

Is the Trinity a Biblical Doctrine?

Read this article online here:

<http://www.creationliberty.com/articles/trinity.php>

Author: Christopher J. E. Johnson

Updated: August 17, 2016

I have received a surprising number of emails over the years from people saying that the "Trinity" is unbiblical. There is some deception surrounding this term 'trinity' that needs to be unraveled, so please be patient with me as we go through this. Whether you currently believe in a "Trinity" doctrine or not, I ask that you just consider the Scripture on this topic.

He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

-Proverbs 18:13

First, we need to define what the word 'trinity' means, which is similar to the word 'unity' in that the prefix 'uni' means 'one' and 'tri' means 'three.' Any standard dictionary will define "Trinity" as the Godhead (Father, Son, Holy Ghost) as one divine entity, but a more standard definition simply defines 'trinity' as "a group of three." As far as I'm aware, the word 'trinity' is never used in Holy Scripture (i.e. the King James Bible).

(Read "Why I Use The King James Bible" here at [creationliberty.com](http://www.creationliberty.com) for more details.)

Although I have used the term 'trinity' in the past, over the years I have made effort to avoid using that term, and I'll explain why later. (This article could be called "The Trinity vs God in Three Persons.") First, I want to demonstrate that, despite the efforts of cultists to deceive many, the Scripture *DOES* talk about the Lord God being represented in three persons.

Many church-goers don't take the time to study Scripture out in its entirety, preferring keyword searches that they falsely call "study," and in lazy fashion, they search for a singular verse that directly says "God has revealed Himself in three persons." The fallacy of this thinking is that there are many concepts in the Bible, aspects of God in particular, that are not mentioned directly in Scripture, but are taught in the Bible when we take precept upon precept, line upon line. In fact, the Lord God has revealed that He has purposefully designed His Word like this so that those who are not of Him, and not given His understand and wisdom to know the Word, will not be able to see certain doctrines.

But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

-Isaiah 28:13

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away... Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

-2 Timothy 3:5-7

There are many terms used to describe the Lord God that are not directly stated in Scripture. For example, the word 'omnipresent' is used to describe God as being at all places, at all times, at the same time, and we have to use various verses to reason out this conclusion:

Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

-Pslam 139:7-12

These verses give us understanding that no height or depth, nor light or darkness, can hide us from the view of God. In conjunction, the prophets revealing the Word of God for future events shows us that God is outside of time, and combined, we can reason out that God is omnipresent, even though the Bible never directly says "God is omnipresent."

There are quite a few definitions of words in the Bible that require comparing Scripture with Scripture to gain a full understanding. I have already demonstrated this with words like 'charity' and 'love', and even the concept of the "Christian work ethic" is not directly mentioned, but must be reasoned through the use of multiple verses of Scripture.

(Read "The Biblical Understanding of Charity," "False Doctrine: Learn to Love Yourself," and "The Christian Work Ethic" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Let's begin to address the doctrine of God in three persons by using Scripture to connect the Lord God (Father) to the Lord Jesus Christ (Son).

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

-Isaiah 9:6

The child, who is Lord Jesus Christ, is directly called "the Father." That alone should be enough to prove the point, but we can keep going:

My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one.

-John 10:29-30

Many have questioned how the Father can be greater than the Son if they are one.

Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

-John 14:28

The Lord Jesus Christ, who is God the Father, was less than the Father while he was in the flesh because He humbled Himself to the form of a man for the purpose of fulfilling the prophecy of the Messiah. After He returned to the Father, He was then again equal to the Father because they are one, but whether or not we fully understand this is not a requirement for believing its true.

And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

-Luke 7:16

Giving thanks unto the Father... Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son... For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth... all things were created by him, and for him:

-Colossians 1:12-16

This passage in Colossians tells us that the Son, Jesus Christ, is the creator of all things, and if we look in Genesis 1, it is God the Father who created all things. This is because God the Father and Christ the Son are one.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

-Genesis 1:1

The Bible tells us that God Himself purchased the church with His own blood:

For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

-Acts 20:27-28

This ought to be more than enough, but let's finish it off by showing the connection between Christ and God in the last chapter of the Bible:

Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

-Revelation 22:7

Who is coming quickly?

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

-Revelation 22:12-13

Who is the Alpha and Omega?

