



# Lecture 1

## The Trinity

### THE GODHEAD IN THREE PERSONS:

#### 1) THE FATHER,

#### 2) THE WORD, the only begotten SON, CHRIST JESUS,

#### 3) THE HOLY SPIRIT

*'Begotten' means "brought into existence by or as if by a parent". A somewhat old-fashioned adjective, **begotten** is from the verb "beget," which means to father or produce as offspring.*

#### **God is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent.**

According to the roles of the Godhead in Scripture, these characteristics point to:

**God the Father** (omnipotent), God the Father is all powerful,

**God the Word/Son** (omniscient) God the Son/the Word is all-knowing, wisdom, the spoken creative Word.

**God the Holy Spirit** (omnipresent). The Holy Spirit is everywhere, He indwells every believer. He moved over the surface of the waters.

Genesis 1:1-5 NASB

**"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth[THE FATHER]**

**The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.[THE HOLY SPIRIT]**

**Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.[THE SPOKEN WORD] God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day."**

*In Genesis 1:1 the Hebrew plural noun "Elohim" is used. The word "Elohim" and the pronoun "us" are plural forms, definitely referring in the Hebrew language to more than two. While this is not an explicit argument for the Trinity, it does highlight the plurality in God. The Hebrew word for "God," "Elohim," definitely allows for the Trinity.*

1 Corinthians 8:6

**"yet to us there is one God, the Father, out from whom as a source are all things and we for Him, and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whose intermediate agency all things exist and we through Him."**

1 Timothy 2:5

**"for there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, a Man, Christ Jesus"**

Deuteronomy 6:4

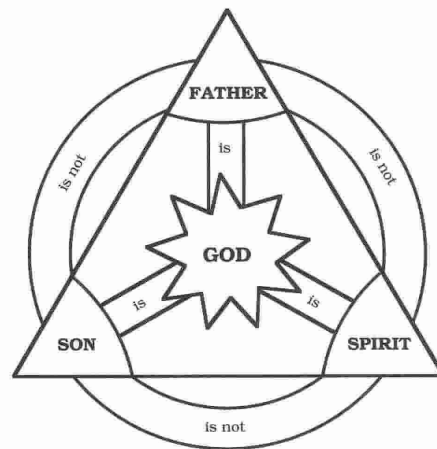
**"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!"**

John 14:9-11

“Jesus says to Him, Such a long time I am with you, yet you have not come to have an experiential knowledge of me, Philip? He who has discerningly seen me has seen the Father with discernment. How is it that you, you are saying, Show us the Father at once?<sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me? The words which I am speaking to you, not from myself as a source am I speaking. But the Father who in me is abiding, He is doing His works.<sup>11</sup> Be believing me, that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me. But if not, because of the works themselves be believing”

Many Christians lack a correct understanding of the doctrine of the Trinity. This becomes a barrier to faith or growth.

The Son is Jesus, Jesus is the Word. We have now the second Person of the Godhead being The Word of God and also Man/God. The Man (Jesus) is God and The Word is Jesus. All in one person.



As we study this difficult subject, we need to know how important it is for every Christian to understand the Godhead (Trinity) according to Scripture. God has given us just enough information within Scripture for us to at least gain a glimpse into this amazing mystery. When we contemplate the universe, the galaxies, the solar system, the complexity of our world and life on our planet, we soon recognise **our brain is much too small and limited to embrace the unlimited greatness of our God and His creation.**

Since God is not bound to time, He can see both the beginning and the end. To bring us salvation, God placed Himself within the confines of time: Jesus, born of a virgin who herself was His creation, walked on earth, **entering our times to fulfil the Law. Imagine this: the “timeless” God entering our time.**

In the New Testament, inspired by the Holy Spirit and addressed to us believers, God relates to us in connection with Jesus, our mediator, the Man/God. We can only receive God’s Word through Jesus by the Holy Spirit. Without being born again by faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus, we cannot have the Holy Spirit indwelling us.

Genesis 1:26-27 NASB

“Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”<sup>27</sup> God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

God - the name of the Supreme Being - signifying in Hebrew, "Strong," or "Mighty." It is expressive of omnipotent power; and by its use here in the plural form, is unfolded at the opening of the Bible, a doctrine clearly revealed in other parts of Scripture, namely, that though God is one, there is a plurality of persons in the Godhead--Father, Word/Son, and Spirit, who were engaged in the creative work.