

THE TRIUNE NATURE OF GOD

Introduction

- 1) To man is revealed the “divine nature” of God (Rom. 1:20; see also Acts 17:29; Col. 2:9)
 - a) Greek words used that refer to “divine nature” “godhead” “divinity” “deity”
 - b) God’s full nature is revealed in creation *and* scripture (Psa. 19; Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:23)
 - c) Not only a power to be known, but someone real to be worshiped and served (Matt. 4:10)
- 2) There is one God (Deut. 6:4; Mk. 12:29), yet three who equally share this “divine nature”
- 3) This lesson will explore the triune nature of God in light of the Scriptures – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

I) **The Triune God**

- A) Old Testament allows for the concept of a triune nature of God without fully revealing it
 - 1) “Elohim” [God] is a plural noun, and plural pronouns are used [“us”] (Gen. 1:26)
 - 2) Passages imply God as more than one person (Gen. 19:24; Psa. 2:7; Isa. 9:6; Zech. 7:12)
- B) New Testament fully reveals the triune nature of God (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14)
 - 1) Father is God (Jn. 6:27); Son is God (Titus 2:13); Holy Spirit is God (Acts 5:3-4)
 - 2) “God” = “Deity” – a descriptive term of divine essence or nature (see chart on reverse side)
 - a) A plurality of personalities within a human family each share the essence of humanity
 - b) The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit each share the essence of the one deity/divine nature
 - 3) John 1:1 reveals the eternity, individuality, and deity of the Word that became flesh (the *Immanuel* “God with us”) distinct from the Father and Holy Spirit (John 20:28; Heb. 1:8,10)
 - 4) The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit relationship is fully revealed in New Testament
 - a) **Equality** of nature – **Distinction** in person, role, and subordination – **Unity** of purpose (Lk. 1:31-35; Jn. 14:26; 1 Cor. 11:3; Jn. 14:28; Jn. 15:26)

II) **Beware of False Doctrines About God**

- A) Three gods (tritheism) – *see James 2:19*
- B) Jesus is a created being – *see Colossians 1:15-17*
- C) Jesus only (Oneness) – *see Luke 3:21-22*
- D) Holy Spirit an impersonal “force” – *see Ephesians 4:30*

III) **God Is For Us!**

- A) The divine grace, love, and fellowship needed by all (2 Cor. 13:14)
 - 1) By faith in Christ we have access to all spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3; 2:18)
- B) Father – **Reconciler** (2 Cor. 5:18; Col. 1:19-20)
- C) Son – **Redeemer** (Heb. 9:11-12)
- D) Holy Spirit – **Revealer** (1 Cor. 2:9-13; Rom. 8:14-17)
- E) All things of God’s great plan of salvation work together for the eternal good of those who respond in faithful obedience to the call of Christ by the gospel (Rom. 8:28-31)

Conclusion

When we consider the greatness and love of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, we should be thankful for all that God has done and will do to save us from our sins. Submit to God’s will and obey the divine plan of salvation – hear the gospel, believe in Jesus, repent of your sins, confess Jesus as Lord, be baptized for forgiveness of sins.