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

-Revelation 1:8

So the Almighty Lord God, who extends beyond time, space, and matter, is the one who is called the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, in verse 13. In verse 16, the Almighty God, who is speaking, says:

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

-Revelation 22:16

The fact of the matter is if you are one that denies that Christ and God are one and the same after reading these verses, you are a willfully blind heretic because this could not be clearer. For the rest of you who do believe these verses, that's wonderful, and we will continue to demonstrate more interesting connections between God the Father and the Holy Ghost.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and Scripture tells us whose child Mary was carrying:

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

-Matthew 1:18-20

In these verses, it is a simple logical conclusion that God the Father and the Holy Ghost are the same. God the Father and the Holy Spirit are used interchangeably in many places throughout the Bible. For example, in Psalm 69, David spoke prophecy concerning Judas Iscariot, in which he said:

Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap.

-Psalm 69:22

And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:

-Romans 11:9

The Psalms were written down by the inspiration of the Lord God, but also note that the Bible tells us it was the Holy Ghost that authored this prophecy:

Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

-Acts 1:16

Scripture tells us that Christ has given authority unto certain men in the church (i.e. the elders) to oversee things, but the Bible also says the Holy Ghost has made the elders overseers:

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

-Acts 20:28

The Holy Spirit teaches the truth of the Word, giving understand of it:

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

-1 Corinthians 2:13

It is common for cultists, like Jehovah's Witnesses for example, to equate the Holy Spirit to some mindless energy or force, but not the Spirit of God Himself. Yet, we've already seen that the Holy Ghost providing prophecy, giving authority, and teaching to the church, which authority (i.e. power) rests with God alone.

(Read "Corruptions of Christianity: Jehovah's Witness" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

-Matthew 28:19

We are to be baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, which means the Holy Ghost is not just some concept of energy. He has a name, and is another form of God Himself. I've heard some heretics claim that the Holy Ghost is not a name for God, but this verse clearly states that the Holy Ghost is a name and is equivalent to the Father and the Son. These are not three separate gods; this is One God who presents Himself in three distinct persons.

For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

-Malachi 3:6

The Lord God has always been three distinct persons from before the creation (i.e. outside of time). Sadly, many of those church-goers who believe God is in three persons do so because of a common hymn that is sung (i.e. "Holy, Holy, Holy"), which says at the end "*God in three persons, blessed trinity,*" but most of them could not recall any Scripture to provide backing for that knowledge. (i.e. They're just following tradition instead of gaining understanding, and I hope the information in this teaching can help remedy that.)

The heretics often claim that the Lord God is not revealed in three persons in any place in the Old Testament, but I firmly disagree. To get a foundation for the Lord God being in three persons, let's go back to Genesis:

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

-Genesis 1:26

The word 'us' is a first person plural that refers to more than one person here, and though many cultists want to try and speculate some other entities, like angels for example, mankind was not made in the image of angels. God is (and could only be) talking to Himself in His three persons, and though we struggle to understand that concept, our understanding of it is not a prerequisite to believe it.

The Lord God revealed these three persons to Abraham in Gen 18:

And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

-Genesis 18:1

Before continuing, I want to point out that He is referred to here as *THE* (singular) Lord. This is important as we read the next verse:

And he [i.e. Abraham] lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

-Genesis 18:2

The Lord is now appearing to Abraham in three persons. Even though multiple men would be called under a plural name, notice that Abraham calls them by *SINGULAR* pronouns:

And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee,

from thy servant:

-Genesis 18:3

The words "thy" and "thee" are second person singular, meaning Abraham is looking at three men and addressing them as one Lord. The three men are referred to as "they" to distinguish who is speaking in verse 9 because both the three and Abraham were speaking in that verse, but in the next verse, when the three address Abraham, the three are referred to as "he:"

And they [i.e. the three] said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he [i.e. Abraham] said, Behold, in the tent. And he [i.e. the three] said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

-Genesis 18:9-10

This is another reason I urge Christians to use the King James Bible. New-age versions are taking out the "thee" and "thou" words from the Bible, but these words are not in there for poetic flair; they have meaning which helps present the context of the verse.

