

1

QUESTION BIBLE STUDY

Question No 1: Is God One Three or Many?

DIFFERENT VIEWS

- A. God is one person who appears to people in three different modes (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) at different times. In this view God is not three distinct persons, but only one person who appears to people in different "modes" at different times. For example, in the Old Testament God appeared as "the Father." In the New Testament, particularly in the books of Mathew through John, this same divine person appeared as "the Son." After Pentecost, this same person then revealed himself as "the Spirit."
- B. God is three distinct deities (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), not one. The word Trinity means "three" indicating that "God" is referring to three distinct deities, not one single deity. Each of these deities function independently and each one has a distinct role. Each possesses an independent center of consciousness and determination.
- C. God is both three and one at the same time. God eternally exists as three distinct persons...the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each person is fully God, and there is one God.
- D. God is divine, supreme, infinite Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle. God is not a person and the theory of three persons in one God in archaic.
- E. Adam is our father and our God and the only God with whom we have to do. God was once as we are now and is an exalted human man.

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 3:22.
- Deuteronomy 6:5.
- Isaiah 45:5-7.
- Matthew 28:19
- Mark 12:29.
- Luke 4:14
- John 10:30.
- John 14:9.

- John 14:26
- John 17:24
- Romans 8:27
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-7
- Ephesians 4:4-6
- Hebrews 7:23-25
- 1 Peter 1:1-2
- 1 John 2:1

INSTRUCTIONS

1. State your view in detail: After carefully examining the above views, in light of the scriptures, state which view you support, and why. Include the scriptures you used.
2. Opposing views: Explain in detail why you reject the other views.
3. Application: Explain in detail how your conclusions affect your life?
4. Send your responses to Mike Taylor at: taylorms@sbcglobal.net.
5. Check out responses of others at: www.taylornotes.info/one.

HOW TO TEST YOUR ANSWER

- Did I automatically jump to a previous view I held without carefully examining the related scriptures?
- Did I read my view into the scriptures (eisegesis) or was I careful to read out of scripture (exegesis)?
- Did I carefully examine the context of scripture verses?
- Does my view line up with the Bible's teaching as a whole?
- Did I interpret scripture using scripture?
- Did I depend completely on extra-biblical material without carefully examining related scriptures?
- Does my view agree with the consensus of other Christians? (See www.TaylorNotes.Info/one)

Question No 1:
Is God One Three or Many?

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After carefully examining the five viewpoints proposed in Question One of Mike Taylor's class, I have selected the view "**God is both three and one at the same time. God eternally exists as three distinct persons the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each person is fully God, and there is one God.**" I believe this viewpoint follows the Holy Bible. In this paper in section: **I. DIFFERENT VIEWS PROPOSED**, I have listed the five viewpoints and explained in detail why I rejected four of the viewpoints which did not follow the Holy Bible. I identified the one viewpoint that I believe does follow the Holy Bible. In section **II. TEST MY ANSWER** I responded to each question in order to test my viewpoint selected. In section: **III. MY VIEWPOINT SUPPORTED** I have supported the viewpoint selected and used scriptures from the Holy Bible provided and added additional scriptures from own research to support my viewpoint. In summary the last section: **IV. APPLICATION** describes how I have in the past and I pray in the future I will be walk forward applying the application of this viewpoint in my life.

I. DIFFERENT VIEWS PROPOSED

1. God is one person who appears to people in three different modes (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) at different times.

This view is called Sabellianism and it is "the eastern Church heresy equivalent to the western historic Patripassianism, which are both forms of theological modalism. Sabellianism is the belief that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three different modes or aspects of God, as opposed to a Trinitarian view of three distinct persons within the Godhead."

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sabellianism>)

This does not line up with the Biblical Christian viewpoint.

2. God is three distinct deities (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), not one.

This view is called Nontrinitarianism and it is a "form of Christianity that rejects the mainstream Christian doctrine of the Trinity—the teaching that God is three distinct hypostases or persons who are coeternal, coequal, and indivisibly united in one being, or essence (from the Greek ousia).

