



## SURVEY OF THEOLOGY PROPER

### *What is God Like?*

Grace Institute - Pastor Jim C. Davis

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## Lecture Ten: The Trinity – (aspects and persons)

### 1A. Definitions

- 1B. “There is one only and true God, but in unity of the Godhead there are three co-eternal and co-equal Persons, the same in substance but distinct in subsistence” (Warfield, ISBE, 5:3012)
- 2B. “Positively, the doctrine of the Trinity or better – Triunity states that there is one God who is one in essence, but three in personality. By three in personality we do not mean three independent identities or Gods, but three persons who are co-equal, co-eternal, inseparable, interdependent, and eternally united in one absolute divine being. Negatively, it does not mean there are three gods, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, which would be Tritheism, nor that there is one God, one personal divine being, who operated in three different modes, or forms. This would be true to the unity of God, but would miss the truth of the tri-personality of God. There is one divine Being, who is one in His essence, but who also exists in three Persons – thus -- Triunity is a better term than Trinity” (Dr. Randall Price, notes).
- 3B. “Within the nature of the one God, there are three persons: one called Father, one called Son, and one called Holy Spirit”

### 2A. Aspects of the Trinity

- 1B. God is one – (1 Timothy 2:5; Deut. 6:4)
- 2B. Each person of the Trinity is Deity.
- 3B. Oneness and threeness are not contradictory.

4B. All three Persons are eternal.

5B. All three Persons are the same essence (not inferior or superior to one another).

6B. The trinity is a mystery and incomprehensible.

### 3A. **GOD THE FATHER**

1B. There is a person called Father and He is called a God. 2 Peter 1:17.

2B. There is a person called Father and God. 2 John 3.

### 4A. **GOD THE SON**

#### **The Son is addressed as God.**

1B. God the Father calls the Son God. Hebrews 1:8.

2B. Thomas calls Jesus Christ his Lord and his God. Jesus did not rebuke him. John 20:28.

#### **The Son has the same names as God.**

3B. Jehovah states that His memorial name is "I AM." Exodus 3:14-15.

1C. Jesus Christ states that He is the "I AM." John 8:58.

2C. The Jews understood Jesus' claim. John 8:59.



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4B. Jehovah states that He is the “Alpha and Omega.” Revelation 1:8.

1C. The title is repeated. Revelation 22:13.

2C. Jesus Christ is identified as the “Alpha and Omega.” Revelation 22:16.

5B. Jehovah states that He is the “First and the Last...there is no God besides Me.” Isaiah 44:6.

Jesus Christ says that He is the “First and the Last.” Revelation 22:13.

#### The Son has the same attributes as God.

6B. Jehovah states: “Before Me there was no God formed, and there will be none after Me.” Isaiah 43:10.

Jesus Christ, the Word was God. John 1:1.

#### The Son is worshipped as God.

7B. Jesus Christ quotes Deut. 6:13; “You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.” Luke 4:8.

God the Father commands all the angels to worship Jesus Christ. Hebrews 1:6.

8B. **Conclusion:** There is a person who is called Son who is also called God.

5A. **GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT**

1B. Ananias lied to one called the Holy Spirit (one can lie only to a person.)  
Acts 5:3.

2B. The person called the Holy Spirit is also called God. Acts 5:4.

3B. **Conclusion:** There is a person who is called the Holy Spirit who is also called God.

6A. **Matthew 28:19-20:** Singular (name) plural (three persons).

7A. **SUMMARY:** \* A good definition of the Trinity includes:

1B. God is one in essence and unity 1 Tim. 2:5.

2B. God is three distinct persons.

3B. Each of the three persons is Deity