

This We Believe

(Prepared by Ps Tony for GBC Evening Service August 2nd 2020)

Back to The Basics – No 3: God, The Holy Trinity

God reveals Himself as a Triune God - as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, yet as One God.....

1. The Bible is about God – the Triune God.

Creation and Purpose- Genesis 1-3

- God is One – Deuteronomy / 1 Cor 8:6
- God is Three - (Matt. 28:19); (2 Cor. 13:14)
- The three persons are each fully God – Jesus (John 10:30; Philippians 2:5-6; Col 2:9-10; John 20:27-28); The Holy Spirit (Acts 20:28; John 14:26; 1 Cor 2:13; Acts 8:29; Eph 4:30; Acts 5:3,4)
- Each of the persons is distinct from the others -
- The three persons are related eternally as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit -

2. The Bible is written to **specific audiences at specific times** to reveal who God is, through what God does and says (or has said) to various peoples.

Major Movements in the Biblical Story of God and Humanity

- Creation and Purpose – (Romans 11:33; Col 1:15-17)
- Fall/and its Effects – (Romans 5:12; 1 Cor 15:21)
- Redemption Process / History (Re-‘creation’) (Romans 8:29ff; John 6:43ff)
- Restoration and Purpose (Revelation 21:22; 22: 1ff)

3. The Bible is progressive! We are learning more about God as more is revealed to us about God by God.

Here are some examples taken from: (Who Is God? Key Moments of Biblical Revelation: By Richard Bauckham – 2020)

- **The Revelation of the Divine Presence** – Gen 28:10-22 (Jacob at “The House of God” / Link Ps 23:4 / Isaiah 7:14 with Matt 1:23 God with us/Emmanuel, with Matthew 28:16-20 Jesus’ promise to be with his disciples always.
- **The Revelation of the Divine Name** – Exodus 3:1-6 (God reveals His Name to Moses at the Burning Bush –I will be who I will be! To Lord/Jesus- No other name).
- **The Revelation of the Divine Character** – Exodus 33:18-23 & 34 Moses asks to see God’s glory/ Links to Numbers 6:22-27; then to John 1:14, 16-18 – then is shown through the rest of Jesus ministry and John’s gospel.
- **The Revelation of the Trinity** – All based on Isaiah’s hope in God and promises to His people linked within: 1) Mark 1:9-11 The Jesus Baptism (2) Mark 9:2-8 Jesus’ Transfiguration (3) Mark 15:37-39. The Centurions observation and confession of Jesus.

Concluding Comments:

- **Seekers** (disciples/evangelism): Honest enquires require the telling of the whole of the bible though in parts.
- **Sceptics**: Don’t back down from mystery, the scriptures, or The One and Only Triune God.
- **You and the Trinity**: Delight yourself in the Trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Back to the Basics – No 3. God Reveals Himself as Holy Trinity.

(For Group Discussion & Personal Reflection)

How might you respond or apply what has been talked about tonight through prayer to:

1. God Our Father.

We come in humility as we acknowledge you as God our Father and therefore beyond all we could ever hope for or imagine in a God. Our understanding and comprehension of you is so limited for...

However, we praise you and thank you for ...

What we ask of you now (according to your word and our needs) is that ...

2. Jesus our Saviour, our Brother, our Lord, our Mediator.

We come in humility as we acknowledge you as The Son of God and therefore beyond all we could ever hope for or imagine. Our understanding and comprehension of you is so limited for....

However, we praise you and thank you for ...

What we ask of you now (according to your word and our needs) is that ...

3. The Holy Spirit our Counsellor, Comforter, Teacher, Guide.

We come in humility as we acknowledge you as The Holy Spirit of God and therefore beyond all we could ever hope for or imagine. Our understanding and comprehension of you is so limited for....

However, we praise you and thank you for ...

What we ask of you now (according to your word and our needs) is that ...