

E2E: Pt. 2—The Trinity

Genesis 1:1-2

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1. The eternality of Jesus is fundamental to Christianity because He cannot give to us that which He does not have. (John 17:5, John 5:25)
2. Each of the three personages of the Trinity are divine. They are equal yet carry out different roles—especially in the work of redemption. (Philippians 2:6-8)
3. What the Son has is the Father's. What the Father has is also freely the Son's. What the Spirit does is in concert with the Father & Son. (John 14:26, John 16:7, John 16:13-15, Acts 2:44-45)
4. The use of the plural word “Elohim” does not prove a tri-unity, but it opens the door to a doctrine of plurality. (Exodus 20:3, 2 Samuel 7:23, Psalm 58:11)
5. Genesis 1:2 introduces one of the members of the Trinity—The ‘Elohim’ of Genesis 1:1 is personified in verse 2 as the Spirit of God.
6. The Trinity is at the outset of scripture working in complement to each other, bringing about creation for our benefit, working on our behalf, in order to bring glory to God and build the cradle of life for their greatest creation – you.
7. The inter-dependent relationship among the members of the Trinity is the model for believers. (John 3:16)

HEBREW WORDS

Elohiym (el-o-heem´); plural, specifically used (in the plural) of the supreme God

Merachaphet (me-raw-khaf´t); primitive root; to brood; by implication, to be relaxed:—flutter – to hover

QUOTES

“The more knowledge we have of God from the Bible, the more of His reality we grasp, and the more mysteries we see. The benefit of increasing mystery this way is that what we do know gives direction to what we don’t know. We do not wonder if the mystery we don’t grasp contains a sinister God, because what we do grasp directs us away from that speculation.” ~**Dr. John Piper**

“Under the Old Testament, the church of God was not told near so much about the Trinity as they are now; but what the New Testament has revealed, though it has more opened to our view the nature of God, yet it has increased the number of visible mysteries and things that appear to us exceeding wonderful and incomprehensible.” ~**Jonathan Edwards - 1758 (Writings, 139-140)**

“If we fashion our relationships after the Trinity, we can live without drama and competition. Two believers, with completely different roles, can contribute to the whole, and not feel like one is winning and the other is losing.” ~**Pastor Rich Bruce**

QUESTIONS & RECOMMENDED READING

1. As you read the New Testament, do you find it mentioning or referring to the Trinity? Does Jesus refer specifically to the Trinity?
(Matthew 28:19)
2. Jesus prayed to the Father while on earth, and even now serves as our high priest (Hebrews 7:25), interceding for us. Does this imply a subordinate relationship with the Father still today, or was that only during His time here on Earth?
3. The doctrine of the Trinity demonstrates each member of the Trinity participates in every action of the Godhead. Some examples of this are the creation, the baptism of Jesus, and salvation. What involvement do you find in the Bible which shows the Trinity involved in the (1) revelation of God to believers, (2) worship of God by the body, (3) prayer by individuals?
4. Can you identify some of the characteristics or ‘fruits’ the Bible says belongs specifically to God the Spirit? (Hint: one is gentleness) – what other fruits can you list?
5. Have you personally seen these character traits of the Spirit exhibited in your life? If so, how has it strengthened your personal walk as a Christ follower? Have any of these ‘Fruits’ of the Spirit allowed you to represent Christ better to your social circle?

Recommended reading- Ruach Hakodesh (God the Holy Spirit) by Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum
Available from Ariel Ministries.org

SONG TITLES

In the Sweet By and By - **Traditional**
O Come to the Altar - **Elevation Worship**
Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus - **Traditional**
Graves Into Gardens - **Elevation Worship**