians 12:8–10** 8 Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, 9 but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.
7. **Romans 10:13** For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
8. **Revelation 22:20** The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Hymns were written to Jesus

Christians often sang songs of worship both during worship and during daily life.

1. **Acts 16:25** About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.
2. **1 Corinthians 14:26** What should be done then, my friends? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.
3. **Ephesians 5:19** as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts,

4. **James 5:13** Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

The following verses are believed to have been incorporated into early Christian hymns.

1. **Luke 1:46–55** 46 And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. 50 His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. 52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”
2. **Luke 1:68–79** 68 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. 69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, 70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, 71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. 72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, 73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us 74 that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. 76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. 78 By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, 79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”
3. **Luke 2:29–32** 29 “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”
4. **Ephesians 5:14** for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”
5. **Philippians 2:5–11** 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
6. **Colossians 1:15–20** 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through

- him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.
7. **Colossians 2:18** Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking,
 8. **1 Timothy 3:16** Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.
 9. **Hebrews 1:1–3** 1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. 3 He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
 10. **1 Peter 2:21–25** 21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 22 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” 23 When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.
 11. **Revelation 5:8–14** 8 When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 They sing a new song: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; 10 you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.” 11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, 12 singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” 13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” 14 And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.
 12. **Revelation 7:9–12** 9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” 11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the

elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Doxologies to Jesus were composed

1. **Romans 16:27** to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.
2. **Galatians 1:4–5** 4 who gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.
3. **Ephesians 3:21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
4. **Philippians 4:20** To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.
5. **1 Timothy 1:17** To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
6. **2 Timothy 4:18** The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.
7. **1 Peter 5:11** To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.
8. **2 Peter 3:18** But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.
9. **Jude 25** to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.
10. **Revelation 1:5–6** 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

The Key Question Is Do You Love Jesus?

It is not enough to know about Jesus. We must love him.

1. **1 Corinthians 16:22** Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come!
2. **2 Corinthians 5:14–15** 14 For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. 15 And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

Verses Comparing the Father and Son

The Father and Son are demonstrably separate in the following two verses.

Matthew 3:17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

John 8:16-18 But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. 17 In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two

witnesses is true. 18 I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.”

However, Jesus And The Father Share Attributes, offices or functions.

In the following section verses are listed that show Jesus and the Father demonstrating the same attributes or functions. While being separate they are shown to have a sameness.

Jesus and the Father are both eternal

Jesus

Micah 5:2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans[a] of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” (Weak verse)

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1 Corinthians 8:6 Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Hebrews 1:8 ⁸ But about the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

Revelation 1:17-18 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Father

Psalms 90:2 Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Psalms 93:2 Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity.

Isaiah 44:6 “This is what the Lord says— Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Jesus and the Father are both Omnipresent

Jesus

Matthew 18:20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Matthew 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Father

Jeremiah 23:24 “Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord?”

Jesus and the Father are both Immutable

Jesus

Hebrews 1:8-12 But about the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. 9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.” 10 He also says, “In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. 11 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. 12 You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be hanged. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.”

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Father

Psalms 102:26-27 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. 27 But you remain the same, and your years will never end.

Malachi 3:6 “I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.

Jesus and the Father are both Omnipotent/Creator

Jesus

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

John 1:3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

John 5:17-18 In his defense Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.” 18 For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

John 14:19 Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

Colossians 1:16-17 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Father

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Nehemiah 9:6 You alone are the Lord You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

Proverbs 16:4 The Lord works out everything to its proper end— even the wicked for a day of disaster.

Isaiah 44:24 “This is what the Lord says— your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the Lord, the Maker of all things, who stretches out the heavens, who spreads out the earth by myself,

Acts 17:28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

Jesus and the Father are both Omniscient

Jesus

Matthew 11:27 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

John 2:25 He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

John 10:15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 16:30 Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God.”

Revelation 2:23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

Father

1 Kings 8:39 then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Forgive and act; deal with everyone according to all they do, since you know their hearts (for you alone know every human heart),

Psalms 77:19 Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen.

Job 11:7 “Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty?

John 10:15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

Hebrews 4:13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Jesus and the Father are both Holy/Sinless

Jesus

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Acts 3:14 You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you.

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin[a] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Hebrews 7:24-27 but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. 25 Therefore he is able to save completely[c] those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.26 Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. 27 Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

1 Peter 2:22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

Father

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

Isaiah 43:3 For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead.

Mark 10:18 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone.

Jesus and the Father both Search Men's Hearts

Jesus

John 2:25 He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

Revelation 2:23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

Father

Jeremiah 17:10 “I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve.”

Jesus and the Father both Judge Mankind

Jesus

Acts 10:42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. 8 He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might 10 on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

Revelation 6:16–17 16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?”

Father

Genesis 18:25 Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

Psalms 11:6 On the wicked he will rain fiery coals and burning sulfur; a scorching wind will be their lot.

Psalms 94:1-2 The Lord is a God who avenges. O God who avenges, shine forth. 2 Rise up, Judge of the earth; pay back to the proud what they deserve.

Romans 2:5 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God’s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 12:19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.

Jesus and the Father are both Sovereign

Jesus

Daniel 7:14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Matthew 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

John 5:19 Jesus gave them this answer: “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

Acts 10:36 You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

1 Corinthians 8:6 yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

Ephesians 4:10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

Philippians 2:9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Revelation 1:17–18 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Revelation 19:16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: king of kings and lord of lords.

Father

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless.

Deuteronomy 31:8 The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

Psalm 83:18 Let them know that you, whose name is the Lord— that you alone are the Most High over all the earth.

Psalm 103:19 The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

Psalm 135:6 The Lord does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths

Psalm 145:3 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom

Isaiah 44:6 “This is what the Lord says— Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Jeremiah 33:24 “Have you not noticed that these people are saying, ‘The Lord has rejected the two kingdoms he chose’? So they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation.

Zechariah 14:9 The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and his name the only name.

1 Timothy 6:15 which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

Jesus and the Father are both Rewarders of The Faithful

Jesus

Revelation 22:12 “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.

Father

Psalm 62:12 and with you, Lord, is unfailing love”; and, “You reward everyone according to what they have done.”

Isaiah 40:10 See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.

Jesus and the Father are both the True God

Jesus

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Colossians 1:15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

1 John 1:2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

1 John 5:20 We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

Father

Isaiah 40:18 With whom, then, will you compare God? To what image will you liken him?

Jeremiah 10:10 But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King. When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath.

John 17:3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Jesus and the Father are both a Source of Life

Jesus

John 15:4–5 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Father

Deuteronomy 10:20 Fear the Lord your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name.

Hosea 14:8 Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols? I will answer him and care for him. I am like a flourishing juniper; your fruitfulness comes from me.”

Jesus and the Father both Provide Strength and Hope

Jesus

Psalms 2:12 Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Matthew 23:37 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Colossians 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

1 Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

Father

Psalm 39:7 “But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.

Psalm 91:4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Psalm 119:28 My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word.

Jeremiah 17:7 “But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.

Jesus and the Father are both our Savior

Jesus

Matthew 1:21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Acts 15:11 No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”

Hebrews 2:14–15 14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Hebrews 5:9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

1 Timothy 1:15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

2 Timothy 1:10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Titus 1:3–4 3 and which now at his appointed season he has brought to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, 4 To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Titus 2:10–13 10 and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive. 11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

Titus 3:4–6 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

Father

Psalms 130:7–8 7 Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. 8 He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Isaiah 35:8 And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.

Isaiah 43:11 I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no savior.

Isaiah 49:26 I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh; they will be drunk on their own blood, as with wine. Then all mankind will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior, your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”

Hosea 13:14 “I will deliver this people from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction? “I will have no compassion,

Jesus and the Father are both Light

Jesus

Isaiah 42:6 I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,

Luke 1:78 By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

Luke 2:32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

John 1:1–5 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him,

and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

John 3:19 And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

John 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

John 12:35 Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going.

John 12:36 While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

John 12:46 I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness.

1 John 1:6–7 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; 7 but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 2:8 Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.

Father

Psalms 36:9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

Jesus and the Father both forgive sin

Jesus

Mark 2:5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Father

Exodus 34:7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”

Isaiah 43:25 “I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

Jesus and the Father are both a refuge from storms of life

Jesus

Isaiah 32:1-2 See, a king will reign in righteousness and rulers will rule with justice. 2 Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.

Matthew 8:26 He replied, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

Father

Isaiah 25:4 You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall

Jesus and the Father both refresh their people

Jesus

Matthew 11:28–29 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Father

Jeremiah 31:25 I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint.”

Jesus and the Father both send the Spirit

Jesus

John 16:7 But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

Acts 2:33 Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

Galatians 4:6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba, Father.*”

Father

Isaiah 48:16 “Come near me and listen to this: “From the first announcement I have not spoken in secret; at the time it happens, I am there.” And now the Sovereign Lord has sent me, endowed with his Spirit.

Joel 2:28 “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

Matthew 10:20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Jesus and the Father both guide us and receive us into glory

Jesus

John 14:1–3 1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

John 14:15 “If you love me, keep my commands.

John 17:22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—

Father

Psalms 73:24 You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.

1 John 5:3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

Jesus and the Father are both honored and served.

Jesus

Matthew 23:8–10 8 “But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. 9 And do not call anyone on earth ‘father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. 10 Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah.

