

## “Is the Trinity biblical or is there just One God?”

Some people do not believe in the Trinity. Some say that the Trinity is not a proper doctrine found in the scriptures. Some of those folks would even debate with questions like these;

- Why isn't the word trinity found in the Bible?
- Jesus said there is only one God! John 17:3, NKJV “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God...”
- If Jesus is God how's come, He said His Father was greater than He was? John 14:28, NKJV “...My Father is greater than I.”
- How can Jesus pray to God if Jesus is God?
- How can Jesus be God if He is God's Son? Colossians 1:15, NKJV “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”
- If God is all knowing, Jesus claimed He didn't know everything? Mark 13:32, NKJV “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”
- If Jesus was God why didn't He just say, “I AM GOD”?
- The Bible says God is not a Man, nor a son of man? Numbers 23:19, NKJV “God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent.”

Now let me answer the objections to these questions and then show you from scripture, what the bible teaches about one God yet three separate persons.

### 1) Why isn't the word trinity found in the bible?

The word trinity comes from two words, first “*tri*” which means 3, like a tricycle (three wheeled bicycle), or triceratops (three horned dinosaur) and the second part is “*unity*” which means joined as a whole or one (many people united in one purpose). Now even though the word trinity is not found in the bible, we use it to explain the concept that is found in scriptures. I believe God is all knowing, that word is omniscient or all knowing, but nowhere is it found in scripture. Psalms 139:4, NLT “You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord.” Job 21:22, NLT “But who can teach a lesson to God, since he judges even the most powerful?” Isaiah 40:13, NLT “Who is able to advise the Spirit of the Lord? Who knows enough to give him advice or teach him? Has the Lord ever needed anyone's advice? Does he need instruction about what is good? Did someone teach him what is right or show him the path of justice?” Even the New Testament shows Gods omniscience; Hebrews 4:13, NLT “Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.” 1 John 3:20, NLT “Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything.” Matthew 6:8, NLT “Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!” Even though the bible doesn't say God is omniscience we use that word to describe the concept of God being all knowing. Same thing with God being omnipresent, He is everywhere at one time. Proverbs 15:3, NLT “The Lord is watching everywhere, keeping his eye on both the evil and the good.” Psalms 139:7-10, NLT “I can never

escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.” Acts 17:27, NLT “His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us.” Though the Bible may not say it explicitly, we still use terms to describe an aspect of God. Now in Romans 1:20, NKJV “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and **Godhead**, so that they are without excuse.” Now, the word “**Godhead**” comes from the Greek word “*theiotēs*”, which means, divinity, divine nature, divineness. This same word is found in Acts 17:29, NKJV “Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the **Divine Nature** is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising.” And Colossians 2:9, NKJV “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;” Well the Bible doesn’t say trinity, but we use that word to describe the divine nature of God. Which is clearly seen in the scriptures.

**2) Jesus said there is only one God! John 17:3, NKJV “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God...”**

This statement is true there is only one true God. The Father is God, so He is the one true God. But so is Jesus, He is God, so He too is the one true God not a contradiction. The Holy Spirit is God as well, so He is the one true God, still not a contradiction. It is the divine nature of God, which has separate personhoods, so to speak. John 1:1, NKJV “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word **was with** God, and **the Word was** God.”

**3) If Jesus is God how’s come, He said His Father was greater than He was? John 14:28, NKJV “...My Father is greater than I.”**

Now Philippians 2:6-11 says this, NKJV “who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” This is simply stating that Jesus laid aside His glory and took on flesh, which He came in the form of a servant. Once He came to do what He was sent to do, then He rejoiced to return to the former glory that He and the Father had shared before all creation. John 17:5, NKJV “And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”

**4) How can Jesus pray to God if Jesus is God?**

This does not speak of tri-theism which is three gods, there are not three separate gods. It is speaking of the relationship within in the trinity, three separate personhoods but

yet still only one God. As John 17:5 stated, NKJV “And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.” It is the relationship of the trinity that allows the Son to pray to the Father.