(Read "What's with the thees, thous, eths, and ests?" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

God was revealing Himself unto Abraham as the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost all in one. Some people may be confused by this, not understanding that the Holy Ghost was active in the Old Testament. Just because the Holy Spirit had not been sent down by Christ for the express purpose of teaching the New Testament church, does not mean the Holy Spirit was not active prior to that point:

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

-2 Peter 1:20-21

The prophets of the Old Testament Scripture were given understanding by the Holy Ghost, and these books of the Bible are attributed to God's Words:

Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken...

-Isaiah 1:2

To whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah...

-Jeremiah 1:2

The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea...

-Hosea 1:1

The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

-Joel 1:1

Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Damascus...

-Amos 1:3

The Holy Ghost and the Lord God are directly connected to each other, just as Christ the Son and God the Father are directly connected to each other, and these three persons are shown to Abraham very early in Scripture. If some cultic organizations out there want to deny this, that's their business; I'm not responsible for what they teach--I simply want Christians to have a Biblical foundation for what they believe, not just believing something because they were told by the tradition of men to believe it. If we just believe what we're told without gaining a foundational understanding, it is much easier for us to be fooled by heretics seeking to cast doubt on the Word of God.

Sadly, many church-goers have no understanding of how easy it is to be deceived. They commonly think there is no significance in having Scriptural foundation in belief (i.e. they just trust their pastors), but it is through the traditions of men that the Word of God can be nullified in the ears of those who need to hear.

Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

-Mark 7:13

This is not to say that tradition is wrong when that tradition's foundation is on the Word of God, but when tradition itself becomes the foundation, without knowledge of the Word to back it up, how are we supposed to answer men?

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

-1 Peter 3:15

If we answer men with tradition rather than Biblical understanding, who will men then follow as their foundation for knowledge and understanding? Do we as born-again Christians want men to follow the Word of God first or follow tradition first? We can easily spoil men by giving them the traditions of men, thereby building up the rudiments of the world (i.e. the first teachings of the world) as their foundation, rather than Christ.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

-Colossians 2:8

Now let's get to why I have begun to avoid using the term "Trinity," and stick with the phrase "God in three persons." The problem is that the term "Trinity" was so named by the Catholic Church, and (as we have seen in our expose on Catholicism) the Catholic Church is actually a pagan religion.

(Read "Corruptions of Christianity: Catholicism" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

The "triune" gods or goddesses is a strictly pagan aspect, and their concept of a triple-god or triple-goddess is of three separate gods joined as one, which is very different from what the Bible says about the True Living God. This 30-year veteran pagan/wiccan author describes the "triune" gods of their heathen religions:

"Sometimes, you'll see deities referred to with the word triune here at About Paganism/Wicca. A triune god or goddess is simply a deity with three different but connected aspects. An example of this would be Brighid, the Celtic hearth goddess. In addition to being a goddess of the home and domesticity, she is also a goddess of the smith's fire and artisanship, and of healing and diving inspiration. In Brighid's case, each of these three aspects are still called Brighid. Some triune deities, however, have three uniquely named aspects that comprise the whole. In Greek legend, although they are individual entities, Artemis and Selene form a triad with Hecate, representative of the maiden, mother and crone."

-Patti Wigington, "What is a Triune Deity?" *About.com: Religion*, Oct 12, 2015, retrieved Aug 9, 2016,

[paganwiccan.about.com/od/glossary/fl/What-is-a-Triune-Deity.htm]; Wigington is a witch high priestess (licensed Pagan clergy in the state of Ohio) and has had her writings published across many popular pagan platforms over the past ten years.

There are some church-goers who have seen such statements about the pagan gods and goddesses and quickly abandoned the Biblical concept of God in three persons. They correctly criticize the pagan origins of a "Trinity" out of the bowels of the Catholic cult, but then incorrectly deny God in three persons. There's no need to throw the baby out with the bath water, and this misunderstanding has caused a lot of undue debate.

Christians often talk past each other because of this word "Trinity." On the one hand, we see church-goers denying God's three persons, and on the other, we see church-goers defending the Trinity, but **both parties are in error because one side is rejecting Biblical doctrine, and the other is defending paganism.**

Though the Catholic Church has claimed to believe in the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, their true goddess is a pagan concept they have named "Mary," which is *NOT* the Mary of Scripture. As the triple goddess of witchcraft is claimed to be maiden, mother, and crone, the "Mary" goddess of the Catholics is presented as a virgin, mother, and queen of heaven, and Catholics are expected to pray to her first and foremost.