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nontrinitarianism>)

This does not line up with the Biblical Christian viewpoint.

3. God is both three and one at the same time. God eternally exists as three distinct persons the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each person is fully God, and there is one God.

This is the view which I believe lines up with the Bible. I will give scriptural support after the five views have been reviewed and identified in the section: **III. MY VIEWPOINT SUPPORTED.**

4. God is divine, supreme, infinite Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle. God is not a person and the theory of three persons in one God in archaic.

“Mormons use the term omnipotent to describe God, and regard him as the creator, they understand him as having absolutely unlimited power.” From my research this viewpoint most closely lines up with the Mormon beliefs.
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/God_in_Mormonism)

This does not line up with the Biblical Christian viewpoint.

5. Adam is our father and our God and the only God with whom we have to do. God was once as we are now and is an exalted human man.

“Adam or God theory was a theological idea taught in mid-19th century Mormonism by church president Brigham Young. Although the doctrine is rejected by the LDS Church today, it is still an accepted part of the modern theology of some Mormon fundamentalists. According to Young, he was taught by Joseph Smith that Adam is "our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do. According to the doctrine, Adam was once a mortal man who became resurrected and exalted.”
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam%E2%80%93God_doctrine)

This does not line up with the Biblical Christian viewpoint.

II. TEST MY ANSWER

Did I automatically jump to a previous view I held without carefully examining the related scriptures?
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*I did approach this question with fresh eyes. I walked through each view and scripture referenced, step by step. I also studied and prayed to seek additional scriptures as I walked the viewpoint.*

Did I read my view into the scriptures (eisegesis) or was I careful to read out of scripture (exegesis)?  
~~~~~

I took each step and each scripture one step at a time.

Did I carefully examine the context of scripture verses?
~~~~~

YES

Does my view line up with the Bible’s teaching as a whole?  
~~~~~

From my understanding my view I chose does line up with what the Bible teaches.

- Did I interpret scripture using scripture?
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*Yes, this is necessary to logically go from step to step theologically.*
  
- Did I depend completely on extra-biblical material without carefully examining related scriptures?  
 ~~~~~  
No, I looked at the scriptures. I did make some brief searches for what others responded to this age-old question.