**5) How can Jesus be God if He is God’s Son?** Colossians 1:15, NKJV “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”

However, Jesus is not a mere man claiming to be God. He is the Son of God in human flesh, John 10:36-38, NKJV “do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’? If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.” The title “**Son of God**” does not mean Jesus was literally born from God. The Bible does not teach a physical relationship between God and Mary. Luke 1:30-35 it says, NKJV “Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.” **John MacArthur** explains these verses: “Since a son bears his father’s qualities, calling a person someone else’s ‘son’ was a way of signifying equality. Here the angel was telling Mary that her Son would be equal to the Most High God” The only reason Jesus was described as the Son was in personhood only. Colossians 1:15, NKJV “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.” Some false cults say He is the first created being, but that’s not the case. Here in Colossians 1:15 the word for “firstborn” from the Greek is “*prototokos*” which means, first in birth order but also can mean, first in order of rank or authority, highest ranking official, the later is more likely the case since in **verse 16** it says what He is in authority over, which is everything. Colossians 1:16, NKJV “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.” Even in the Old Testament Israel was not the first nation formed, but God referred to them as, Exodus 4:22, NKJV “Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the Lord: “Israel is My son, My firstborn.”’ Israel was called God’s firstborn because of that nation’s miraculous beginning and special deliverance out of Egypt. Which brings me to John 3:16, NKJV “For God so loved the world that He gave His **only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Now that word “**only begotten**” is very confusing because that is an English word. We must go back to the original language and see what was the original meaning not, what we translate it to in English. The Greek word for “**begotten**” is “*monogenes*”, which means according to the Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature (BAGD, 3rd Edition) “**pertaining to, being the only one of its kind within a specific relationship.**” Speaks of

the relationship the Father has with Jesus not that Jesus was born in any kind of birth order. In [Hebrews 11:17](#) we read, NKJV **“By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.”** Now the problem is Isaac was not Abraham’s only son, he had many sons. Which *“monogenes”* also means one and only, Isaac wasn’t his one and only nor was he born first in order. Isaac was born after Ishmael, but it was the special relationship that Abraham had with Isaac that makes him his only begotten which is not the best word to use to translate *“monogenes.”* Jesus was only God’s Son in the sense of the special relationship that He and the Father shared. The bottom line is that terms such as “Father” and “Son,” are descriptive of God and Jesus, they are human terms that help us understand the relationship between the different Persons of the Trinity.

**6) If God is all knowing, Jesus claimed He didn’t know everything? [Mark 13:32](#), NKJV **“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”****

When Jesus said that to the disciples, He had no knowledge of the date and time of His return. Although Jesus was fully God, [John 1:1](#), NKJV **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”**, verse 14, **“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.”**, because when He became a man, He voluntarily restricted the use of certain divine attributes. [Philippians 2:6–8](#) NLT **“Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross.”** He did not show His divine attributes to them unless directed by the Father [John 4:34](#), NKJV **“Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” [John 5:30](#), NKJV **“I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.” [John 6:38](#), NKJV **“For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”** But He did demonstrate He was all knowing on several occasions such as; [John 2:25](#), NKJV **“and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.” [John 1:47-48](#), NKJV **“Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!” Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”** But He voluntarily restricted that omniscience/all knowing to only those things God wanted Him to know during the days of His humanity [John 15:15](#), NKJV **“No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.”** Such was the case regarding the knowledge of the date and time of His return. After He was resurrected, Jesus resumed His full divine knowledge, with all authority [Matthew 28:18](#), NKJV **“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”** This time He doesn’t say He doesn’t know, just that it’s not for the******

disciples to know when, [Acts 1:7](#), NKJV “And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.”

#### 7) If Jesus was God why didn't He just say, “I AM GOD”?

Jesus did say He was God, though the Bible never records Jesus saying the precise words, “**I am God.**” Nonetheless, He proclaimed He was God many times, especially in the book of John, and Revelation. In the context the Jews knew what He was claiming, because blaspheme was punishable by stoning and Jesus proclaimed He was God on numerous occasions, which the Jews picked up stones to stone him. But Jesus was very careful to distinguish between the Father and Himself so that we would not get confused about His personhood in the trinity. For instance, [John 10:30](#) Jesus said, NKJV “**I and My Father are one.**”, now if there is any question of what Jesus was saying the Jews responded with this in [John 10:33](#), NKJV “**The Jews answered Him, saying, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.”** Here is another one, [John 8:58](#), NKJV “**Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”** Now the Jews responded once again with this, [John 8:59](#), NKJV “**Then they took up stones to throw at Him.**”, as the Mosaic Law commanded, [Leviticus 24:16](#), NKJV “**And whoever blasphemeth the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall certainly stone him, the stranger as well as him who is born in the land. When he blasphemeth the name of the Lord, he shall be put to death.**” Now some objections to this is that, the Greek word for “**I Am**”, is “*ego*”, “*eimi*” which means; me or I and exist or happen. Problem is when Paul says in [1 Corinthians 15:10](#), NKJV “**But by the grace of God I am what I am...**” it is the same Greek construction used, *ego eimi*. The problem is that Paul is not proclaiming he is God, but Jesus did because of the conjunction of the phrase, “**before Abraham was**” Jesus says I existed! Therefore, He was proclaiming to be God, whereas Paul was **NOT**. In [John 20:28](#), NKJV “**And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”**, Jesus did NOT correct him if He wasn't God. [John 9:38](#), NKJV “**Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” And he worshiped Him.**” The 1<sup>st</sup> commandment in [Exodus 20:3](#), “**You shall have no other gods before Me.**” [Exodus 34:14](#), NKJV “**for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.**” But nonetheless Jesus received worship. [Revelation 19:10](#), NKJV “**And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”** Nowhere are we told to worship anyone but God, Jesus was worshipped because He was God. [Isaiah 44:6](#), NKJV “**...‘I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.’**” Now in Revelation when the Apostle John sees Jesus, Jesus tells Him this, [Revelation 1:8](#), NKJV “**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,**” says the Lord, “**who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.**” Jesus did NOT say I AM GOD! But He did use terms that people would know beyond a shadow of a doubt that He was saying He was God.