(Read "Idolatry & Mary" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

This trinitarian nature of "Mary" is taught by one of the largest Catholic publications, *Our Sunday Visitor*, in a book called *Mary: Virgin, Mother, and Queen: A Bible Study Guide for Catholics*. As a side note for Catholics, the author, Mitch Pacwa, is a Catholic authority, who lectures at the Catholic St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, and appears frequently on Eternal Word Television Network, a strictly Catholic TV channel.

(See Mitch Pacwa, *Mary: Virgin, Mother, and Queen: A Bible Study Guide for Catholics*, *Our Sunday Visitor*, 2014, ISBN: 9781612787152)

Author David Kinsley, professor of religious studies, has a chapter of his book called "Mary: Virgin, Mother, and Queen," which says:

"According to the Christian [i.e. Catholic] teaching and tradition, the Virgin Mary is not divine; she is not a goddess... In comparison with the goddesses we have considered earlier, and in comparison with many other goddesses we have not mentioned, however, Mary appears very much a goddess, and a very popular and powerful one at that. As will be seen, Mary has the characteristics of many goddesses (such as omniscience, omnipotence, immortality) and plays many of the roles associated with goddesses (such as savior, protector, promoter of fertility)."

-David Kinsley, *The Goddesses' Mirror: Visions of the Divine from East and West*, SUNY Press, 1989, p. 215, ISBN: 9780887068362

Kinsley then goes on to provide a large amount of Catholic documentation to prove that, despite what a Catholic wants to claim about Mary, the Marian concept is taken straight out of pagan lore. Not only is their Mary goddess pagan, but Kinsley also proves from historical Catholic documentation that she is given the three aspects of the triple goddesses of witches.

Most church-goers are familiar with a variety of pagan traditions (e.g. **Christmas & Easter**), but few seem to understand the fact that they are pagan. Let's take a look at what the pagan concept of the trinity is, and then compare it with what we know about God in three persons:

"We can understand this trinity better if we compare it to the three stages of human life: youth and puberty, adulthood, and old age. Since the Goddess's power is all encompassing, She will present aspects that speak to all humans, regardless of their age... The first Goddess aspect is the Maiden. This phase holds the matrix of creation, which will produce and

crate when the time is ripe... *The Maiden, sometimes called the Virgin or the Huntress, represents the Spring of the year... The second Goddess aspect is the Mother. This is the matrix in motion, the archetype involved in active creation... The last aspect is the Crone, also called the Dark Mother, the Old Wise One, or the Hag. Since this aspect symbolizes death and dissolution, it is frightening to many people... She is a single archetype plus a trinity of aspects makes Her very complex.*"

-D.J. Conway, *Wicca: The Complete Craft*, Potter/TenSpeed/Harmony, 2011, p. 53-54, ISBN: 9780307785893; Conway is an honorary member of the Council of Elders of the Society of Celtic Shamans, and she has studied/written about new-age religions and witchcraft for more than 40 years.

Again, as we read from Scripture earlier (Mal 3:6), the Lord God does not change, but the trinitarian pagan gods and goddesses do change, and this includes the Catholic "Mary" as their wicked teachings relate her stages of life as well. The pagan gods are given the aspects of men; pagan gods reflect their true creators, mankind, worshipping them instead of God, and Catholics are no different.

These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes.

-Psalm 50:21

This is why there is so much argumentation going back and forth about the concept of the "Trinity" being pagan in origin. The difference between paganism and the Bible is that there is only one God who has revealed himself in three persons, but in Paganism, the goddess represents the source of all gods and goddesses, and she has "phases" in which she changes into different aspects.

Now I want to switch gears and take a look at the Pentecostal church, and the reason I'm focusing on them is because, not only do Pentecostals deny that God is in three persons, but they also condemn others to hell for believing it. The official United Church of God (Pentecostal) website says:

"The belief that God is three persons—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—coexisting in one being is how the trinity doctrine is often defined. But the word trinity appears nowhere within the pages of the Bible. You can not cling to long-held religious traditions if they contradict the Scriptures. Your beliefs must rest solidly on the teachings of the Holy Bible."

-United Church of God, "Is God a Trinity?" retrieved Aug 12, 2016, [<http://bit.ly/2aPOq79>]

This anonymous author used a strawman argument by baiting the reader in, saying "God is three persons," and then calling that the trinity doctrine. He specifically used the phrase "God *IS* three persons," but that's not what we believe; we believe God *IN* three persons, because we believe there is only one God, so he starts off misrepresenting what Christians believe because he is trying as hard as he can to make it seem like they are pagans.

