

Sermon Title: One God, Three Persons

by: Alan Hannah

Scripture: [Matthew 7:24-27 NLT] - *“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.”*”

Main Idea: The God we worship is not who the world says He is and getting that right is where everything else begins.

There is one God. He has existed eternally as three distinct persons- Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The word *trinity* is not in the Bible. It is simply a word coined to express the theology reflected in Scripture to affirm **THE FATHER IS GOD. THE SON IS GOD. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD. AND THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD.** This is what Scripture teaches us about God from Genesis to Revelation.

There are ways in which people get their theology wrong: Modalism (water, steam, and ice), Tritheism (egg, white, and yolk), treating the Holy Spirit as “it” rather than “He”.

The Trinity is the dividing line between the God of the Bible and every other substitute.

- 1. The Trinity defines who we are.**
- 2. The Trinity reshapes how we pray.**
- 3. The Trinity is the basis of Christian community.**

Group Discussion Questions

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WARM-UPS

1. How was your Easter celebration? Did you have time with family? Do you think Spring has finally arrived?
2. What do you think of the new series “Firm Foundation”? Have you ever studied theology in depth? Where did you learn most of your theology? Does the word “theology” sound too religious or scary?

DISCUSSION

1. Is your belief system built on the firm foundation? What challenges you about this teaching of the Unity of God, the Trinity? Have you heard any of the examples Pastor mentioned to explain the “three in one” teaching about God? Does this lead you to more questions?
2. As Pastor described Modalism, Tritheism, or calling the Holy Spirit “It”, did you recognize any of these? Have you thought of God that way? How has your definition of Trinity changed with this teaching?
3. How does Trinity reshape your prayers? Do you recognize the Triune God’s involvement in your daily life? When you pray do you recognize that Jesus gives you access to the Father through the Holy Spirit?
4. Here at ACAC we talk a lot about diversity. How does this diversity help illustrate the unity of the Trinity? Are you experiencing the unity of God in your church experience?

IN THE WORD

Genesis 1:1	Genesis 1:26	2 Corinthians 13:14	John 16:7
Deuteronomy 6:4	Genesis 11:7	Jude 20-21	1 Corinthians 12:4-6
Matthew 28:19	Isaiah 6:8	1 John 2:1	Ephesians 4:4-6
John 1:1-5	Matthew 3:16-17	Hebrews 7:25	1 Peter 1:2

PRACTICE

- Work on memorizing the Nicene Creed