#### 8) **The Bible says God is not a Man, nor a son of man?** [Numbers 23:19](#), NKJV “**God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent.**”

Yes, God was not a man, nor the son of a man however this is Old Testament. **John 1:14, NKJV** “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,” there was a point when God the Son indwelt flesh. **Galatians 4:4** tells us that, **NKJV** “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,” There was a point in time, in history for us, but future for those when God talked with them in the book of **Numbers**, that God (the Son) was going to indwell flesh. **Isaiah 9:6, NKJV** “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Also in **Isaiah 7:14, NKJV** “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” In **Matthew 1:23** the name Immanuel is explained to us, referring back to the prophecy of Isaiah, **Matthew 1:23, NKJV** “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “**GOD WITH US.**” And that is exactly what happened God indwelt flesh, exactly when He chose to. So, the Old Testament is correct God is not a man, matter of fact Jesus even says that, **John 4:24, NKJV** “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”, but in the fulness of time Jesus indwelt flesh to fulfill prophecy and come to save man from his sins. Not a contradiction because it goes back to the special relationship that Jesus has with the Father. He is separate from the Father but yet, there is still one God.

With those questions answered, let’s talk about the different aspects of God in the trinity.

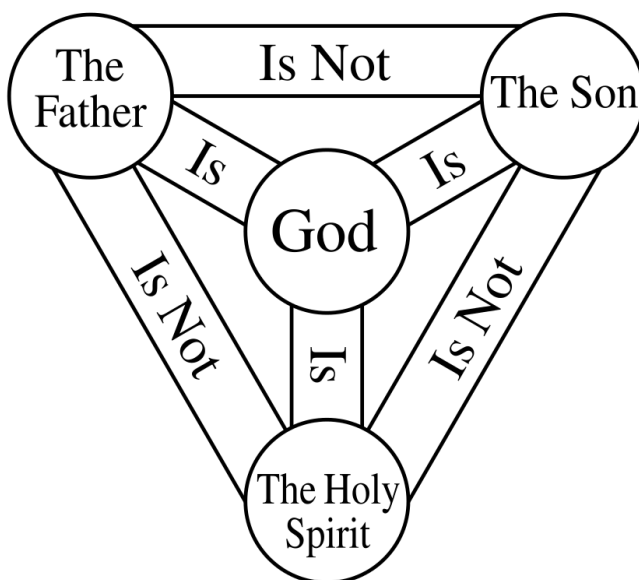
First let’s define some terms;

**1) Modalism:** A modalist views God as one Person instead of three Persons and believes that the Father, Son, and Spirit are simply different modes or forms of the same divine Person. One commentator said, same God, He just puts on different hats when he needs to, to be that different part of Himself. In oneness theology, which is anti-Trinitarian, there are no distinctions among the Persons of the Godhead. Jesus is God, but He is also the Father and the Spirit. In a slight deviation from ancient modalism, Oneness Pentecostals teach that God is able to manifest Himself in all three “modes” simultaneously, such as at Jesus’ baptism in **Luke 3:22, NKJV** “And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.” Now the Bible presents God as one God, **Deuteronomy 6:4, NKJV** “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!”, but then speaks of three Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit **Matthew 28:19, NKJV** “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” **How these two truths harmonize is inconceivable to the human mind.** When we attempt to understand it we will always fail to different degrees. But Scripture is plain: God exists in three co-eternal, co-equal Persons. Jesus prayed to His Father, **Luke 22:42, NKJV** “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” and now sits on the right hand of the Father in heaven, **Hebrews 1:3, NKJV** “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,

when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.” The Father and the Son sent the Spirit into the world [John 14:26, NKJV](#) “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”, [John 15:26, NKJV](#) “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.” Modalism and the more specific Modalistic Monarchianism are theologically dangerous because they attack the very nature of God (His Godhead, His Divine Nature). Any teaching that does not acknowledge God as three distinct Persons is unbiblical.