Then, the author makes a true statement that "*the word trinity appears nowhere*" in the Bible. That's correct, however, he then automatically concludes that because the *WORD* 'trinity' is not found in the Bible, therefore, God in three persons is not to be believed; this is the deception of the Pentecostal church, and if you do research on your own, you'll see this same fallacious argument appear over and over. I am in agreement against the term "Trinity," but the Scripture is so crystal clear on the direct connection between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and I was curious to check out the opposing arguments, so let's look at a few of those.

Blog author Mike Gantt of the website "blogforthelordjesuscurrentevents.com," claims that God in three persons is anti-biblical:

"Most notably, the doctrine of the Trinity is at odds with the Bible's emphasis on Christ. Where the Bible is constantly drawing attention to Christ, the Trinity is constantly saying that the Son must share the spotlight with the Father and the Holy Spirit. For example, the Bible quotes the Father as saying, "Listen to My Son" (Matthew 17:5), the Holy Spirit will not speak of Himself but only of Jesus (John 16:13-14), and yet Jesus says that His own words are the determining factor in the outcome of a person's life (Luke 6:46-49). There is no doubt that in the Bible, all eyes point to Christ. Trinitarians, by contrast, are uncomfortable letting Jesus so singularly stand out."

-Mike Gantt, "The Trinity Is Not Only Unbiblical - It's AntiBiblical," Aug 18, 2011, retrieved Aug 14, 2016, [blogforthelordjesuscurrentevents.com/2011/08/18/the-trinity-is-not-only-unbiblical-its-antibiblical]

This is another example of the type of author I've warned readers about in the past, where they give references but don't quote the actual verses. In the end, he uses the wicked and corrupt NASV for his source of doctrine, but temporarily putting aside the leaven for the sake of argument, let's read these from God's preserved Word:

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

-Matthew 17:5

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

-John 16:13-15

And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

-Luke 6:46

Luke 6:46 is a great verse, and I have used it a number of times when pointing out certain commandments, but I would also urge Christians to beware of people who use this verse in relation to doctrinal statements. (That includes beware me as well!) I have many times seen this verse used as a justification for false doctrine, just as we saw Gantt use it in the same manner, attempting to intimidate or bully people into following his beliefs, rather than simply using sound Scriptural arguments. (i.e. There was no reason to add Luke 6:46 onto the end of his statement.)

Gantt then says, "*There is no doubt that in the Bible, all eyes point to Christ.*" I agree; however, remember that often the problem with these preachers is not what they're teaching, but what they're *NOT* teaching, and there was some Scripture Gantt left out of his writing:

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

-Philippians 2:5

First, we need to recognize that what follows is the mindset we should have, and that it was also the mindset of Christ Himself.

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

-Philippians 2:6-8

So the context so far is that we ought to humble ourselves to understand that outside of the Lord God, we are less than dust. God Himself came to us humbled as a man, and there is no greater form of humility than that.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

-Philippians 2:9-10

So these verses, thus far, have supported Gantt's statements about everything pointing to Christ, but now look at what Gantt missed:

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

-Philippians 2:11

God the Father has given the Lord Jesus Christ the name that is above every name, that all mankind will bow to Him, but the end goal is to glorify God the Father. The reason for this is because the Holy Ghost, the Son, and the Father is one God. Furthermore, God being in three persons allows the Lord Jesus Christ to receive glory for the creation, the law, the prophets, and everything throughout the Bible, not just particular sections of it.

Even though I'm not a "trinitarian" because I do not agree with the word "trinity" to refer to the Godhead of Scripture, Gantt is addressing Christians like me when he says, "*Trinitarians, by contrast, are uncomfortable letting Jesus so singularly stand out.*" This is a strawman argument, meaning that he's setting up a strawman and attacking it. I challenge anyone to go into the teachings we have on our website and see if you think I'm "uncomfortable" giving Christ glory; this is a deceptive tactic used by a man who is more interested in justifying his pet doctrine than understanding the truth of Scripture.