Colossians 3:24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Father

Deuteronomy 10:20 Fear the Lord your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name.

Malachi 1:6 “A son honors his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?” says the Lord Almighty. “It is you priests who show contempt for my name. “But you ask, ‘How have we shown contempt for your name?’”

Jesus and the Father both possess us.

Jesus

John 3:29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete.

Revelation 21:9 One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

Father

Isaiah 44:5 Some will say, ‘I belong to the Lord’; others will call themselves by the name of Jacob; still others will write on their hand, ‘The Lord’s,’ and will take the name Israel.

Jesus and the Father are both the authors of grace.

Jesus

Acts 15:11 No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”

2 Timothy 2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Father

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.

Jesus and the Father both pour out their love in us.

Jesus

2 Corinthians 5:14–15 14 For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

1 John 3:16 We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

Father

Romans 5:5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Romans 5:8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 6:11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jesus and the Father both guide us with their words of truth.

Jesus

Matthew 5:22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

Colossians 3:16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Father

Psalms 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Ezekiel 2:4 The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says.’

Jesus and the Father are both our shepherd

Jesus

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

John 10:14–16 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

John 10:28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 21:15–16 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love

you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” 16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

Hebrews 13:20 Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep,

1 Peter 2:25 For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; ‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’ ‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

Father

Psalms 23:1–3 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake.

Psalms 80:1 Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth

Ezekiel 34:15 I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord.

Ezekiel 34:16 I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

1 Peter 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Jesus and the Father both discipline believers

Jesus

Revelation 3:19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.

Father

Proverbs 3:11-12 My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, 12 because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

God and Jesus will reward our faithfulness

Jesus

John 14:2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?

Revelation 2:10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

Father

Romans 2:5–7 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. 6 God "will repay each person according to what they have done." 7 To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.

Hebrews 11:16 Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Jesus and the Father both are the ones whose names we must trust.

Jesus

Matthew 12:21 In his name the nations will put their hope."

Acts 3:16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2 Thessalonians 1:12 We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Father

Proverbs 18:10 The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Isaiah 24:15 Therefore in the east give glory to the Lord; exalt the name of the Lord, the God of Israel, in the islands of the sea.

Isaiah 50:10 Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the word of his servant? Let the one who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely on their God.

Micah 4:5 All the nations may walk in the name of their gods, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

Jesus and the Father are both to be rejoiced in.

Jesus

1 Peter 1:8–9 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Father

Isaiah 61:10 I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

God and Jesus are all in all

Jesus

Colossians 3:11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Father

1 Corinthians 15:28 When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

Jesus and the Father both rescue us

Jesus/Father

Galatians 1:4–5 4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Stone of Stumbling

Jesus

1 Peter 2:7-8 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”⁸ and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

Father

Isaiah 8:13-14 The Lord Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread.¹⁴ He will be a holy place; for both Israel and Judah he will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem he will be a trap and a snare.

Jesus and the Father are both Worshipped

Jesus

Matthew 2:2 and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Matthew 2:8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

Matthew 2:11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 8:2 A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.”

Matthew 9:18 While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, “My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live.”

Matthew 14:33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Matthew 15:25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

Matthew 20:20 Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.

Matthew 28:9 Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

Matthew 28:17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

Mark 5:6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.

Mark 15:19 Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him.

Luke 24:52 Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

John 9:38 Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

Hebrews 1:6 And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

Father

Matthew 4:10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

Luke 4:8 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

John 4:20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

1 Corinthians 14:25 as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”

Revelation 4:10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

Revelation 5:14 The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Revelation 7:11 All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

Revelation 11:16 And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

Revelation 14:7 He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

Revelation 15:4 Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

Revelation 19:4 The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried: “Amen, Hallelujah!”

Revelation 19:10 At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.”

Revelation 22:9 But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!”

Jesus and the Father are both mentioned in close proximity in several verses.

Most of these verses demonstrate a close relationship between Jesus and the Father.

John 14:21–23 Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.” 22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?” 23 Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

John 17:3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

2 Corinthians 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Galatians 1:1 Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—

Ephesians 5:5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

1 Thessalonians 3:11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to further the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—

James 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia,

2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:

2 Peter 1:2 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

1 John 1:3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

Jude 1 Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James, To those who have been called, who are loved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

Revelation 5:13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

Revelation 7:10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

Revelation 14:4 These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they remained virgins. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among mankind and offered as first fruits to God and the Lamb.

Revelation 21:22-23 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

Revelation 22:1-3 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

Other verses referring to Jesus as God.

Titus 2:13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:

2 Peter 1:11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The Lord's Prayer

In the following section the Lord's Prayer will be contrasted with verses about Jesus. Notice how Jesus also is worthy of the prayer.

Prayer: Our Father which art in heaven

Jesus: **John 3:13** No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.

Prayer: Hallowed be thy name.

Jesus: **2 Thessalonians 1:12** We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Thy kingdom come

Jesus: **2 Peter 1:11** and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven.

Jesus: **Colossians 3:24** since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. AND 1 Peter 3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Prayer: Give us this day our daily bread

Jesus: **Isaiah 40:11** He tends his flock like a shepherd:

He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.

Prayer: Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Jesus: **Ephesians 4:32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Prayer: And lead us not into temptation,

Jesus: **John 10:3** The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. AND John 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Prayer: but deliver us from evil:

Jesus: **Galatians 1:4** who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Prayer: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Jesus: **Revelation 11:15** The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.” AND Revelation 1:6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

The Record of the Early Church Fathers

Jesus is God

The earliest of the Early Church Fathers were disciples of the apostles. The Early Church Fathers accepted and continued the teaching that Jesus was God.

- ❖ **Polycarp** (AD 69-155) was the bishop at the church in Smyrna. Irenaeus tells us Polycarp was a disciple of John the Apostle. In his *Letter to the Philippians* he says,
 - Now may the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and **the eternal high priest himself, the Son of God Jesus Christ**, build you up in faith and truth...and to us with you, and to all those under heaven **who will yet believe in our Lord and God Jesus Christ** and in his Father who raised him from the dead.⁹
- ❖ **Ignatius** (AD 50-117) was the bishop at the church in Antioch and also a disciple of John the Apostle. He wrote a series of letters to various churches on his way to Rome, where he was to be martyred. He writes,
 - Ignatius, who is also Theophorus, unto her which hath been blessed in greatness through the plentitude of God the Father; which hath been foreordained before the ages to be for ever unto abiding and unchangeable glory, united and elect in a true

⁹ Polycarp, *Philippians*, 12:2.

passion, by the will of the Father **and of Jesus Christ our God**; even unto the church which is in Ephesus [of Asia], worthy of all felicitation: abundant greeting in Christ Jesus and in blameless joy.¹⁰

- Being as you are imitators of God, once you took on new life **through the blood of God** you completed perfectly the task so natural to you.¹¹
- There is only one physician, who is both flesh and spirit, born and unborn, **God in man**, true life in death, both from Mary and from God, first subject to suffering and then beyond it, Jesus Christ our Lord.¹²
- For **our God, Jesus the Christ**, was conceived by Mary according to God's plan, both from the seed of David and of the Holy Spirit.¹³
- Consequently, all magic and every kind of spell were dissolved, the ignorance so characteristic of wickedness vanished, and the ancient kingdom was abolished **when God appeared in human form to bring the newness of eternal life**.¹⁴
- For **our God Jesus Christ** is more visible now that he is in the Father.¹⁵
- **I glorify Jesus Christ, the God who made you so wise**, for I observed that you are established in an unshakable faith, having been nailed, as it were, to the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ.¹⁶
- Wait expectantly for the one who is above time: **the Eternal, the Invisible, who for our sake became visible; the Intangible, the Un suffering, who for our sake suffered**, who for our sake endured in every way.¹⁷
- ❖ **Justin Martyr** (AD 100-165) was an Christian apologist of the second century.
 - And that **Christ being Lord, and God the Son of God**, and appearing formerly in power as Man, and Angel, and in the glory of fire as at the bush, so also was manifested at the judgment executed on Sodom, has been demonstrated fully by what has been said.¹⁸
 - Permit me first to recount the prophecies, which I wish to do in order **to prove that Christ is called both God and Lord of hosts**.¹⁹
 - Therefore these words testify explicitly that He [Jesus] is witnessed to by Him [the Father] who established these things, as **deserving to be worshipped, as God and as Christ**.²⁰
 - The Father of the universe has **a Son; who also, being the first-begotten Word of God, is even God**. And of old He appeared in the shape of fire and in the

¹⁰ Ignatius, *Letter to the Ephesians*, 0.0. (This is the Greeting.)

¹¹ Ignatius, *Letter to the Ephesians*, 1.1.

¹² Ignatius, *Letter to the Ephesians*, 7.2.

¹³ Ignatius, *Letter to the Ephesians*, 18.2.

¹⁴ Ignatius, *Letter to the Ephesians*, 19.3.

¹⁵ Ignatius, *Letter to the Romans*, 3.3. Holmes, *AF*, 229.

¹⁶ Ignatius, *Letter to the Smyrnaeans*, 1.1. Holmes, *AF*, 249.

¹⁷ Ignatius, *Letter to Polycarp*, 3.2. Holmes, *AF*, 265.

¹⁸ Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho*, 128. Translation from Alexander Roberts and James Donaldson, *Ante-Nicene Fathers*, I:264.

¹⁹ Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho*, 36. *ANF*, I:212.