- Does my view agree with the consensus of other Christians?
 ~~~~~  
*There are so many people who believe they are Christians and there are many Christian denominations that call themselves Christians and they technically are not, it would be impossible for me to answer yes or no. Although, from my experience in many different churches, schools and classes, my view I selected is of a consensus of people of a true Christian faith.*

### III. MY VIEWPOINT SUPPORTED

The view which I believe follows the Holy Bible is:

God is both three and one at the same time. God eternally exists as three distinct persons...the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each person is fully God, and there is one God.

From this point forward, I will look at each aspect of the question: Is God One Three or Many? Jesus was not only a man of human form; born with blood; He was, is, and always will be God. I believe the concept of Jesus being both God and his son relies totally on faith. This question can be logically proven and we can physically prove the life of Jesus. However, we can not physically prove God or their relationship. The answer for this duality is one that is found deep within oneself. It is called "faith" and it is more powerful than science or logic. Therefore, the question at hand is, how could God, be God and man and the Holy Spirit at the same time?

The answer revolves around a deep-rooted historical event where God took a human form as God's son, died and rose from the dead to save the humans on planet earth. It is not an "inspirational story" it "was an actual event" that happened on this planet we are living on. It has been documented and proven by spiritual leaders and both physically and with scientific measures. The Bible is continually supported over the years with new documentation by believers and those who do not believe in the Bible.

The approach we all must take to answer this question of how God, could be God, a man and the Holy Spirit all at the same time is a critical. Question we all must ask ourselves. If we search for our answer to this question by seeking other "human beings" answers, we would not be taking a true look at the question. We would be looking at this from a human perspective. By looking at this question through the book left by God, for us through the Holy Spirit, our approach will be fresh and hopefully - awakening. The book is called the Holy Bible or the Scriptures. Thus, I will approach the question proposed, void of human interpretation and seek my answer from the Bible as my reference.

The Bible teaches us that God is infinitely greater than we are; therefore, we should not expect to be able to fully understand Him as described in Isaiah:

5 I am the LORD, and there is none else,  
there is no God beside me:  
I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:  
6 that they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west,  
that there is none beside me.  
I am the LORD, and there is none else.  
7 I form the light, and create darkness:  
I make peace, and create evil:  
I the LORD do all these things.  
Isaiah45:5-7

The Bible clearly teaches that there is only one God. Though we can understand some facts about the relationship of the different Persons of the Trinity to one another, ultimately, it is incomprehensible to the human mind. As stated when I began, we must all ultimately learn through our faith and our belief even as we step through the Bible.

The Bible teaches that the Father is God, that Jesus is God, and that the Holy Spirit is God. However, this does not mean the Trinity is not true or that it is not based on the teachings of the Bible.

In the book of John, it is written:

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”  
John 1:1

These few words not only tell us of God and of the Word, but of man. This one paragraph defines the dual nature of God as true. To begin with, “God made it possible for us to use the “word” by providing the Bible through the Holy Spirit providing the “audible expression of an inaudible thought.” Therefore, the Holy Bible is the correct place to seek our answers, which is confirmed in 1 Corinthians:

My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.  
1 Corinthians 2:4

Because man tends to look for answers either within themselves or outside themselves this scripture expresses clearly that Jesus did not come on the earth of His own will and that one cannot separate the two.

“For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”  
John 6:38

As the story is told in the Bible the creator of the entire universe clothed himself with the garment of human flesh and sent his only son to earth. The “humility” of this act alone is inconceivable in our human minds. Yet there was not the pageantry, or material splendor which man would expect of his fellowmen on an occasion like this. God came as a servant.

“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

John 11:29

The lack of splendor in connection with this great event is something I find inconceivable. Along with how he was treated while on this earth and in the end beaten and slowly killed beyond any acceptable human fashion. His mission and purpose were prophesized and was fulfilled despite our human attempt to interfere. Our God allowed his only begotten son to come to earth to die for our sins, and he came as a servant, accepted God’s will for his life and did not once question.

