

Theology 101: More Truths About the Trinity

What Does Genesis 1 Suggest About God?

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen 1:1). God is...

- Obvious
- Eternal
- Incomprehensible
- Knowable
- Unique
- Plural
- Creative
- Intelligent
- Powerful
- The Center of Attention

If God Obviously Exists, Why Do People Reject Him?

NOTE: It is NOT a lack of information, a good argument, etc.

1. Because They Desire to Suppress the Truth They Know (Rom 1:18-20)
2. Because They Develop Futile Thoughts and Become Fools (Rom 1:21-23)
3. Because God Gives Them Up to Deeper Sin (Rom 1:24-32)
4. Because They Love Sin and Desire to Hide from God's Truth (John 3:16-21)
5. Because the God of This Age Has Blinded Them (2 Cor 4:3-4)

10 Words That Describe What God Is Like

These are often called God's **attributes** or God's **perfections**. God has many attributes (not just these), and people categorize them in different ways.

1. Holy
2. Self-Existing
3. Infinite
4. Omniscient
5. Omnipotent
6. Omnipresent
7. Sovereign
8. Spiritual
9. Immutable
10. Loving

Wrong Views and the True View of God

Wrong Views of God

1. **Atheism** – “no God.” The Bible assumes God exists.
2. **Dualism** – (multiple forces exist side-by-side). Bible: God alone.
3. **Pantheism** – “everything is God.” Bible: God is above creation.
4. **Deism** – God was here, but He left us alone.
5. **Henotheism** – “One god,” but could be other gods too.
6. **Polytheism** – “many Gods” – Bible speaks of just one God.
7. **Modalism** – “one God taking different forms”

The True View of God (How God Reveals Himself in the Bible)

1. God reveals Himself as **One**
 - Deut 6:4 “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!”
2. Yet God Presents Himself in the **Plural**
 - Gen 1:26a Then God [Elohim] said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;
3. Each Person Is **Distinct**
 - John 14:16-17a “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—17 “the Spirit of truth....”
4. Each Person Is **God**

THE FATHER:

- John 6:27 “Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”

THE SON:

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

THE SPIRIT:

- Acts 5:3-4 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit ... You have not lied to men but to God.”

5. _____: There Is Subordination within the Trinity

Equally, fully, & eternally God; yet different in _____.

This is an eternal relationship which we never see reversed.

Not inequality, but agreement between.

The Son (Subordinate to the _____)

- Luke 22:42 – saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”
- John 5:36 – “But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.
- 1 John 4:14 – And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. (John 20:21)

The Holy Spirit (Subordinate to the _____ & the _____)

- John 14:26 – But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. (John 14:16; 16:7; 16:13-14)
- John 15:26 – But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

6. _____: Each Member of the Trinity has Different Jobs

Equally, fully, & eternally God; yet different in _____.

THE FATHER – The _____ – _____

- 1 Cor 8:6 yet for us *there is* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*.
- John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

THE SON – The _____ – _____

- Col 1:16-17 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.
- 2 Co 5:19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

THE SPIRIT – The _____ – _____

- Gen 1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Life Lessons

- **In Submitting to Authority:** “Nevertheless, not my will but yours”
- **In Relating as Men & Women:** But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman *is* man, and the head of Christ *is* God. (1 Cor 11:3)