²⁰ Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho*, 63. *ANF*, I:229.

likeness of an angel to Moses and to the other prophets; but now in the times of your reign, having, as we before said, become Man by a virgin....²¹

- For if you had understood what has been written by the prophets, you would not have denied that **He was God, Son of the only, unbegotten, unutterable God.**²²
- ❖ **Melito of Sardis** (died c. AD 180) was the bishop of the church in Sardis.
 - He that hung up the earth in space was Himself hanged up; He that fixed the heavens was fixed with nails; He that bore up the earth was born up on a tree; the Lord of all was subjected to ignominy in a naked body—**God put to death!** ... [I]n order that He might not be seen, the luminaries turned away, and the day became darkened—**because they slew God**, who hung naked on the tree.... This is He who made the heaven and the earth, and in the beginning, together with the Father, fashioned man; who was announced by means of the law and the prophets; who put on a bodily form in the Virgin; who was hanged upon the tree; who was buried in the earth; who rose from the place of the dead, and ascended to the height of heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.²³
- ❖ **Irenaeus of Lyons** (AD 130-202) was bishop of Lugdunum in Gaul, which is now Lyons, France. Irenaeus was born in Smyrna in Asia Minor, where he studied under bishop Polycarp, who in turn had been a disciple of John the Apostle.
 - For I have shown from the Scriptures, that no one of the sons of Adam is as to everything, and absolutely, called God, or named Lord. But that **He is Himself in His own right, beyond all men who ever lived, God, and Lord, and King Eternal, and the Incarnate Word, proclaimed by all the prophets, the apostles, and by the Spirit Himself, may be seen by all who have attained to even a small portion of the truth.** Now, the Scriptures would not have testified these things of Him, if, like others, He had been a mere man.... He is the holy Lord, the Wonderful, the Counselor, the Beautiful in appearance, and the Mighty God, coming on the clouds as the Judge of all men;—all these things did the Scriptures prophesy of Him.²⁴
 - He received testimony from all that He was very man, and that **He was very God**, from the Father, from the Spirit, from angels, from the creation itself, from men, from apostate spirits and demons.²⁵
 - **Christ Jesus [is] our Lord, and God, and Savior, and King**, according to the will of the invisible Father.²⁶
 - **Christ Himself, therefore, together with the Father, is the God of the living**, who spoke to Moses, and who was also manifested to the fathers.²⁷
 - Carefully, then, has the Holy Ghost pointed out, by what has been said, His birth from a virgin, and **His essence, that He is God** (for the name Emmanuel indicates

²¹ Justin Martyr, *First Apology*, 63. ANF, I:184.

²² Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho*, 126. ANF, I:263.

²³ Melito, 5.

²⁴ Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, 3.19.2.

²⁵ Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, 4.6.7.

²⁶ Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, 1.10.1.

²⁷ Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, 4.5.2.

this). And He shows that He is a man.... [W]e should not understand that He is a mere man only, nor, on the other hand, from the name Emmanuel, should suspect Him to be God without flesh.²⁸

❖ **Clement of Alexandria** (AD 150-215) was another early church father. He wrote around AD 200. He writes,

- This Word, then, the Christ, the cause of both our being at first (for He was in God) and of our well-being, this very Word has now appeared as man, **He alone being both, both God and man**—the Author of all blessings to us; by whom we, being taught to live well, are sent on our way to life eternal.... The Word, who in the beginning bestowed on us life as Creator when He formed us, taught us to live well when He appeared as our Teacher **that as God He might afterwards conduct us to the life which never ends.**²⁹
- For it was not without divine care that so great a work was accomplished in so brief a space by the Lord, who, though despised as to appearance, was in reality adored, the expiator of sin, the Savior, the clement, **the Divine Word, He that is truly most manifest Deity, He that is made equal to the Lord of the universe;** because He was His Son, and the Word was in God....³⁰

❖ **Tertullian** (AD 150-225) was an early Christian apologist. He said,

- For God alone is without sin; and the only man without sin is Christ, since **Christ is also God.**³¹
- Thus **Christ is Spirit of Spirit, and God of God**, as light of light is kindled.... That which has come forth out of God is at once God and the Son of God, **and the two are one.** In this way also, as **He is Spirit of Spirit and God of God**, He is made a second in manner of existence—in position, not in nature; and He did not withdraw from the original source, but went forth. This ray of God, then, as it was always foretold in ancient times, descending into a certain virgin, and made flesh in her womb, is in **His birth God and man united.**³²
- Bear always in mind that this is the rule of faith which I profess; **by it I testify that the Father, and the Son, and the Spirit are inseparable from each other**, and so will you know in what sense this is said. Now, observe, my assertion is that the Father is one, and the Son one, and the Spirit one, and that **they are distinct from each other.** This statement is taken in a wrong sense by every uneducated as well as every perversely disposed person, **as if it predicated a diversity, in such a sense as to imply a separation among the Father, and the Son, and the Spirit.** I am, moreover, obliged to say this, when they contend for the identity of the Father and Son and Spirit, that it is not by way of diversity that the Son differs from the Father, but by distribution: **it is not by division that He is different, but by distinction;** because the Father is not the same as the Son,

²⁸ Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, 3.21.4.

²⁹ Clement of Alexandria, *Exhortation to the Heathen*, 1.

³⁰ Clement of Alexandria, *Exhortation to the Heathen*, 10.

³¹ Tertullian, *Treatise on the Soul*, 41.

³² Tertullian, *Apology*, 21.

since they differ one from the other in the mode of their being. For the Father is the entire substance, **but the Son is a derivation and portion of the whole**, as He Himself acknowledges: “My Father is greater than I.” In the Psalm His inferiority is described as being “a little lower than the angels.” Thus the Father is distinct from the Son, being greater than the Son, inasmuch as He who begets is one, and He who is begotten is another; He, too, who sends is one, and He who is sent is another; and He, again, who makes is one, and He through whom the thing is made is another. Happily the Lord Himself employs this expression of the person of the Paraclete, so as to signify not a division or severance, but a disposition (of mutual relations in the Godhead); for He says, “I will pray the Father, and He shall send you another Comforter...even the Spirit of truth,” thus making the Paraclete distinct from Himself, even as we say that the Son is also distinct from the Father; so that He showed a third degree in the Paraclete, as we believe the second degree is in the Son, by reason of the order observed in the Economy. Besides, does not the very fact that they have the distinct names of Father and Son amount to a declaration that **they are distinct in personality?**³³

- As if in this way also one were not All, in that **All are of One, by unity (that is) of substance**; while the mystery of the dispensation is still guarded, which distributes the Unity into a Trinity, placing in their order the three Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: three, however, not in condition, but in degree; not in substance, but in form; not in power, but in aspect; **yet of one substance**, and of one condition, and of one power, **inasmuch as He is one God**, from whom these degrees and forms and aspects are reckoned, **under the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.**³⁴

❖ **Hippolytus of Rome** (AD 170-235) was a third-century theologian. He was a disciple of Irenaeus, who was a disciple of Polycarp, who was a disciple of John. He writes,

- The Logos alone of this God is from God himself; wherefore also **the Logos is God, being the substance of God.**³⁵
- For, lo, the Only-begotten entered, a soul among souls, **God the Word** with a (human) soul. For His body lay in the tomb, **not emptied of divinity**; but as, while in Hades, **He was in essential being with His Father**, so was He also in the body and in Hades. For the Son is not contained in space, just as the Father; and He comprehends all things in Himself.³⁶
- For all, the righteous and the unrighteous alike, shall be brought before **God the Word.**³⁷
- Let us believe then, dear brethren, according to the tradition of the apostles, that **God the Word came down from heaven**, (and entered) into the holy Virgin Mary, in order that, taking the flesh from her, and assuming also a human, by

³³ Tertullian, *Against Praxeas*, chapter 9.

³⁴ Tertullian, *Against Praxeas*, chapter 2.

³⁵ Hippolytus, *Refutation of All Heresies*, 10.29.

³⁶ Hippolytus, *Exegetical Fragments from Commentaries, On Luke, Chapter 23*.

³⁷ Hippolytus, *Against Plato, Section 3*.

which I mean a rational soul, and becoming thus all that man is with the exception of sin, He might save fallen man, and confer immortality on men who believe on His name.... He now, coming forth into the world, **was manifested as God in a body**, coming forth too as a perfect man. For it was not in mere appearance or by conversion, but in truth, that He became man. Thus then, too, **though demonstrated as God**, He does not refuse the conditions proper to Him as man, since He hungers and toils and thirsts in weariness, and flees in fear, and prays in trouble. And **He who as God** has a sleepless nature, slumbers on a pillow.³⁸

- ❖ **Origen** (AD 185-254) was another early Christian theologian. He writes,
 - Jesus Christ...in the last times, divesting Himself (of His glory), became a man, and **was incarnate although God**, and **while made a man remained the God which He was**.³⁹
 - Seeing God the Father is invisible and **inseparable from the Son**, the Son is not generated from Him by “prolation,” as some suppose. For if the Son be a “prolation” of the Father (the term “prolation” being used to signify such a generation as that of animals or men usually is), then, of necessity, both He who “prolated” and He who was “prolated” are corporeal. For we do not say, as the heretics suppose, that some part of the substance of God was converted into the Son, **or that the Son was procreated by the Father out of things non-existent, i.e., beyond His own substance, so that there once was a time when He did not exist....** How, then, can it be asserted that there once was a time when He was not the Son? For that is nothing else than to say that there was once a time when He was not the Truth, nor the Wisdom, nor the Life, **although in all these He is judged to be the perfect essence of God the Father**; for these things cannot be severed from Him, or even be separated from His essence.⁴⁰
 - For we who say that the visible world is under the government to Him who created all things, **do thereby declare that the Son is not mightier than the Father, but inferior to Him**. And this belief we ground on the saying of Jesus Himself, “The Father who sent Me is greater than I.” And none of us is so insane as to affirm that the Son of man is Lord over God. **But when we regard the Savior as God the Word, and Wisdom, and Righteousness, and Truth**, we certainly do say that He has dominion over all things which have been subjected to Him in this capacity, but not that His dominion extends over the God and Father who is Ruler over all.⁴¹
 - Wherefore we have always held that God is the Father of His only-begotten Son, who was born indeed of Him, and derives from Him what He is, **but without any beginning**, not only such as may be measured by any divisions of time, but even

³⁸ Hippolytus, *Against the Heresy of one Noetus*, Section 17.