The Bible begins with the first book of Genesis:

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.

Genesis 1:1

This scripture explains how God created the world. The “thought of creation” is actually beyond our human grasp just as the thought of God is. Once again, I lean back to - faith, and with the knowledge of the Scriptures and prayers, our faith does grow.

All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.

John 1:3

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

This scripture shows this unbelievable act that the Word became “flesh.” Jesus was God and that He became flesh--it does not state that He remained fully God on the earth. In fact, Scripture after Scripture shows how human he was, clear up until the moment he died. It was the act of becoming man and suffering as a man that is profound.

This is a clear reference to Jesus as the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning as stated in Colossians:

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.”

Colossians 1 15:18

With the recognition of Jesus as the head of the body or also called the church it is later clarified that from a personal perspective as a human who has one God we are clearly told why we are here and who He is in the following scriptures:

29 .... The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: 30 and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Mark 12:29-31

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 and thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Deuteronomy 6:5

The next step, is a leap of faith, it is when we have accepted Jesus as a man and now at the same time the Father. It is stated in the Bible very clearly and simply:

"I and the Father are one."

John 10:30

That statement is so simple and clear, and yet it is with that statement, Jesus is claiming equality with God! This concept is hard for our human minds to conceptualize. Once the Bible is a "truth" for yourself, Jesus could only claim this Authority because he WAS and IS God. Let me point out two more Scriptures:

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Matthew 28:18

and

"all that belongs to the Father is mine."

John 16:15

God the Father sent Jesus to earth, which is an inconceivable sacrifice for our human minds. Nevertheless, stay with this thought, he is an invisible God, and he has created a living breathing man:

"For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will,  
but the will of Him who sent Me."

John 6:38

In Matthew the Son is making reference to the Father and the Holy Spirit as seen in this passage which is an example of three distinct Persons in the Trinity.

<sup>8</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:19

It was also written in the Bible that during the time before Jesus began teaching. Prior to age 30, when he was in communion with God. This was the time when God was "teaching" Jesus or as we are shown in Luke:

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men."

Luke 2:52

Once we accept Jesus as being sent by God and taught by God, we can recognize the greatest objective of Jesus Christ's time on earth, which was told in the book of Luke and Matthew:

"for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Luke 19:10

"just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:28

The Scriptures have clearly shown that Jesus was sent "by God" to "save that which was lost" and that he came to "give his life a ransom for many". These "key" statements show the "focus" of Christ's mission on earth.

In my beginning statement I said that God took a human form, died to save us, and rose from the dead. Thus far we have looked at scriptural facts to prove this.

It is important to take a moment and note that Jesus had a double claim to the throne of David. He is the father of all people and not just the Jews. This was important because without this claim at the time Jesus was on this planet he would not have had the respect nor the right to the throne! The Bible takes great efforts to prove this fact. In the books of Matthew and Luke they both show that Jesus had a double claim to the throne of David. Matthew is showing his claim as King of Jews:

"So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations."

Matthew 1:17

In Luke, it is shown that Jesus is also of the Gentiles:

The son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Luke 3:38

The question at hand would not be complete unless we took a look at the identity of Jesus and what his identity means to each one of us. To me personally I see Jesus as part of what we call the "Trinity." The word Trinity is not used in the Bible but it is a word used to describe what is apparent about God in the Scriptures. The Bible

clearly refers to God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit many times and it clearly states continues to state that there is only one God.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 28:19

