

Trinity or Triunity?

Definition

Trinity: God manifests Himself in three completely separate, but co-equal, parts known as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Triunity: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are different manifestations of one and the same God.

From Got Questions concerning the question: "What is the origin of the doctrine of the Trinity?"

As no religion can exist without knowing who or what its followers worship, there was a great need to define God in a way that all followers of Christianity would agree upon as "official" or orthodox doctrine. And, if Jesus were not God, all Christians were heretics for worshipping a created being.

It seems that the church father Tertullian (AD 160–225) was the first to apply the term *Trinity* to God. Tertullian uses the term in *Against Praxeus*, written in 213 to explain and defend the Trinity against the teaching of his contemporary Praxeus, who espoused the Monarchian heresy. *One aspect of Monarchianism is called Modalism, which states that God is a single, undifferentiated Divine Person who interacts with the mortal world via three different "modes:" Heavenly Father (The Invisible Creator), Resurrected Son (The visible image of the Father), and Holy Spirit (The Father's Spirit in action).* From there, we can jump forward over a century of church discussion, schisms, and debate to the Council of Nicea in 325, when the Trinity was finally confirmed as official church doctrine.

Introduction

Psalm 40:7 and Colossians 1:19-2:3 → A mystery, or "sod", is a deeper meaning of something we already have prior knowledge of. All throughout scripture, it talks about God is the only "Savior", Israel's "Redeemer", "The Holy One of Israel", the "King", the "First and the Last", and the One who created the heavens and the earth. However, God was all of these through Messiah. Thus, the mystery, or sod, of God is revealed through Messiah.

(1) How many Gods are there?

Deuteronomy 6:4—There is one God

Genesis 1:26-27—The pronoun "Us" is used. Elohim—"gods" or "God"

Isaiah 46:9—God says that He is the only God

James 2:19—Even demons believe there is one God

Where is God? → 2 Chronicles 6:18; Isaiah 66:1-2; Jeremiah 23:23-24; Acts 17:24-31; Psalm 139:6-10

(2) What is the "Right Hand of God"?

Ever heard that Yeshua is standing on the right hand of the Father? Did you know that phrase is not in the Bible?

Isaiah 48:12-13—The right hand of God stretched out the heavens → Jeremiah 10:12, John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:15-16

Exodus 15:6—The right hand of God deals with strength.

Deuteronomy 33:2—The Law came from the right hand of God.

Psalm 17:7; 20:6; 139:10—The right hand of God upholds those who trust in Him.

Psalm 21:8; 74:11; 110:1, 5; 138:7—The right hand of God destroys His enemies

Psalm 89:13—The right hand of God is exalted above all creation

Lamentations 2:3-4—The right hand of God holds back the attacks from Israel's enemies

Knowing what the right hand signifies, let's see how the term "right hand of God" is used idiomatically to refer to Yeshua's strength.

Luke 22:69—Notice it says that He is on the right hand of the power of God. In other words, he is the power of God.

Acts 7:55-56—Who is the glory of God? Ezekiel 43:1

Romans 8:34—Yeshua is a righteous judge→Hebrews 2:17-18

Ephesians 1:20; Hebrews 8:1—Yeshua is above all and has all power and might.

(3) What is the Relationship between The Father and The Son?

As a son should be perfectly obedient to his father, Yeshua is perfectly obedient to His Father. Yeshua is God, but as the Son, He demonstrates for us perfect obedience to God. Why else would he say that He didn't come to destroy the Law or the Prophets? He came to show us how to live out the Word that He wrote! If He would have created a new Law, then He would have been a disobedient son, a false messiah, and broken the picture of how we are to be obedient to God.

Is Yeshua God?→John 20:28; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 3:16; Titus 2:13; 2 Peter 1:1

What did Yeshua mean when He said "I and My Father are One"?→John 10:30-33; 14:7-11, 21-23

This same relationship continues into the New Heavens and New Earth→1 Corinthians 15:20-28→V. 24—"When He delivers the kingdom" and "when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power" are parallel statements. V.28—So does this mean that Yeshua goes away and is replaced with God the Father? Revelation 21:1-8→Who is the One on the throne? V.6—Who are all of these descriptions of? V.7—He will be a father to His children. Revelation 21:22-22:5→Who is giving the light? The glory of God (21:23), the Lamb (21:23), and the Lord God (22:5) V.3—How many thrones are there? V.4—How are they able to see His face?

(4) Who is Our Redeemer?

Psalms 19:14; 78:35; 103:4→Luke 5:20-21

Isaiah 41:14; 43:14; 44:6, 22; 47:4; 48:17-18; 49:7, 26; 54:5-8; 59:20; 60:16; 63:4, 16—The LORD is the Redeemer

Jeremiah 50:34—The LORD of Hosts is the Redeemer

Hosea 13:14—Who defeats death?

Luke 24:19-21—The people had the expectation that Yeshua was going to be the redeemer of Israel

(5) Who is Our Savior?

Isaiah 43:11; 45:21; Hosea 13:4—There is no Savior besides God.

So if there is no Savior but God, why is Yeshua called the Savior also?

Luke 2:11—The angel proclaimed that Yeshua was a Savior.

John 4:42—Yeshua is the Savior of the World.

Acts 5:31—Yeshua is the Savior at the right hand of God

Titus 1:3-4; 2:10, 13; 3:4, 6—Notice how it says that God is Savior and Yeshua is Savior

2 Peter 1:1—Yeshua is our great God and Savior

(6) Who is Almighty God?

Genesis 17:1—God Almighty (El Shaddai) is the one who made the covenant with Abraham

Joel 1:15—The Day of the Lord comes from the Almighty.

2 Corinthians 6:18—The Almighty is a father to His people

Revelation 1:8—Who calls Himself "the Almighty"?

Conclusion

1 Corinthians 8:6—It's clear from the scriptures that there is one God who interacts with mankind through His express image, Yeshua.