



**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis  
February 5, 2012  
**"The God You Long For"**

## desert breeze community church

### Matthew 28:16-20 "Is Triune"

The term Trinity is not found in the Bible but the concept is clearly there and the implications are stunningly beautiful.

#### **What is & isn't the Trinity?**

The Trinity is that God is one in essence and three in person.  
(It is a paradox but not a contradiction)

There are three parts to the doctrine of the Trinity:

- 1) There is one God. (v19 in the name (not names); Gen.1:1; Deut.6:4-5; John 5:44; Rom. 3:30)
- 2) God is three persons. (v19 Father, Son & Holy Spirit; Matt.3:16-17; Gen.1:26; Rom. 1:7; 1Cor.1:3; Eph. 6:23)
- 3) Each person is fully God. (Father-John 17:3, 2Cor.1:3; Son-vv17, 19 John1:1; Holy Spirit- Acts 5:3-4, 2Cor.3:16-18)

Errors come from denying any of those three parts:

- 1) Modalism is one person appearing in three different forms (or "Modes"). i.e. Oneness Pentecostalism
- 2) Arianism denies the deity of Jesus and that he is the highest created being of God. i.e. JW's
- 3) Tritheism teaches that the trinity consists of three equal, independent, and autonomous beings, each of whom is divine. i.e. Mormonism

#### **Why we should believe it?** V17

- 1) Jesus' greatness (Deity) overwhelmed them. (John 1; Col. 1, Heb. 1, Rev. 1)
- 2) His resurrection validated His deity. (New Testament; Book of Acts; 1Cor. 15)

#### **What difference does it make?**

- 1) Without the trinity you have no Gospel (Salvation). (v19 Father, Son & Holy Spirit; Rom.8:3-4, 15-17; Eph. 1:3-14)

- 2) Loving relationships are more important than great accomplishments. (John 1:18; John 16:14; 1John 4:8)
- 3) Serving is more important than being served. (Mark 10:35-45)
- 4) God created us not to get joy from us but to give joy to us. (John 17:20-24)
- 5) He (Jesus) was abandoned so that you never will be. (Luke 22:44; Mark 15:34; 2Cor. 5:21; John 3:16)



# Growing

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- 1) The term Trinity is not found in the Bible but the concept is clearly there and the implications are stunningly beautiful. Are you able to defend this essential Christian doctrine from Scripture & show how it applies to our everyday life?
  
- 2) Read Matthew 28:16-20. What is the Trinity & what are the three parts? What errors come from denying any of those three parts to the Trinity & what cults are associated with each one?
  
- 3) Besides the fact that the concept of the Trinity is throughout Scripture (See verses on sermon notes for the three parts of the Trinity). How does this text (particularly verse 17) give proof of the Trinity and what two reasons does it give us to believe it?
  
- 4) Without the Trinity you have no Gospel (Salvation). Reflect on the implications of removing any member of the Trinity i.e. the plan of the Father, sacrifice of the Son or the indwelling Holy Spirit (v19; Rom.8:3-4, 15-17; Eph. 1:3-14). Why is it important to not emphasize any member of the trinity to the exclusion of the other two?
  
- 5) If this world was made by a Triune God than loving relationships is what life is all about & serving is more important than being served. Explain. If God already had perfect joy in himself, why did He create us? How does the Trinitarian mutual self-giving love for all eternity show us the cost of the cross for us? He was abandoned so that you never would be. Explain. Pray.