David Sulem, author of the blog "godspanforall.com," makes the claim that God in three persons is antichrist: *"The Trinity is in fact an antichrist doctrine... It is very easy to prove that the doctrine of the Trinity is a false, unbiblical and man-invented doctrine. Firstly, the doctrine of the Trinity is not found in any Hebrew or Greek Scriptures, and the word Trinity is not mentioned anywhere in the Bible."*

-David Sulem, "How And Why The Trinity Is False And Unbiblical," *God's Plan For All*, retrieved Aug 14, 2016, [godspanforall.com/antichristchristianity]

Again, the argument is that because the Bible doesn't use the word 'trinity,' which makes sense because that's a pagan concept, does not automatically mean that God in three persons is "*antichrist*." The Bible does not use the word omniscient, so does that automatically mean the doctrine of the Lord God being all-knowing is antichrist? Of course not, that's not logical or reasonable, and we can deduce God's omniscient (all-knowing) nature through various verses in Scripture. These types of arguments are ludicrous, in which men are looking to mankind's terminology for their foundation, arguing for or against the terminology, rather than looking at the doctrine of Scripture for their foundation. (NOTE: There are times to point out the error in terms, but it is more important foundationally for a Christian to define what they mean by the terms they use, and it is critically important to make sure those terms rest on Biblical ground.)

Though I give credit to Sulem for writing out the Scripture word for word, he relies on the corrupt NKJV, so his authority on the matter is watered down. He's also a man who teaches people they need to learn the original Hebrew and original Greek, or they can't know the Word of God, and his worldly foundation on new-age scholarship seeps through in his words; this is especially seen if you read more of his teachings in which he attempts to rip out certain verses of Scripture that don't agree with his person beliefs. (e.g. Mat 28:19 connects the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but Sulem claims this verse is a "*fraud*.")

(Read "Why I Use The King James Bible" & "Dangers in Using Lexicons and Concordances" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Sulem continues:

"Secondly, many times, the Bible says that the Son sits at His Father's right hand, but nowhere does it say that the Holy Spirit sits next to the Father, or the Son, because there is no third Person of God in heaven or on earth."

-David Sulem, "How And Why The Trinity Is False And Unbiblical," *God's Plan For All*, retrieved Aug 14, 2016, [godspanforall.com/antichristchristianity]

First of all, I'd like to point out that the expectation of the Holy Spirit needing to sit next to the Father is an assumption. The point he's making is that he believes the Holy Spirit is not given a seat of honor as Christ is, but I strongly disagree with that because there is an unforgivable sin concerning the Holy Ghost:

Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewithsoever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

-Mark 3:29

Men can blaspheme God and Christ, but they do not allow anyone to blaspheme the Holy Ghost and get away with it. For someone to try and argue that the Holy Spirit has no position of honor is absurd.

Nonetheless, Sulem's argument is a logical fallacy called an "Argument from Silence," (*argumentum e silentio*) in which he has drawn a conclusion from nothing. In simple terms, his statement is nothing more than an opinion. Notice first, he gave no Scripture to back up his claim, and that's because the Bible is silent on the matter of the Holy Spirit's position in heaven, so the argument from silence he gave looks like this:

- The Bible says Jesus sits next to the Father.
- The Bible does not mention the Holy Ghost sitting next to the Father.
- Therefore, the Holy Ghost is not one with the Father.

It's very similar to this argument:

- Hunter Yells: "Can anyone hear me?!"
- Hunter hears no response.
- Hunter concludes no one can hear him.

The reason such a conclusion is illogical is because there could very well be someone who could hear the hunter, but he/she is simply not responding. It is incorrect to draw definite conclusions based on silence, and it is fatally dangerous to

draw conclusions based on silence concerning the doctrines of the Holy Bible. When it comes to the foundational doctrines of Scripture, we need to look for what's there, not what not there.

(NOTE: This doesn't mean analyzing what's not in Scripture is wrong, or does not help us to expose evil; for example, the truth about pagan holidays that are claimed to be "Christian," but are not. I'm simply saying for the foundational doctrines Christ has given us, we need to look for what *IS* said, and not assume doctrines based on silence.)

It gets worse though; Sulem isn't finished:

"Thirdly, the Trinity denies that Jesus Christ is His Father's only begotten Son. Instead, it teaches that Jesus Christ is the eternally begotten Son of God which is a man-invented, unbiblical, meaningless and confusing term."