³⁹ Origen, *De Principiis*, Preface, 4.

⁴⁰ Origen. *Contra Celsus*, Book 5, Chapter 11.

⁴¹ Origen, *Contra Celsus* Book 8, Chapter 15.

that which the mind alone can contemplate within itself, or behold, so to speak, with the naked powers of the understanding.⁴²

- But it is monstrous and unlawful to compare God the Father, in the generation of His only-begotten Son, and in the substance of the same, to any man or other living thing engaged in such an act; for we must of necessity hold that there is something exceptional and worthy of God which does not admit of any comparison at all, not merely in things, but which cannot even be conceived by thought or discovered by perception, so that a human mind should be able to apprehend how the unbegotten God is made the Father of the only-begotten Son. **Because His generation is as eternal** and everlasting as the brilliancy which is produced from the sun. For it is not by receiving the breath of life that He is made a Son, by any outward act, **but by His own nature.**⁴³
- And that you may understand that the omnipotence of Father and Son is one and the same, as God and the Lord are one and the same with the Father, listen to the manner in which John speaks in the Apocalypse: “Thus saith the Lord God, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.” **For who else was “He which is to come” than Christ?** And as no one ought to be offended, seeing God is the Father, **that the Savior is also God;** so also, since the Father is called omnipotent, **no one ought to be offended that the Son of God is also called omnipotent.**⁴⁴

❖ Nearly all of the above quotes can be accessed at Early Christian Writings. The site is located at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com>.

Record of the Early Church Councils: The First Ecumenical Council of 325 AD

The issue of Jesus’ nature and the nature of the Holy Spirit were addressed in the first two ecumenical church councils. These councils were made possible by the legalization of Christianity. The decisions that were made reflected long held understandings and were neither novel nor imposed.

This Council published the following result of their deliberation. They upheld the deity of Jesus and anathematized the teaching of Arius:

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten of his Father, of the substance of the Father, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten (γεννηθέντα), not made, being of one substance (ὁμοούσιον, consubstantialem) with the Father. By whom all things were made, both which be in heaven and in earth. Who for us men and for our salvation came down [from heaven] and was incarnate and was made man. He suffered and the third day he rose again, and ascended into heaven. And he shall come again to judge both the quick and the dead. And [we believe] in the Holy Ghost. And whosoever shall say

⁴² Origen, *De Principiis*, Book 1, Chapter 2, Section 2.

⁴³ Origen, *De Principiis*, Book 1, Chapter 2, Section 4.

⁴⁴ Origen, *De Principiis*, Book 1, Chapter 2, Section 10.

that there was a time when the Son of God was not (ἦν ποτε ὅτε οὐκ ἦν), or that before he was begotten he was not, or that he was made of things that were not, or that he is of a different substance or essence [from the Father] or that he is a creature, or subject to change or conversion—all that so say, the Catholic and Apostolic Church anathematizes them.⁴⁵

⁴⁵ Philip Schaff and Henry Wace, eds., [“The Nicene Creed.”](#) in *The Seven Ecumenical Councils*, trans. Henry R. Percival, vol. 14, A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church, Second Series (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1900), 3.

Chapter 5

Who or What is the Holy Spirit?

Like the deity of Jesus, the deity of the Holy Spirit is also questioned by many cult groups. Jehovah's Witnesses, for example, understand the Holy Spirit to be God's active force. They decline to use the definite article before Holy Spirit and do not capitalize it in their writings. The Bible however, presents a different picture. Scriptures indicate that the Holy Spirit has personality and functions independently. In addition, there are text which speak to the deity of the Holy Spirit. Biblically, it has been accepted throughout church history that the spirit is divine and part of the Trinity.

The Presence of the Holy Spirit in the OT

Just as both the Father and Son are evident in the OT, the Holy Spirit is also spoken of.

1. **Judges 3:10** The spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel; he went out to war, and the LORD gave King Cushan-rishathaim of Aram into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.
2. **1 Samuel 10:10** When they were going from there to Gibeah, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit of God possessed him, and he fell into a prophetic frenzy along with them.
3. **1 Samuel 19:20** Then Saul sent messengers to take David. When they saw the company of the prophets in a frenzy, with Samuel standing in charge of them, the spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also fell into a prophetic frenzy.
4. **1 Samuel 19:23** He went there, toward Naioth in Ramah; and the spirit of God came upon him. As he was going, he fell into a prophetic frenzy, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.
5. **2 Samuel 23:1-2** Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favorite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the Lord speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue.
6. **2 Samuel 23:2** The spirit of the LORD speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue.
7. **Job 33:4** The spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.
8. **Psalms 51:11** Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
9. **Isaiah 63:10-11** 10 But they rebelled and grieved his holy spirit; therefore he became their enemy; he himself fought against them. 11 Then they remembered the days of old, of Moses his servant. Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is the one who put within them his holy spirit,
10. **Zechariah 7:12** They made their hearts adamant in order not to hear the law and the words that the LORD of hosts had sent by his spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

Personhood of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is understood to have personality self-awareness and motivation. The following verses should capture that independence.

1. **Matthew 12:31** Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.
2. **Mark 13:11** When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.
3. **John 14:26** But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.
4. **John 15:26** “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf.
5. **John 16:7-8** Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment:
6. **John 16:13** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
7. **Acts 5:3** “Ananias,” Peter asked, “why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land?”
8. **Acts 5:32** And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”
9. **Acts 13:2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”
10. **Acts 15:28** For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials:

34 Things we need to know About the Holy Spirit.

1. **The Holy Spirit is said to know things and to possess a mind.**
 - a. **Romans 8:27** And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
 - b. **1 Corinthians 2:10–11** 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God.
2. **The Holy Spirit can be grieved.**

- a. **Ephesians 4:30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.
- 3. **The Holy Spirit distributes spiritual gifts, “as he wills”.**
 - a. **1 Corinthians 12:11** All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.
- 4. **The Holy Spirit prays for us.**
 - a. **Romans 8:26** Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- 5. **The Holy Spirit performs miracles.**
 - a. **Acts 8:39** When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.
- 6. **The Holy Spirit is in relation to both the Father and the son.**
 - a. **Matthew 28:19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- 7. **The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus and provides direction to men.**
 - a. **John’s 16:14** ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
 - b. **Acts 15:28** For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials:
- 8. **The Holy Spirit has divine attributes. He possesses both omniscience and omnipresence.**
 - a. **Job 11:8** It is higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?
 - b. **Psalms 139:7** Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
 - c. **Romans 8:27** And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
 - d. **1 Corinthians 2:10–12** 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.
 - e. **Revelation 2:23** and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am the one who searches minds and hearts, and I will give to each of you as your works deserve.
- 9. **The Holy Spirit is identified in New Testament verses that refer back to Yahweh in the Old Testament.** Compare
 - a. **Isaiah 6:1–13** 1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. 2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. 3 And one called to

another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” 4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. 5 And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!” 6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” 9 And he said, “Go and say to this people: ‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.’ 10 Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.” 11 Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; 12 until the LORD sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. 13 Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled.” The holy seed is its stump. and

- b. **Acts 28:25** So they disagreed with each other; and as they were leaving, Paul made one further statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your ancestors through the prophet Isaiah, Also compare
 - c. **Jeremiah 31:31–34** 31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. and
 - d. **Hebrews 10:15–17** 15 And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, 16 “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,” 17 he also adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”
- 10. To lie to the Holy Spirit is a grave offense and is the same as if done to God.**
- a. **Matthew 12:31–32** 31 Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. 32 Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

- b. **Acts 5:3–4** 3 “Ananias,” Peter asked, “why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!”

11. The Holy Spirit is associated with the Father and the son at both

- a. **Matthew 28:19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- b. **2 Corinthians 13:14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

12. The Holy Spirit is sent by Jesus and comes from the Father.

- a. **John 15:26** “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf.

13. The Holy Spirit shares in creation.

- a. **Job 33:4** The spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.
- b. **Psalms 33:6** By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
- c. **Psalms 104:29–30** 29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. 30 When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

14. The Holy Spirit helps to understand Revelation and provides inspiration.

- a. **2 Samuel 23:2** The spirit of the LORD speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue.
- b. **Matthew 22:43** He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying
- c. **Acts 1:16** “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—
- d. **Acts 4:25** it is you who said by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant: ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples imagine vain things?’
- e. **2 Peter 1:21** because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

15. The Holy Spirit teaches us the things that Jesus wants us to know.

- a. **John 14:26** But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

16. The Holy Spirit indwells some in the Old Testament.

- a. **Numbers 27:18** So the LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him;
- b. **1 Peter 1:11** inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings destined for Christ and the subsequent glory.