"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear."

Acts 2:32

<sup>14</sup> And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. <sup>15</sup> And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.

Luke 4:14

In this scriptures Christ is very clearly stating the plurality of God:

"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.:

Genesis 1:26

Although if we overemphasize the idea of God, we can overlook the individuality of the Son and therefore the Holy Spirit. Likewise, if we overemphasize the diversity of God, we can end up believing that there are three individual Gods. For that reason, if we identify with Jesus as a part of the Trinity, both as God and a man as our link to God through the Holy Spirit we can recognize the identity of Jesus and who he is to you and I.

It is extremely important to understand the Trinity, as it is explained in the new Testament the Holy Spirit is our "comforter" and our guide. He is with us now – Jesus is physically at the "right hand of God". The Holy Spirit was sent to be with us here on earth when Jesus left the planet earth. I have mentioned several times now it is incomprehensible to the human mind and it is through our faith that each step we take helps us understand. Although as much as we acknowledge that it is incomprehensible, the Bible also tells us clearly that if you are not a believer, you will not "read" the scriptures the same as a believer:

<sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one."

John 10:25-30 (NIV)

As referred earlier the plurality of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is implied, the Trinity is found very clearly throughout the Bible:

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything

I have commanded you. And surely I am with you  
always, to the very end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

“Lets Us make man in Our image according to Our Likeness”

Genesis 1:26

<sup>9</sup> Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? <sup>10</sup> Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. <sup>12</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. <sup>13</sup> And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

John 14:9

The Bible clearly demonstrates that Jesus is God and there is no doubt from the beginning of the Bible of the plurality of God. However, just knowing the facts will not give us eternal life and or get us into Heaven. Eternal life in Heaven is not achieved by "living a good life" or trying to make sure our good deeds outweigh our bad deeds. Jesus tells us that He can only save us. God has given us no other means apart from faith in Jesus Christ by which we can be saved. This is the exact reason why I began this paper saying that "faith" is a requirement.

Therefore, our relationship with the Holy Spirit on a daily basis who is our comforter and our guide provides our link to Jesus Christ through the Holy Bible by way of our relationship with the Holy Spirit who is our comforter and our guide, if we only listen.

<sup>26</sup> But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John14:26

If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. “

John 7:37

<sup>27</sup> And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. <sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:27

The examples continue clearly describing the Trinity without the word Trinity, there are many scriptures that very clearly define all three aspects

<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. <sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:1-2

In summary the deep-rooted historical event where God took a human form, was an actual event that happened on this planet, and it has been documented not only through the Holy Bible but through science. Our “faith” and belief will prove how powerful our brief look into this question has been. We have clearly seen “God as David’s Son and David’s Lord, as both man and God.” This is a term that is used to attempt to describe the triune God—three coexistent, co-eternal Persons who are God.

I have experienced a joyful and unconditional love; which leaves me yearning for more. The passion I have for studying the scriptures has proven itself by the efforts I have given writing this paper. However, the most important answer I can offer to you would be to leave you with a scripture.

“And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.” And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Revelation 21:3

## **APPLICATION:**

After studying and researching my beliefs with regards to the question, Is God One Three or Many? My conclusion does affect my life, dramatically. With all my heart, I believe in the Trinity. I believe there is only one God, I believe that Jesus died for us and I believe that the Holy Spirit is here with us, because Jesus died for our sins. I believe that the Holy Spirit is my comforter and I pray daily that my eyes, ears and heart are always open to the soft voice of the Holy Spirit. This, impacts who I am, what I do and what I pray to be. It affects all aspects of my being. Thank you for the opportunity to write this paper.

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ANDY BACHTEL