-David Sulem, "How And Why The Trinity Is False And Unbiblical," *God's Plan For All*, retrieved Aug 14, 2016, [godspanforall.com/antichristchristianity]

This has got to be one of the most confusing statements I've ever seen on this issue. Often, it is best not to waste a lot of time pondering the reasoning of those teachers who rely on worldly foundations for their doctrine, but let's take his argument seriously for a moment:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

-John 3:16

Scoffers have attempted to use this verse to denounce the divinity of Christ by claiming that if he was "begotten," which means to be procreated, then He's not God. This type of argument comes from those who don't study the Word of God, because the Bible also tells us:

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom [i.e. Christ] we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Whof[i.e. Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him [i.e. Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

-Colossians 1:12-16

Christ was birthed into the world because He humbled Himself to be a man for a time, but He is also eternal, just as the Lord God is eternal because they are one. The Holy Spirit is also eternal, being God Himself as we have already demonstrated through numerous verses. Sulem is making the argument that God in three persons would mean Christ is God (being equal with God), and so he says:

"Trinity teaches that the Son is co-equal with His Father, however, Scripture is abundantly clear that the Son of God is not co-equal, but subordinate to His Father."

-David Sulem, "How And Why The Trinity Is False And Unbiblical," *God's Plan For All*, retrieved Aug 14, 2016, [godspanforall.com/antichristchristianity]

Sulem's problem (among many) is that he is unable to reconcile how the Lord Jesus Christ can be one with God the Father and be in submission to God the Father at the same time. Our understanding of how God does something is not a requirement to believe what He says.

But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

-1 Corinthians 11:3

It was funny reading Sulem write the argument that Christ is in submission to God the same way the wife is to the husband. First of all, the Bible doesn't say that, it only tells us the levels of authority, but also consider that the Bible says the husband and wife are one flesh:

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

-Ephesians 5:31

How can they be one flesh, with one being in submission to the other? Our understanding of how it is possible is not a prerequisite to believe what God's Word says about it; for example, we may not understand exactly how God created the world in six days, but we believe that He did it nonetheless because that's what His Word tells us. Sulem is ignoring the

doctrine and adding his own personal interpretations into the Word of God.

If we, in our fleshly finite minds, could fully understand the spiritual infinite God, then there wouldn't be much need to worship Him. His infinite, omniscient nature makes it impossible for us in our present state (in our flesh) to fully understand Him, which is one of the reasons no man has seen God at any time:

No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.
-1 John 4:12

The most simplistic way I know how to explain the Godhead (being in three persons and one at the same time) is to say that I am a son, a brother, and a husband, but I'm one man. My functions as a son is different than my functions as a brother, and those are different than my functions as a husband, but though I have those three aspects, I'm still one person. This is a very childlike way to explain the matter, and although I highly doubt much of that is accurate to explain the Godhead for many reasons (one reason being that I change, but God does not), that's the best way I know how to explain it because of my limited understanding about the Lord God. Nonetheless, whether or not we understand it, we ought to believe what the Bible tells us.

Sulem believes in a bunch of others heresies, for one example, he believes in a "Pre-Adamic Age," or in other words, he believes there were billions of years before Adam. Yes, that's right, he's an evolutionist. When I say such men are founded on the "*rudiments of the world*," I have a good reason for it. Remember the Lord Jesus Christ told us to beware of the doctrine of such men, and we ought to expose them and pray the Lord Jesus Christ would open their eyes to the truth that they might be saved.

(Read "The Earth's Age Affects Salvation Doctrine" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees... Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.
-Matthew 16:6-12

I'm not saying that someone who rejects God in three persons is unsaved, don't misunderstand. Christians can be blinded to certain topics, especially if they don't clean the leaven out of their lives, however, Sulem believes in so many disgusting heresies, I couldn't see any repentance, faith, or understanding in his words.