17. The Holy Spirit provides needed abilities.

- a. **Exodus 31:3** and I have filled him with divine spirit, with ability, intelligence, and knowledge in every kind of craft,
- b. **Judges 14:6** The spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and he tore the lion apart barehanded as one might tear apart a kid. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.

18. The Holy Spirit restrains sin.

- a. **Genesis 6:3** Then the LORD said, “My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be one hundred twenty years.”
- b. **Psalms 51:11** Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

19. The Holy Spirit creates and regenerates.

- a. **Psalms 104:30** When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.
- b. **Luke 1:35** The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.
- c. **John 3:5–6** 5 Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- d. **John 16:8–11** 8 And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 about sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; 11 about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.
- e. **2 Thessalonians 2:13** But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

20. The Holy Spirit anoints.

- a. **Luke 4:18** “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
- b. **Acts 10:38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

21. The Holy Spirit filled Jesus.

- a. **Matthew 12:28** But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you.
- b. **Luke 4:1** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,
- c. **John 3:34** He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure.

22. The Holy Spirit fills us.

- a. **Ephesians 5:18** Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit,

23. We are to be dependent upon the Holy Spirit.

- a. **Galatians 5:16** Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.

24. Jesus offered himself through the Holy Spirit.

- a. **Romans 1:4** and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,
- b. **Hebrews 9:14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

25. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin.

- a. **John 16:8–11** 8 And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 about sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; 11 about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

26. The Holy Spirit is active in regeneration.

- a. **Titus 3:5** he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

27. The Holy Spirit abides within us

- a. **John 14:16–17** 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

28. We are all baptized into the Spirit

- a. **1 Corinthians 12:13** For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

29. Every believer is sealed for the Holy Spirit.

- a. **2 Corinthians 1:22** by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.
- b. **Ephesians 1:13** In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit;
- c. **Ephesians 4:30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.

30. The Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts.

- a. **1 Corinthians 12:11** All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.
- b. **1 Corinthians 12:8–10** 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

- c. **Galatians 5:22–23** 22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.
- d. **1 Peter 4:10** Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

31. The Holy Spirit teaches us.

- a. **2 Samuel 23:2** The spirit of the LORD speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue.
- b. **John 16:7** Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
- c. **John 16:12–15** 12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
- d. **Acts 1:16** “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—
- e. **1 Corinthians 2:13** And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.
- f. **2 Peter 1:20–21** 20 First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, 21 because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.
- g. **1 John 2:27** As for you, the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and so you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, abide in him.

32. The Holy Spirit guides us.

- a. **Acts 8:29** Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.”
- b. **Acts 10:19–20** 19 While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Look, three men are searching for you. 20 Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them.”

33. The Holy Spirit assures us of our faith.

- a. **Romans 8:16** it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

34. The Holy Spirit prays for us.

- a. **Romans 8:26** Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

The Holy Spirit is God

The Holy Spirit in the Church Fathers

❖ Church at Smyrna

- “We wish you, brethren, all happiness, while you walk according to the doctrine of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; with whom be glory to God the Father **and the Holy Spirit**, for the salvation of His holy elect, after whose example the blessed Polycarp suffered, following in whose steps may we too be found in the kingdom of Jesus Christ!”⁴⁶

“I have collected these things, when they had almost faded away through the lapse of time, that the Lord Jesus Christ may also gather me along with His elect into His heavenly kingdom, to whom, with the Father **and the Holy Spirit**, be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”⁴⁷

❖ Ignatius AD. 30–107

- “But the **Holy Spirit does not speak His own things**, but those of Christ, and that not from himself, but from the Lord; even as the Lord also announced to us the things that He received from the Father. For, says He, “the word which ye hear is not Mine, but the Father’s, who sent Me.” And says He **of the Holy Spirit**, “He shall not speak of Himself, but whatsoever things He shall hear from Me.” And He says of Himself to the Father, “I have,” says He, “glorified Thee upon the earth; I have finished the work which, Thou gavest Me; I have manifested Thy name to men.” And of the **Holy Ghost**, “He shall glorify Me, for He receives of Mine.”⁴⁸
- “They introduce God as a Being unknown; they suppose Christ to be unbegotten; and as to the **Spirit**, they do not admit that He exists. Some of them say that the Son is a mere man, and that the Father, Son, and **Holy Spirit** are but the same person, and that the creation is the work of God, not by Christ, but by some other strange power.”⁴⁹
- “Since, also, there is but one unbegotten Being, God, even the Father; and one only-begotten Son, God, the Word and man; and **one Comforter, the Spirit of truth**; and also one preaching, and one faith, and one baptism; and one Church

⁴⁶ The Encyclical Epistle of the Church at Smyrna Concerning the Martyrdom of the Holy Polycarp Chapter XXII.—Salutation.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ The Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians Chapter IX

⁴⁹ The Epistle of Ignatius to the Trallians Chapter VI

which the holy apostles established from one end of the earth to the other by the blood of Christ, and by their own sweat and toil;”⁵⁰

- “I do also love the prophets as those who announced Christ, and as being partakers of the same Spirit with the apostles. For as the false prophets and the false apostles drew [to themselves] one and the same wicked, deceitful, and seducing spirit; so also did the prophets and the apostles receive from God, through Jesus Christ, one and the same **Holy Spirit, who is good, and sovereign, and true, and the Author of [saving] knowledge**. For there is one God of the Old and New Testament, “one Mediator between God and men,” for the creation of both intelligent and sensitive beings, and in order to exercise a beneficial and suitable providence [over them]. There is also **one Comforter**, who displayed His power in Moses, and the prophets, and apostles.”⁵¹

❖ Clement of Alexandria AD. 153–217

- “Thus also we who are baptized, having wiped off the sins which obscure the light of the **Divine Spirit**, have the eye of the spirit free, unimpeded, and full of light, by which alone we contemplate the Divine, the **Holy Spirit** flowing down to us from above.”⁵²

❖ Tertullian AD 145–220

- “If the **Holy Ghost** took upon Himself so great a concern for our instruction, that we might know from what everything was produced, would He not in like manner have kept us well informed about both the heaven and the earth, by indicating to us what it was that He made them of, if their original consisted of any material substance, so that the more He seemed to have made them of nothing, the less in fact was there as yet made, from which He could appear to have made them?”⁵³
- “That there are, however, two Gods or two Lords, is a statement which at no time proceeds out of our mouth: not as if it were untrue that the Father is God, and the Son is God, and **the Holy Ghost is God**, and each is God; but because in earlier times Two were actually spoken of as God, and two as Lord, that when Christ should come He might be both acknowledged as God and designated as Lord, being the Son of Him who is both God and Lord. ... Besides, if, from that perfect knowledge which assures us that the title of God and Lord is suitable both to the

⁵⁰ The Epistle of Ignatius to the Philadelphians Chapter IV.—Have but one Eucharist, etc.

⁵¹ The Epistle of Ignatius to the Philadelphians Chapter V.—Pray for me.

⁵² The Instructor – Chapter VI

⁵³ Against Hermogenes. Chapter XXII.—This Conclusion Confirmed by the Usage of Holy Scripture in Its History of the Creation. Hermogenes in Danger of the Woe Pronounced Against Adding to Scripture.

Father, and to the Son, and to the **Holy Ghost**,”⁵⁴

- “Then there is the **Paraclete or Comforter**, also, which He promises to pray for to the Father, and to send from heaven after He had ascended to the Father. He is called “**another Comforter**,” indeed; but in what way He is another we have already shown, “He shall receive of mine,” says Christ, just as Christ Himself received of the Father’s. Thus the connection of the Father in the Son, and of the Son in the Paraclete, **produces three coherent Persons**, who are yet distinct One from Another.”⁵⁵

❖ **Origen AD. 185–254**

- “Now, **what the Holy Spirit is**, we are taught in many passages of Scripture, as by David in the Psalm 51, when he says, “And take not **Thy Holy Spirit** from me;” and by Daniel, where it is said, “**The Holy Spirit which is in thee.**” And in the New Testament we have abundant testimonies, as when the **Holy Spirit** is described as having descended upon Christ, and when the Lord breathed upon His apostles after His resurrection, saying, “Receive the **Holy Spirit**;” and the saying of the angel to Mary, “**The Holy Spirit** will come upon thee;” the declaration by Paul, that no one can call Jesus Lord, save by **the Holy Spirit**. In the Acts of the Apostles, the **Holy Spirit** was given by the imposition of the apostles’ hands in baptism. From all which we learn that **the person of the Holy Spirit** was of such authority and dignity, that saving baptism was not complete except by the authority of the **most excellent Trinity** of them all, i.e., by the naming of **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**, and by joining to the unbegotten God the Father, and to His only-begotten Son, the name also of **the Holy Spirit**. Who, then, is not amazed at the exceeding majesty of the **Holy Spirit**, when he hears that he who speaks a word against the Son of man may hope for forgiveness; but that he who is guilty of blasphemy **against the Holy Spirit** has not forgiveness, either in the present world or in that which is to come! We are of opinion that this distinction may be observed in the Old Testament also, as when it is said, “He that giveth **His Spirit** to the people who are upon the earth, and **Spirit** to them who walk thereon.” For, without doubt, everyone who walks upon the earth (i.e., earthly and corporeal beings) is a partaker also of the **Holy Spirit**, receiving it from God. My Hebrew master also used to say that those two seraphim in Isaiah, which are described as having each six wings, and calling to one another, and saying, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God of hosts,” were to be understood of the only-begotten Son of God and of the **Holy Spirit**. And we think that that expression also which occurs in the hymn of Habakkuk, “In the midst either of the two living things, or of the two lives, Thou wilt be known,” ought to be understood **of Christ and of**