God is one with Ideas of The Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, as the focus. All operations go thru either of them, I call them personality traits that our ONE GOD has....

**BRUCE CLARK**

## **Answer to Question 1 – Is God One, Three or Many?**

### **The Divine Trinity**

Although there is one God, he is also three persons; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Although the Godhead is made up of three persons who are distinctive in being and function, each of the three are also fully God. 1John 5:7 (KJV) states “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

**God the Father** – Our God is the one true God. God has several natural and moral attributes. There are so many scriptures that address the attributes of God. He is omnipotent - all powerful (Psa 33:6), Omniscient - all Knowing (Isa 46:9-10), immutable - never changes (Mal 3:6), omnipresent - everywhere at once (Psa 139:7-10), and Omnificent – unlimited in creative power (Gen 1:1-31). In addition to these “omni’s, God is Holy (Rev 4:8), Faithful (Deut 7:9), Gracious (Psa 135:8), Loving (1John 4:7-8), merciful (Rom 9:15-18), eternal (Col 1:17), infinite (Psa 147:5), just (Psa 89:14) and transcendent (Isa 40:22).

**God the Son** – Jesus is fully God (John 5:18, 10:30). While on Earth, he displayed God’s attributes (John 5:19). Jesus was also fully man (Heb 2:17). He was born through a human who was conceived by the seed of God, through the Holy Spirit (Luke 2:7). Jesus had a human soul and human emotions (Matt 9:36, 21:13, John 11:35). Jesus never sinned and therefore became the perfect lamb to sacrifice on behalf of sinful man. If he was not fully human, he could not have represented us on the cross. He bore all of mankind’s sins; past, present and future, while being crucified (1 Pet 2:24, 3:18). He overcame the sting of death by being resurrected three days later. He then took his rightful place at the right hand of his father, God himself (Act 2:33). Jesus continues to this day to be a royal priest for us and intercedes for us before God the Father.

**God the Holy Spirit** – The Holy spirit is part of the Godhead and, like Jesus, shares in the attributes of God. The primary work of the Holy Spirit is to manifest the

active presence of God in the world, especially through the church. The Holy spirit also declares and glorifies the Son (John 16:13-14) The Holy Spirit seals (Eph 1:13, 2Cor 1:22), baptizes (1Cor 12:13), and infills believers (Eph 5:18, Acts 2:4). He has all the attributes of God (Gen 1:2, Matt 28:19, John 16:13-15) and all the attributes of a person (1Cor 2:10-13, Rom 8:27). Believers communicate through the Holy Spirit to God. We do this through prayer. It is a lifelong process to learn to “walk in the Spirit”. God wants a personal relationship with every believer. It is through the Holy Spirit that we hear the promptings from God.

**Application in my Life** – The Holy Trinity has profoundly changed my life and continues to do so as I study the scriptures. My main goal during the process of sanctification is to learn to “walk in the Spirit”. When I wake each morning, I ask God to keep me in touch with the spirit that day so that I can hear God’s promptings. This is hard to do all day long except through continued prayer and thanksgiving. Learning to walk in the Spirit is a life-long process. When I walk the beach, I talk to God and express awe over his creation. When I read scripture or books, I ask God to inspire me through the Spirit, and give me understanding about what I am reading. I ask God to guide my steps and my mouth throughout the day and open doors for opportunities to serve him. I ask God to put the words on my tongue before I speak, and when to be quiet and listen. I regularly thank Jesus for the tremendous suffering he did for me and my family while on the cross. I ask God to comfort me when I miss my deceased wife or am feeling lonely. I thank God for how He has opened doors for me to continue post-graduate classes in theology and for giving me the time to do the necessary studying. I thank God for how he has saved my kids and for their individual walks with Him. I thank God for how he has guided my 2 sons to obtain pastoral degrees and how they continue to serve Him. God has really blessed my younger son who has started a church, Rise City Church (rise.cc), in Gresham Oregon and how He has blessed my son’s ministry and grown his church. I thank God for my grandkids and pray for their salvation. I thank God for my church and my Christian friends. This list can go on and on.....

## Dan Cossentine

### State your view in detail

C. God is both three and one at the same time. God eternally exists as three distinct persons...the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each person is fully God, and there is one God.

God is plural in Gn 3:22, He is a single God in Deut 6:5, Mt 28:19 there are three distinct persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Luke 4:14 Jesus works through the Spirit. John 14:9 Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. (They must be one) John 14:26 The Holy Spirit is the Advocate. Romans 8:27 Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