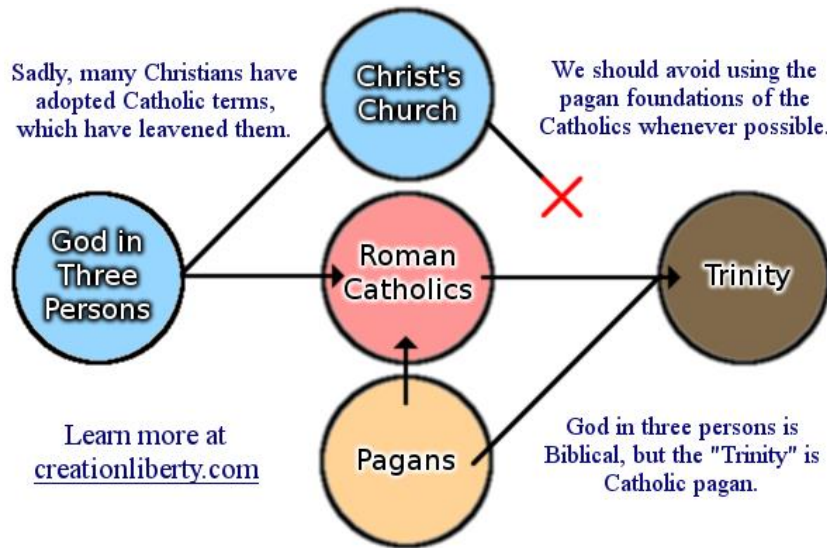
I went on to look up a number of other opposing sources concerning this topic, but all the ones I read came down to the same exact argument: "The Bible doesn't use the word "Trinity," therefore, the Trinity is unbiblical." Again, the problem with this is that the term "Trinity" is a pagan term the Catholics picked up to merge with an actual Biblical doctrine, which makes the term "Trinity" unbiblical, but the doctrine itself is still Biblical.

In a nutshell, this type of argument is called "Equivocation" in logical terms, which basically means "to call by the same name." An example of this type of fallacy would look like this:

- Mickey Mouse has big ears.
- Bob has big ears.
- Therefore, Bob is Mickey Mouse.

Bob does not become Mickey Mouse because he has ears slightly larger than average; they are not even close to each other in full description. The problem with this argument is that because the descriptions of one aspect are similar, Bob and Mickey Mouse are falsely claimed to be the same thing without any evidence, and it is the exact same fallacy as this argument:

- God in three persons is commonly called 'Trinity.'
- Trinity is pagan.
- Therefore, God in three persons is pagan.



The hidden deception behind this topic is the Roman Catholic Church, and so many of the teachings I've done have come down to exposing the deception of Rome that has negatively influenced the Church of Christ. Rome was a cesspool of Pagan religion in the 4th century when the Catholic Church was formed, and they did everything they could to combine Pagan concepts into doctrines of Scripture, which is why their true god is a goddess they call "Mary," who comes in the trinitarian forms of virgin, mother, and queen of heaven.

Because someone comes along and tries to corrupt Biblical doctrines and terms, doesn't mean we abandon them. For example, just

because there are so many false converts who falsely call themselves "Christians," doesn't mean we abandon calling ourselves Christian because it is a Biblical term; and likewise, just because there are Catholics that have added their pagan concepts to Scripture, doesn't mean we abandon the doctrines of Scripture they have attempted to corrupt.

As a final note, I would also like to point out a serious hypocrisy of the men who teach against God's three persons. For example, the owner of "kingdomready.org" creates a post telling everyone that God in three person is pagan, but then turns around in December each year and makes posts justify the pagan witchcraft of Christmas. Nearly all the preachers I've read teach on this subject, who deny God's three persons, they teach that Christians should avoid the trinity because it is pagan, yet, they turn around and celebrate Christmas, which has incredibly deep roots in pagan witchcraft. (This is textbook hypocrisy!)

(See Sean Finnegan, "The Reason For the Season," Dec 1, 2012, retrieved Aug 16, 2016, [lhim.org/blog/2012/12/01/the-reason-for-the-season]; See also Chuck LaMattina, "20 Reasons Why the Trinity Is Unbiblical," Dec 2, 2010, retrieved Aug 16, 2016, [lhim.org/blog/2010/12/02/20-reasons-why-the-doctrine-of-the-trinity-is-unbiblical-20]; Read "Christmas: The Rejection of Jesus" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

-Luke 16:15

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

-Matthew 15:8

So I would encourage Christians to stay away from the term "Trinity" because many people have been drawn into endless and fruitless debates in which both parties talk past each other. I hope the Lord Jesus Christ can use what I've written here to help other Christians understand the foundational doctrine of God in three persons in Scripture, and I also hope my brethren will be better prepared to share the Scripture that demonstrates and properly defends the truth on this matter.