⁵⁴ Against Praxeas Chapter XIII

⁵⁵ Against Praxeas Chapter XXV

the Holy Spirit. For all knowledge of the Father is obtained by **revelation of the Son through the Holy Spirit**, so that both of these beings which, according to the prophet, are called either “living things” or “lives,” exist as the ground of the knowledge of God the Father. For as it is said of the Son, that “no one knoweth the Father but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal Him,” the same also is said by the apostle of the **Holy Spirit**, when He declares, “God hath revealed them to us **by His Holy Spirit**; for the **Spirit searcheth** all things, even the deep things of God;” and again in the Gospel, when the Saviour, speaking of the divine and profounder parts of His teaching, which His disciples were not yet able to receive, thus addresses them: “I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now; but when **the Holy Spirit, the Comforter**, is come, He will teach you all things, and will bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” We must understand, therefore, that as the Son, who alone knows the Father, reveals Him to whom He will, **so the Holy Spirit**, who alone searches the deep things of God, reveals God to whom He will: “For the **Spirit bloweth where He listeth.**” We are not, however, to suppose that the **Spirit** derives His knowledge through revelation from the Son. For if the **Holy Spirit** knows the Father through the Son’s revelation, He passes from a state of ignorance into one of knowledge; but it is alike impious and foolish to confess the **Holy Spirit**, and yet to ascribe to Him ignorance. For even although something else existed before the **Holy Spirit**, it was not by progressive advancement that He came to be the **Holy Spirit**; as if any one should venture to say, that at the time when He was not yet the **Holy Spirit** He was ignorant of the Father, but that after He had received knowledge He was made the **Holy Spirit**. For if this were the case, the **Holy Spirit would never be reckoned in the Unity of the Trinity, i.e., along with the unchangeable Father and His Son, unless He had always been the Holy Spirit.** When we use, indeed, such terms as “always” or “was,” or any other designation of time, they are not to be taken absolutely, but with due allowance; for while the significations of these words relate to time, and those subjects of which we speak are spoken of by a stretch of language as existing in time, they nevertheless surpass in their real nature all conception of the finite understanding. Nevertheless it seems proper to inquire what is the reason why he who is regenerated by God unto salvation has to do both with **Father and Son and Holy Spirit**, and does not obtain salvation unless with the **co-operation of the entire Trinity**; and why it is **impossible to become partaker of the Father or the Son without the Holy Spirit.** And in discussing these subjects, it will undoubtedly be necessary to describe the special working of the **Holy Spirit**, and of the Father and the Son. I am of opinion, then, that the working of the Father and of the Son takes place as well in saints as in sinners, in rational beings and in dumb animals; nay, even in those things which are without life, and in all things universally which exist; but that the **operation of the Holy Spirit does not take place at all in those things which are without life**, or in those which, although living, are yet dumb; nay, is not found even in those who are endued indeed with

reason, but are engaged in evil courses, and not at all converted to a better life. In those persons alone do I think that the operation of the **Holy Spirit** takes place, who are already turning to a better life, and walking along the way which leads to Jesus Christ, i.e., who are engaged in the performance of good actions, and who abide in God.”⁵⁶

- “As now by participation in the Son of God one is adopted as a son, and by participating in that wisdom which is in God is rendered wise, so also by participation in the **Holy Spirit** is a man rendered holy and spiritual. For it is one and the same thing to have a share in the **Holy Spirit, which is (the Spirit) of the Father and the Son, since the nature of the Trinity is one** and incorporeal. And what we have said regarding the participation of the soul is to be understood of angels and heavenly powers in a similar way as of souls, because every rational creature needs a participation in the Trinity.”⁵⁷

❖ Novatian AD. 210–280

- “Moreover, the order of reason, and the authority of the faith in the disposition of the words and in the Scriptures of the Lord, admonish us after these things to believe also on the **Holy Spirit**, once promised to the Church, and in the appointed occasions of times given. For He was promised by Joel the prophet, but given by Christ. “In the last days,” says the prophet, “I will pour out of my **Spirit** upon my servants and my handmaids.” And the Lord said, “Receive ye the **Holy Ghost**: whose sins ye remit, they shall be remitted; and whose ye retain, they shall be retained.” But this **Holy Spirit** the Lord Christ calls at one time “**the Paraclete**,” at another pronounces to be the “**Spirit of truth**.” And He is not new in the Gospel, nor yet even newly given; for it was He Himself who accused the people in the prophets, and in the apostles gave them the appeal to the Gentiles. For the former deserved to be accused, because they had contemned the law; and they of the Gentiles who believe deserve to be aided by the defence of the **Spirit**, because they earnestly desire to attain to the Gospel law. Assuredly in the **Spirit** there are different kinds of offices, because in the times there is a different order of occasions; and yet, on this account, He who discharges these offices is not different, nor is He another in so acting, but He is one and the same, distributing His offices according to the times, and the occasions and impulses of things. Moreover, the Apostle Paul says, “Having the **same Spirit**; as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak.” He is therefore one and the **same Spirit** who was in the prophets and apostles, except that in the former He was occasional, in the latter always. But in the former not as being always in them, in the latter as abiding always in them; and in the former

⁵⁶ Origen De Principiis. Book I Chapter III – On the Holy Spirit Section 4 and 5

⁵⁷ Origen De Principiis. Book IV Chapter I.32

distributed with reserve, in the latter all poured out; in the former given sparingly, in the latter liberally bestowed; not yet manifested before the Lord's resurrection, but conferred after the resurrection. For, said He, "I will pray the Father, and He will give you **another Advocate**, that He may be with you forever, even the **Spirit of truth**." And, "When He, the **Advocate**, shall come, whom I shall send unto you from my Father, the **Spirit of truth** who proceedeth from my Father." And, "If I go not away, that **Advocate** shall not come to you; but if I go away, I will send Him to you." And, "When the **Spirit of truth** shall come, He will direct you into all the truth." And because the Lord was about to depart to the heavens, He gave the **Paraclete** out of necessity to the disciples; so as not to leave them in any degree orphans, which was little desirable, and forsake them without an advocate and some kind of protector. For this is He who **strengthened** their hearts and minds, who **marked out** the Gospel sacraments, who was in them the **enlightener** of divine things; and they being strengthened, feared, for the sake of the Lord's name, neither dungeons nor chains, nay, even trod under foot the very powers of the world and its tortures, since they were henceforth armed and strengthened by the **same Spirit**, having in themselves the gifts which this same **Spirit** distributes, and appropriates to the Church, the spouse of Christ, as her ornaments. This is He who **places prophets** in the Church, **instructs teachers**, **directs tongues**, **gives powers** and healings, **does wonderful works**, **offers discrimination** of spirits, **affords powers** of government, **suggests counsels**, and **orders and arranges** whatever other gifts there are of charismata; and thus make the Lord's Church everywhere, and in all, perfected and completed. This is He who, after the manner of a dove, when our Lord was baptized, came and abode upon Him, dwelling in Christ full and entire, and not maimed in any measure or portion; but with His whole overflow copiously distributed and sent forth, so that from Him others might receive some enjoyment of His graces: the source of the entire **Holy Spirit** remaining in Christ, so that from Him might be drawn streams of gifts and works, while the **Holy Spirit dwelt affluently in Christ**. For truly Isaiah, prophesying this, said: "And the Spirit of wisdom and understanding shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and piety; and the Spirit of the fear of the Lord shall fill Him." This self-same thing also he said in the person of the Lord Himself, in another place, "**The Spirit of the Lord** is upon me; because He has anointed me, He has sent me to preach the Gospel to the poor." Similarly David: "Wherefore God, even Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." Of Him the Apostle Paul says: "For he who hath not the **Spirit of Christ** is none of His." "And where the **Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty**." He it is who effects with water the second birth as a certain seed of divine generation, and a consecration of a heavenly nativity, the pledge of a promised inheritance, and as it were a kind of handwriting of eternal salvation; who can make us God's temple, and fit us for His house; who solicits the divine hearing for us with groanings that cannot be uttered; filling the offices of advocacy, and manifesting the duties of our defence,—an inhabitant given for

our bodies and an effector of their holiness. Who, working in us for eternity, can also produce our bodies at the resurrection of immortality, accustoming them to be associated in Himself with heavenly power, and to be allied with the **divine eternity of the Holy Spirit**. For our bodies are both trained in Him and by Him to advance to immortality, by learning to govern themselves with moderation according to His decrees. **For this is He who “desireth against the flesh,” because “the flesh resisteth against the Spirit.”** This is He who restrains insatiable desires, controls immoderate lusts, quenches unlawful fires, conquers reckless impulses, repels drunkenness, checks avarice, drives away luxurious revellings, links love, binds together affections, keeps down sects, orders the rule of truth, overcomes heretics, turns out the wicked, guards the Gospel. Of this says the same apostle: “We have not received the spirit of the world, but the **Spirit which is of God**.” Concerning Him he exultingly says: “And I think also that I have the Spirit of God.” Of Him he says: “The Spirit of the prophets is subject to the prophets.” Of Him also he tells: “Now the Spirit speaketh plainly, that in the last times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, doctrines of demons, who speak lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience cauterized.” Established in this Spirit, “none ever calleth Jesus anathema;” no one has ever denied Christ to be the Son of God, or has rejected God the Creator; no one utters any words of his own contrary to the Scriptures; no one ordains other and sacrilegious decrees; no one draws up different laws. Whosoever shall blaspheme against Him, “hath not forgiveness, not only in this world, but also not in the world to come.” This is He who in the apostles gives testimony to Christ; in the martyrs shows forth the constant faithfulness of their religion; in virgins restrains the admirable continency of their sealed chastity; in others, guards the laws of the Lord’s doctrine incorrupt and uncontaminated; destroys heretics, corrects the perverse, condemns infidels, makes known pretenders; moreover, rebukes the wicked, keeps the Church uncorrupt and inviolate, in the sanctity of a perpetual virginity and truth.”⁵⁸