### Opposing views:

A. God is one person who appears to people in three different modes (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) at different times.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit work with each other and glorify each other. Luke 4:14 Jesus works through the Spirit. They work with each other therefore, there can not be three modes.

B. God is three distinct deities (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), not one.

There are too many scriptures that say there is only one God.

Mk 12:29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.[a]"

3. Application: It is a mystery and I can not fully understand how this is. But, I am sure there are many things about God we can not comprehend. I am happy to let God be God.

### Genesis 3:

22 And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."

### Deuteronomy 6:5

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

### Isaiah 45:5-7

I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you,

though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other.

7 I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the Lord, do all these things.

Matthew 28:19

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Mark 12:29

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.[a]

Luke 4:14

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

John 10:30

I and the Father are one.”

John 14:9

Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?

John 14:26

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 17:24

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

Romans 8:27

And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Hebrews 7:23-25

Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; 24 but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. 25 Therefore he is able to save completely[a] those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

1 Peter 1:1-2

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

1 John 2:1

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

## DENISE BROADWELL

I wish I could say that we have been sheltered in place for these last 90 days , on the contrary. We are loading up the trailer and tools, stuff to leave for Pismo in a couple hours and will return Tuesday.

I looked over these questions, is God three or many ? I will answer them but I found that I did not use only the Scriptures you provided.

I believe by faith, that the Trinity is my very foundation of truth for many reasons.

In genesis 1, God said he created the heavens and the earth. God also said let us make man in our image. Many scriptures speak of God and man using us and them. God is father, and son and he is the Holy Spirit

We are three in one as well, we are body, we are mind, and spirit.

We were created in the image of God.

As we know God the father sent his only begotten son Jesus for our sins. John3:16

I believe This and God leaves us his spirit, also known as our comforter.

I Believe this to be true, other believes worship idols, and or they have to do or be something that is unnecessary.

Jesus takes us as we are and wants our heart and a relationship with him.

It's a mystery how he gives us his Holy Spirit when we ask and then we are a new creation to live and grow and serve him and have a personal relationship with him.2 corinthians 5:17.

I fully believe in the Trinity and how they , Father God , Jesus and the Holy Spirit interact and Is alive in me . I have sensed God's presence, protection provision, and his love and his cleansing from all my sins. I feel my life has been transformed. I hunger for Jesus and his word. I am lost without him in my life. I thank God for the Holy Spirit . I also feel that the things that pain my heart , breaks Gods heart . God loves us so much and he also has emotions .

When I push the rewind button of my life I see the goodness of God.

Please forgive me for not addressing the questions exactly the Way that you asked me to. I did look up every scripture, but I also had many of my own. Forgive me for not completing this, this is the best I can do right now. Since we don't have Wi-Fi at our Pismo house yet I am unable to be online with zoom

I did update zoom last week to the latest

Thank you for allowing me to send you my view on the trinity

I look forward to this discussion in prime Time

I look forward to this discussion in prime Time.

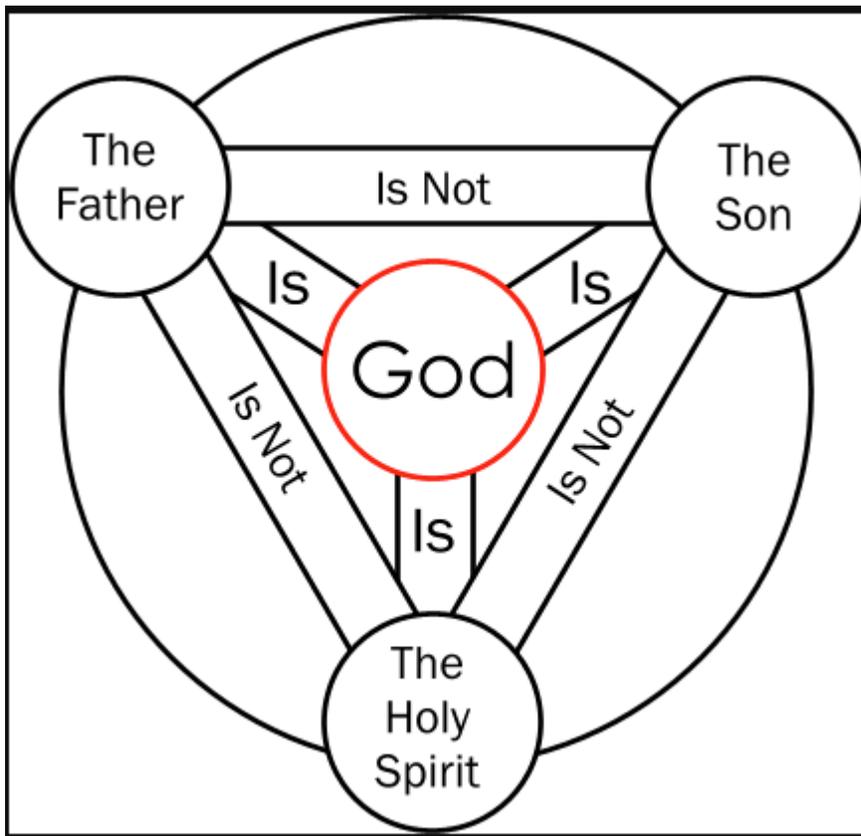
Have an excellent day ahead

Blessings to you

Denise

MICHAEL KUO

