

## The Holy Trinity

Why would you name a church *Holy Trinity*?

The specific words *Trinity* and *triune* are not found in the Bible, but the *Trinity* is a biblical teaching.

The New Testament Greek Scriptures teach the Trinity much more explicitly.

The Old Testament Hebrew Scriptures teach a oneness of God:

*Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.* (Deuteronomy 6:4)

*I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.* (Isaiah 42:8)

*I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no Savior.* (Isaiah 43:11)

The Old Testament Scriptures also include plurals and separate persons in reference to God:

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."* (Genesis 1:26)

*"Come, let us go down and there confuse their language..."* (Genesis 11:7)

*The LORD bless you and keep you;*

*the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;*

*the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.* (Numbers 6:24-26)

*Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!* (Isaiah 6:3)

*The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.* (Genesis 1:2)

*Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.* (Psalm 51:11)

*The Spirit of the LORD speaks by me; his word is on my tongue.* (2 Samuel 23:2)

*I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."* (Psalm 2:7)

*The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."* (Psalm 110:1)

The New Testament Scriptures especially teach the Trinity. Why do you think that is?

The baptism of Jesus gives a definitive example of the three-ness of the one God:

*When Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."*

(Matthew 3:16-17)

Jesus clearly taught the three-ness of the one God when he commanded baptism for all nations:

*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...* (Matthew 28:19)

Jesus spoke about the works of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

*The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.* (John 14:26)

*When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.* (John 15:26)

The New Testament writers have multiple references to the triune God.

Note the work of God which is connected to each passage:

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. (Romans 8:11)*

work of God:

*It is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)*

work of God:

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

*There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)*

work of God:

*But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14)*

work of God:

*But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (Titus 3:4-7)*

work of Father:

work of Son:

work of Holy Spirit:

*By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. (1 John 4:13-14)*

work of God:

*Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. (Revelation 1:4-5)*

(In Revelation chapters 4 and 5, John saw one seated on the throne in heaven. Before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God. Around the throne he saw four living creatures, each with six wings, and they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" John also saw a Lamb, looking as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.)