❖ **Dionysius AD. 200–265**

- “For it is essential that the Divine Word should be united to the God of all, and that the **Holy Spirit** should abide and dwell in God; and thus that the **Divine Trinity** should be reduced and gathered into one, as if into a certain head—that is, into the omnipotent God of all.”⁵⁹

❖ **Alexander, Bishop of Alexandria. AD. 273–326**

⁵⁸ A Treatise of Novatian Concerning the Trinity. Chapter XXIX.

⁵⁹ Against the Sabellians 1.

- “And besides the pious opinion concerning the Father and the Son, we confess to **one Holy Spirit**, as the divine Scriptures teach us; who hath inaugurated both the holy men of the Old Testament, and the divine teachers of that which is called the New.”⁶⁰

❖ **Augustine AD. 354–430**

- “Wherefore, when our Lord breathed on His disciples, and said, “Receive ye the **Holy Ghost**,” He certainly wished it to be understood that **the Holy Ghost was not only the Spirit of the Father, but of the only begotten Son Himself. For the same Spirit is, indeed, the Spirit of the Father and of the Son, making with them the trinity of Father, Son, and Spirit, not a creature, but the Creator.** For neither was that material breath which proceeded from the mouth of His flesh the very substance and nature of the Holy Spirit, but rather the intimation, as I said, that the **Holy Spirit was common to the Father and to the Son; for they have not each a separate Spirit, but both one and the same.**”⁶¹
- “Similar evidence has been collected also concerning the **Holy Spirit**, of which those who have discussed the subject before ourselves have most fully availed themselves, that **He too is God, and not a creature. But if not a creature, then not only God (for men likewise are called gods), but also very God; and therefore absolutely equal with the Father and the Son, and in the unity of the Trinity consubstantial and co-eternal.**”⁶²

Record of the Early Church Councils: The Second Ecumenical Council of 381 AD

The issue of Jesus’ nature and the nature of the Holy Spirit were addressed in the first two ecumenical church councils. These councils were made possible by the legalization of Christianity. The decisions that were made reflected long held understandings and were neither novel nor imposed.

This second council was held in Constantinople. Among other topics, they confirmed the decision of the First Council held in Nicaea regarding the deity of Christ and strengthened their position on the Holy Spirit. They wrote:

We 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 his Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

⁶⁰ Epistles on the Arian Heresy And the Deposition of Arius I.12

⁶¹ Augustine The City of God Book 13 Chapter 24

⁶² On the Trinity Book I. Chapter 6.13

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost and the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the Right Hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead. Whose kingdom shall have no end. (I)

And [we believe] in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver-of-Life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And [we believe] in one, holy, (II) Catholic and Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, [and] we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.⁶³

Chapter 6

The Trinity demonstrated in the OT

Three verses have a trinitarian appearance within the verse.

1. **Isaiah 48:16** Draw near to me, hear this! From the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there. **And now the Lord GOD has sent me and his spirit.**
2. **Isaiah 61:1** The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
3. **Isaiah 63:8–10** 8 For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely”; and he became their savior 9 in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. 10 But they rebelled and grieved his holy spirit; therefore he became their enemy; he himself fought against them.

The Trinity in the NT

In the following NT verses there is mention of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

1. **Matthew 3:13–17** 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15 But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him

⁶³ Philip Schaff and Henry Wace, eds., [“The Holy Creed Which the 150 Holy Fathers Set Forth, Which Is Consonant with the Holy and Great Synod of Nice.”](#) in *The Seven Ecumenical Councils*, trans. Henry R. Percival, vol. 14, A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church, Second Series (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1900), 163.

and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

2. **Matthew 28:19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
3. **Luke 1:35** The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.
4. **Acts 2:33** Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear.
5. **Romans 5:1–6** 1 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
6. **Romans 8:3–4** 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
7. **Romans 8:8–9** 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.
8. **Romans 8:15–17** 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.
9. **Romans 8:26–30** 26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. 28 We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

10. **Romans 15:16** to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
11. **Romans 15:30** I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf,
12. **1 Corinthians 2:2–5** 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.
13. **1 Corinthians 6:11** And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.
14. **2 Corinthians 1:21–22** 21 But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, 22 by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.
15. **2 Corinthians 13:14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.
16. **Galatians 3:1–5** 1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! 2 The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? 4 Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. 5 Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?
17. **Galatians 4:4–6** 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6 And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”
18. **Ephesians 1:3–14** 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an

inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

19. **Ephesians 2:18–22** 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21 In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.
20. **Ephesians 3:16–19** 16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
21. **Ephesians 4:5–6** 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
22. **Ephesians 5:18–20** 18 Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20 giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
23. **Philippians 3:3** For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh—
24. **1 Thessalonians 1:3–6** 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit,
25. **2 Thessalonians 2:13–14** 13 But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. 14 For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

26. **Titus 3:5–7** 5 he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. 6 This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
27. **Hebrews 9:14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!
28. **Hebrews 10:29–30** 29 How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by those who have spurned the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant by which they were sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know the one who said, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.”
29. **1 Peter 1:2** who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood: May grace and peace be yours in abundance.
30. **1 Peter 3:18** For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,
31. **1 Peter 4:14** If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.
32. **1 John 4:2** By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

God Is Trinity

The Father Son, and the Holy Ghost are eternal.

Father

Isaiah 44:6 “This is what the Lord says— Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Jesus

Micah 5:2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.”

Romans 16:26 but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith—

Revelation 1:17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.

Holy Spirit

Hebrews 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

God

Deuteronomy 33:27 The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemies before you, saying, ‘Destroy them!’

The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost created all things.

Father

Psalms 100:3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

1 Corinthians 8:6 yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

Jesus

John 1:3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Colossians 1:16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

Holy Spirit

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Isaiah 40:13 Who can fathom the Spirit of the Lord, or instruct the Lord as his counselor?

God

1 Peter 4:19 So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

The Father, Son and Holy Ghost are Omnipresent

Father

Jeremiah 23:24 Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?” declares the Lord. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” declares the Lord.

Jesus

Matthew 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Holy Spirit

Psalms 139:7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

God

Acts 17:27–28 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are incomprehensible and omniscient.

Father

Matthew 11:27 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Acts 15:18 things known from long ago.

Jesus

Matthew 11:27 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

John 21:17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.

Holy Spirit

Isaiah 40:13 Who can fathom the Spirit of the Lord, or instruct the Lord as his counselor?

1 Corinthians 2:10 these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

God

Hebrews 4:13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

The Father Son and Holy Spirit are true, holy and good.

Father

Psalms 34:8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

John 7:28 Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own authority, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him,

John 17:11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

John 17:25 “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.

Jesus

John 10:11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 14:6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Acts 3:14 You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you.

Holy Spirit

Psalms 143:10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

John 14:26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

1 John 5:6 This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

God

Revelation 15:4 Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

The Father Son and Holy Spirit have self-regulating wills.

Father

Ephesians 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

Jesus

Matthew 11:27 “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

John 17:24 “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

God

Acts 21:14 When he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, “The Lord’s will be done.”

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the fountain of life.

Father

Psalm 46:9 He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

Ephesians 2:4–5 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Jesus

John 1:4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

John 5:21 For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

Holy Spirit

John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

Romans 8:10 But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

God

Deuteronomy 30:20 and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit strengthen, comfort and sanctify us.

Father

Psalm 138:3 When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

Isaiah 66:13 As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.”

Jude 1 Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James, To those who have been called, who are loved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

Jesus

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

Philippians 2:1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,

Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Holy Spirit

John 14:26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Romans 15:16 to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 3:16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

God

Psalms 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit fill the soul with divine love.

Father

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.

1 John 5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

Jesus

1 Corinthians 16:22 If anyone does not love the Lord, let that person be cursed! Come, Lord!

2 Corinthians 5:14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

Holy Spirit

Romans 15:30 I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.

Colossians 1:8 and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

God

Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

The Father Son and Holy Ghost gave the Divine Law

Father

Psalms 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”

Ezekiel 2:4 The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says.’

Jesus

Galatians 6:2 Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Colossians 3:16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Revelation 2:18 “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze.