I believe first and foremost that God exists. Although His existence is assumed in the Bible, it is clear that there is one and only one God (Deut 6:4, Is 46:9, James 2:19). This one God is eternally existent in three distinct persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Although there is one God, the three persons are found repeatedly throughout Scripture (Matt 3:16, 28:19; John 14:26; Rom 15:30; Eph 2:18; 1 John 4:13-14) and God refers to the Trinity as "us" (Gen 1:26, 3:22, 11:7). These three persons are completely equal, and each person has a completely divine essence. And while each person is equal and divine, they are distinct in their relationships to each other and in their functions. While each person is equal, they are not the same. While each person is distinct, there is unity between the three where man sees God's attributes emphasized at different times. The oneness does not mean that their differences can be disregarded, but that the three come together in perfect unity to fulfill a common purpose. The unity within the Trinity does not ignore the diversity, and the diversity does not cause division. The doctrine of the Trinity makes God's revelation (John 1:18) and His redemption of man (Heb 9:14) possible. If God was not the Trinity, then He would either not be independently sufficient or He would lose His relational and personal characteristics. Lastly, the relationship of the three persons provides the Church with a good model for relationships within itself (1 Cor 12:4-6).



## **PATTY SUEHAUG**

I read all the scriptures. Realized I needed context. So I read the scriptures preceding and following. This takes lots of time.

Prayed for wisdom and understanding.

1. Answer "C".

Isaiah 45:5-7 I am the Lord: there is no other God.

Mark 12:29. The Lord our God is the one and only God

John 10:30 The Father and I are one.

John 14:8-9. I am the way the truth and the light, no one can come to the father except through me. (Jesus)

John 14:26-27 But when the Father sends the Advocate, as my representative, that is the Holy Spirit, he will teach you everything and remind you of everything I have told you.

John 17:24. Remember my words are not my own, my words are from the father who sent me.

2. PASS. (Look forward to meeting in small group again!)

3. Application. My spiritual growth is fueled by disciplined bible study. Notice divine truth is repeated and revealed throughout the Bible.

My group bible studies always enrich my understanding, providing context via shared experience, varied points of view. Challenge my thinking.

For example: What Bible verses support or contradict my beliefs. Now I can search for the facts, rather than assume or rely on old unsubstantiated beliefs.

Getting closer to God, learning his way, his will are my objectives.

I referred to [www.TaylorNotes.info](http://www.TaylorNotes.info). Found more specific information on this subject. I intend to share this great source of Biblical Information w/ others.

Thank you!

Patty

## One Question Bible Study

### Is God One, Three, or Many?

My view is there is one God with three distinct beings within the Godhead (Mat. 28:19). I believe that God the father exists in heaven with the Holy Spirit and Christ (Rom. 8:26-34). I believe God has always existed and is unchanging and will always exist (Gen.1:1, Heb.13:8, Jn. 17:24). Although He is three distinct beings He is one inseparable (Jn.10:30,14:9).

With regard to the different views presented in the outline, I accept some aspects of each view and reject others: Genesis 1:2 states that the Holy Spirit was with God at the beginning, and Genesis 3:22 indicates through the use of the word “us” that the Father was with the Holy Spirit, and Matthew 28:19 shows us that the three beings of the Godhead exist simultaneously, so that seems to dismiss the “one person, three modes” argument.

Isaiah 45:5 states “I am the Lord and there is no other; apart from me there is no God”. This statement clearly is in conflict with the position that there are three distinct deities. “Just as a body, though has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ” 1Corinthians 12:12. The three beings of the Godhead do not act independently of each other. However within the Godhead the Holy Spirit, and Christ are equal to but in submission to the Father, and they share a common center of conscientiousness and determination (Rom. 8:26-34, Acts 1:4,5).

I do believe that God is three and one at the same time. The triune God exists and each is fully God and there is one God. (Jn. 1:32, Lk. 3:22)

God is more than divine, supreme, infinite mind, spirit, or soul: He is the creator of the universe (Gen. 1:1). He created us in His image and His likeness (Gen. 2:7, Gen. 3:22), and those who respond to the Holy Spirit and have faith in Him will live eternally (Rom.10:17, 1Jn. 2:17).

I do not believe that Adam is God the Father or was ever a man in the sense that He was ever human. Christ, however, was sent by God to experience and endure humanity and show us the way to God the father.

My conclusion and application is found in 1John 4:7-10: “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins”.

## **STEVE TAYLOR**

I am like the gentiles, I learn by parables and I teach by parables. Rene teaches us by parables and illustrating his point. Do we understand Isaiah 45:5-7, there is only one God. In that verse, I only see one God. Eph 4:6 says There is one God and one Spirit - just as you were called to one hope when you were called - one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Through these verses, I can see that there is more to God than just on part. The same as I when I only look at water, I do not understand that ice is also apart of water and do not see, unless I look at are, it is made of vapor also.

That is how I understand, who God is made up of three parts: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.