

Systematic Theology: Theology Proper

The Trinity, Part 2

What does GCBC teach?

We teach that there is but one true and living God ... one in essence, eternally existing in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—each equally deserving worship and obedience.

What has the Church throughout history taught?

The Nicene Creed (From the First Council of Nicea, 325 AD)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of the Father, Light of Light, very God of very God, only-begotten, not made, **being of one substance** with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down and was incarnate and was made man; he suffered, and the third day he rose again, ascended into heaven; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

And in the Holy Ghost.

What are we talking about?

The Essential Trinity: The Scriptures reveal One Being who is God, existing in three distinct hypostases; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each being co-equal, co-essential, and co-eternal.

Essence: The intrinsic or fundamental nature of something, that which makes something what it is.

Hypostasis: Supporting foundation, that without which something could not be.

The Economic Trinity: The way that the Persons of the Trinity have different _____ and _____ towards the world and towards one another for all eternity; the way that things are _____ within the Triune God.

What does the *Bible* say?

The Supremacy of the Father and the Submission of the Son

Psalm 2:1-6

In verse 2, the kings of the earth rebel against two beings. Who?

In verse 4, who mocks them in derision?

In verse 6, who installs the King?

Who is the Anointed One in *this* passage referring to?

Acts 4:23-27—What does this say about the *relationship* between the Son and the Father?

John 6:38; 8:28-29—What determined what Jesus did on earth? What was His role?

Matthew 26:39—How does the Son relate to the Father?

1 Corinthians 15:28

Philippians 2:5-11—What does this verse say about the relationship of the Son to the Father?

1 Corinthians 11:3—What does this tell us about roles within the Godhead?

1 Peter 1:18-21—When did the submission of the Son to the Father occur?

The Service of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit's service is to _____ out the _____ of the Father and to _____ the Son of God.

John 16:12-14

What is the context of this passage?

What does this passage say that the Spirit will do?

What does this passage say about the ordering of the Trinity?

1 Corinthians 12:3

If the Holy Spirit is guiding a person's speech, what can they not say?

How can anyone *truly* say, not just mouth the words, "Jesus is Lord"?

Acts 1:8

What two things does this verse promise that the Spirit would do in believers?

What can we say in summary about the roles and relationships in the Trinity?

How does this doctrine relate to the Gospel?

Specifically, how does the doctrine of the Trinity relate to the Gospel?

What difference does it make?

If we are made in the image of God (which we'll talk more about later this year), what does this teaching about the economic Trinity teach us about relationships with friends, work, church, family?

How should we respond?