

5 – UNITY AND TRINITY OF GOD

I. The Unity of God

A. The Meaning

- The unity of God means there is but one God and that the divine nature is undivided and indivisible.

B. Only One God

- The reality that there is only one God is the great truth of the Old Testament.

Scripture Deuteronomy 4:35,39 (ESV)

³⁵ To you it was shown, that you might know that the Lord is God; there is no other besides him.
³⁹ know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.

Scripture 1 Kings 8:60 (ESV)

that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other.

- The same truth is taught in the New Testament.

Scripture John 17:3 (ESV)

And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Scripture 1 Timothy 2:5 (ESV)

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

- Because God is the only one God, he is therefore unique.

Scripture Exodus 15:11 (ESV)

“Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

C. Undivided and Indivisible

- God does not consist of parts, nor can he be divided into parts.

Scripture Deuteronomy 6:4 (ESV)

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

- The unity of God allows for the existence of personal distinctions in the divine nature, which is one.

II. The Trinity

The Call to Believe: Discovering Answers to Your Questions About God and His World

A. The Meaning

- The reality of the Trinity is revealed directly to believers.
- The term Trinity does not occur in the Bible; however, it was used in the early church.
- Trinity means there are three eternal distinctions in the one divine essence.
- Those distinctions are known as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- These three distinctions are three persons, whereby we worship the Triune God.

B. In the Old Testament

- While the unity of God is emphasized, there are hints of plurality in the Godhead.
- God uses plural pronouns and plural verbs to refer to himself.

Scripture Genesis 11:7 (ESV)

Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."

Scripture Isaiah 6:8 (ESV)

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

C. In the New Testament

- The Trinity is more clearly set forth in the New Testament.

Scripture Matthew 28:19 (ESV)

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,

- Each person of the Godhead is recognized as God and is equal to the other two persons.

Scripture 2 Corinthians 13:14 (ESV)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

- Each person is eternal.