Holy Spirit

Romans 8:2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Acts 13:2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

2 Peter 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

God

James 4:12 There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

The Father Son and Holy Spirit dwell in the hearts of believers.

Father

1 Corinthians 14:25 as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”

2 Corinthians 6:16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”

1 John 1:3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus

Ephesians 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,

Colossians 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

1 John 1:3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

Holy Spirit

John 14:17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

2 Corinthians 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

God

Isaiah 57:15 For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

The Father Son and Holy Spirit are each by himself the supreme Jehovah and God.

Father

Exodus 20:2 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Psalms 92:8 But you, Lord, are forever exalted.

Jesus

Isaiah 40:3 A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Matthew 3:3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’ ”

Matthew 11:10 This is the one about whom it is written: “ ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ”

Luke 1:76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

Holy Spirit

Ezekiel 8:1–3 1 In the sixth year, in the sixth month on the fifth day, while I was sitting in my house and the elders of Judah were sitting before me, the hand of the Sovereign Lord came on me there. 2 I looked, and I saw a figure like that of a man. From what appeared to be his waist down he was like fire, and from there up his appearance was as bright as glowing metal. 3 He stretched out what looked like a hand and took me by the hair of my head. The Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and in visions of God he took me to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner court, where the idol that provokes to jealousy stood.

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

God

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Trinity in Church Fathers

The Apostles, the Apostolic Fathers and the Early Church Fathers believed Jesus and the Holy Spirit were God. However, these early beliefs were not firmly developed nor were they ratified by the whole church. Part of the reason that this development was slow was that the early church was persecuted until the time of Constantine and survival took precedence over councils and debates. Once peace came, there was an effort to consolidate orthodox doctrine. At the First Council of Nicaea in 325 AD it was established, regarding Jesus, that his essence could be described best with the statement, “I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;”. At the First Council of Constantinople in 381 AD the council addressed the nature of the Holy Spirit and the Trinity. The Holy Spirit was described as, “And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.” This rounded out the concept of the Trinity. The councils recognized what was already assumed to be true.

The linking of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit was seen in the Scriptures, prior to the time of the Church Fathers. Two very clear examples are Matthew 28:19, a baptismal formula and 2 Corinthians 13:13 a doxological formula. One of the earliest extracanonical writings⁶⁴ also uses the Trinitarian baptismal formula.

- ❖ **The Didache** follows Matthew stating,
 - “After the foregoing instructions, baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in living [running] water.... If you have neither, pour water three times on the head, in the name of the **Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**”⁶⁵
- ❖ **Ignatius**, the second bishop of Antioch was martyred in 110 AD. Prior to that date he grouped the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in a passage he wrote.
 - “Study, therefore, to be established in the doctrines of the Lord and the apostles, that so all things, whatsoever ye do, may prosper both in the flesh and spirit; in

⁶⁴ Circa 50-120 AD

⁶⁵ *Didache* 7:1

faith and love; **in the Son, and in the Father, and in the Spirit**; in the beginning and in the end; with your most admirable bishop, and the well-compacted spiritual crown of your presbytery, and the deacons who are according to God. Be ye subject to the bishop, and to one another, as **Jesus Christ to the Father, according to the flesh, and the apostles to Christ, and to the Father, and to the Spirit; that so there may be a union both fleshly and spiritual.**⁶⁶

- ❖ **Polycarp** in was martyred 155 AD. He was a disciple of John's,. At his death he said,
 - “For this cause, yea and for all things, I praise Thee, I bless Thee, I glorify Thee, through the eternal and heavenly **High-priest, Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son, through whom with Him and the Holy Spirit be glory both now** [and ever] and for the ages to come. Amen.”⁶⁷
- ❖ **Theophilus of Antioch** wrote circa 169-181 making the first use of the word “trinity”, but not in the sense that it is thought of now. He appears rather to be describing a grouping of three items while discussing Genesis 1-3. He says,
 - “...the three days before the luminaries were created are **types of the Trinity**, God, his Word, and his Wisdom.”⁶⁸
- ❖ **Tertullian** in 216 presented the first defense of Trinitarianism in his refutation of Patripassianism. He wrote,
 - “And at the same time the mystery of the *oikonomia* is safeguarded, for the unity is distributed in a Trinity. Placed in order, **the three are the Father, Son, and Spirit**. They are three, however, not in condition, but in degree; not in being, but in form; not in power, but in kind; of one being, however, and one condition and one power, because he is one God of whom degrees and forms and kinds are taken into account in the **name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**”⁶⁹
 - He adds, “Bear always in mind that this is the rule of faith which I profess; by it I testify that the **Father, and the Son, and the Spirit** are inseparable from each other, and so will you know in what sense this is said. Now, observe, my assertion is that the Father is one, and the Son one, and the Spirit one, and that They are distinct from Each Other. [...] Father and the Son are demonstrated to be distinct; I say distinct, but not separate.”⁷⁰

⁶⁶ *Epistle to the Magnesians*, Chapter 13

⁶⁷ *Martyrdom of Polycarp* 14:3

⁶⁸ *To Autolycus* 2:15

⁶⁹ *Against Praxeas* 2

⁷⁰ Tertullian. (1885). *Tertullian* In A. Roberts, J. Donaldson & A. C. Coxe (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers, Volume III: Latin Christianity: Its Founder, Tertullian* (A. Roberts, J. Donaldson & A. C. Coxe, Ed.) Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Company. 603.

- ❖ **Hippolytus of Rome**, writing in 220 also presents a defense of the Trinity against Noetus who held Patripassian views. He wrote,
 - “The Father's Word, therefore, knowing the economy and the will of the Father, to wit, that the Father seeks to be worshipped in none other way than this, gave this charge to the disciples after he rose from the dead: "Go ye and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the **Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.**" (Matt 28:19) And by this he showed that whosoever omitted any one of these, failed in glorifying God perfectly. For it is **through the Trinity** that the **Father is glorified. For the Father willed, the Son did and the Spirit manifested.**”⁷¹

- ❖ **Origen** in 225 wrote,
 - “**For it is the Trinity alone** which exceeds every sense in which not only temporal but even eternal may be understood. It is all other things, indeed, which are outside **the Trinity**, which are to be measured by time and ages.... It seems right to inquire into the reason why he who is 'born again through God' to salvation **has need of both Father and Son and Holy Spirit** and will not obtain salvation apart from the entire Trinity, and why it is impossible to become partaker of the **Father or the Son without the Holy Spirit**. In discussing these points it will undoubtedly be necessary to describe the activity which is peculiar to the **Holy Spirit and that which is peculiar to the Father and Son.**”⁷²

- ❖ **Novatian**, presbyter of Rome, wrote *On the Trinity* circa 252. It is the oldest known Christian treatise on the Trinity. In it he writes,
 - “For Scripture as much announces **Christ as also God**, as it announces God himself as man. It has as much described Jesus Christ to be man, as moreover it has also described **Christ the Lord to be God**. Because it does not set forth him to be the Son of God only, but also the son of man; nor does it only say, the son of man, but it has also been accustomed to speak of him as the Son of God. So that **being of both**, he is both, lest if he should be one only, he could not be the other. For as nature itself has prescribed that he must be believed to be a man who is of man, so the same nature prescribes also that he must be believed to be God who is of God.... Let them, therefore, who read that Jesus Christ the son of man is man, read also that this same **Jesus is called also God and the Son of God.**”⁷³

- ❖ **Pope Dionysius** writes in 262 regarding the Trinity,
 - “Next, I may reasonably turn to those who divide and cut to pieces and destroy that most sacred doctrine of the Church of God, the Divine Monarchy, making it as it were three powers and partive subsistences and godheads. I am told that

⁷¹ *Against Noetus*

⁷² *On First Principles (De Principiis or Peri Archon)*

⁷³ *Treatise on the Trinity*, 11

some among you who are catechists and teachers of the Divine Word, take the lead in this tenet, who are diametrically opposed, so to speak, to Sabellius' opinions; for he blasphemously says that the Son is the Father, and Father the Son, but they in some sort preach three Gods, as dividing the sacred Unity into three subsistences foreign to each other and utterly separate. For it must be that with the God of the Universe, the Divine Word is united, and the Holy Ghost must repose and habitate in God; thus in one as in a summit, I mean the God of the Universe, must the Divine Trinity be gathered up and brought together....Neither, then, may we divide into three godheads the wonderful and divine Unity...**Rather, we must believe in God, the Father Almighty; and in Christ Jesus, his Son; and in the Holy Spirit; and that the Word is united to the God of the universe.** 'For,' he says, 'The Father and I are one,' and 'I am in the Father, and the Father in me'. For thus both the **Divine Trinity** and the holy preaching of the Monarchy will be preserved.”⁷⁴

❖ **Gregory**, Bishop of Neocaesarea wrote a *Declaration of Faith* defining Trinity in 265 AD. He writes,

- “There is one God.... There is a **perfect Trinity**, in glory and eternity and sovereignty, neither divided nor estranged. Wherefore there is nothing either created or in servitude in the Trinity; nor anything super-induced, as if at some former period it was non-existent, and at some later period it was introduced. And thus neither was the Son ever wanting to the Father, nor the Spirit to the Son; but without variation and without change, the **same Trinity abides ever.**”⁷⁵

⁷⁴ 'De decretis Nic. syn.26

⁷⁵ *Declaration of Faith.*