**2) Tritheism:** A belief in three gods, this view is held by many including Mormons. Does the fact that there exist three divine Persons mean that there exist three separate gods? The answer is no. The same Scriptures that affirm that all three Persons of the Trinity are divine also affirm monotheism, which means one God.

**3) Person:** Person can be defined as “a center of self-consciousness.” A person has a mind, emotions, and a will, can communicate with others, and is capable of performing actions. When we speak of the concept of personhood as it relates to the Trinity, we are describing self-distinctions in God. All three Persons of the one triune God possess the complete attributes of God. All three Persons are truly divine, yet eternally distinct from one another. The divine Persons can and do communicate with each other as seen in [John 17:1-26](#) and [Hebrews 1:8-9, NKJV](#) “But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.” Essentially, God has three centers of self-consciousness. Yet this one Being (the triune God of Scripture) possesses one indivisible essence. There is only one Being that is God, and this one being is tri-personal, with each of the three Persons having full possession of the divine nature. As stated before it is very, very, hard for finite minds like ours to comprehend God in His three personhoods. Although there is NO good picture of how to explain the trinity, we use an egg, or a book, but here is a chart that kind of shows the trinity in a semi-understandable way.



Think of math,  
as in,  
 $1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$   
it's NOT,  
 $1 + 1 + 1 = 3$

Let's look at each person individually:

### **God the Father:**

Most, if not all will not debate that God the Father is God. Here are just a few to exemplify this:

1 Corinthians 8:6, NKJV “yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him...”

Ephesians 4:6, NKJV “one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Matthew 23:9, NKJV “Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.”

Even Old Testament instances,

Isaiah 64:8, NKJV “But now, O Lord, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.”

Psalms 68:5, NKJV “A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation.”

As I mentioned before not many would deny the fact or debate that the Father is God.

### **God the Son (Jesus):**

We have already answered some objections let me give more of a defense not only from Jesus but from other New Testament writers.

Look what Isaiah says here in verse 21-22, NKJV “And there is no other God besides Me, a just God and a Savior; There is none besides Me. “Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.” Hosea 13:4, NKJV “Yet I am the Lord your God Ever since the land of Egypt, And you shall know no God but Me; For there is no savior besides Me.” God clearly proclaims there is no other God but Him and He is the one who saves, no one but Him. We must look to God and be saved. Now Jesus is referred to in the New Testament as this; Acts 4:10-12, NKJV “...Jesus Christ of Nazareth..., whom you crucified,...this is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Luke proclaimed that Jesus was the only Savior. Matthew 1:21, NKJV “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” Acts 16:30-31, NKJV “And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved...” So, the Old Testament said God is the Savior, and the New Testament says Jesus is the Savior, thus by salvation being in the name of Jesus He was proclaiming to be God. Even the Jews understood Jesus was saying He was God, especially because only God could forgive sins and bring salvation, Mark 2:7, NKJV “Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

There is a rule in the Greek called the Grandville Sharp Rule. In simple terms, the Granville Sharp Rule says that when two singular common nouns are used to describe a person, and those two nouns are joined by an additive conjunction, and the definite article



precedes the first noun but not the second, then both nouns refer to the **same person**. This principle of semantics holds true in all languages. Now there are two verses in the New Testament where this applies. **Titus 2:13, KJV** “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” In the original Greek, the words for “God” and “Savior” are joined by *kai*, and the definite article *ho* is only used once, preceding “God”; according to the Granville Sharp Rule, both God and Savior **must refer to the same person**, namely, Jesus Christ. The NASB 1977 renders the verse more literally: “Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.” Similarly, **2 Peter 1:1** refers to NKJV “our God and Savior Jesus Christ.” Following Granville Sharp’s rule, Jesus Christ is clearly identified as both “God” and “Savior,” another example of the Bible’s teaching of the deity of Christ. The grammatical construction of the Greek makes it plain: definite article + singular noun + copulative conjunction + singular noun = **the same person**. Though the Granville Sharp Rule may not be known by many, the concept has an important impact regarding Bible translation and our understanding of the **nature of Christ**. The New Testament passages where this rule applies highlight the deity of Jesus Christ. He is more than the Messiah; He is God.

Paul explains in Colossians very crystal clearly that Jesus is God! **Colossians 2:8-9, NLT** “Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.” John the Apostle proclaimed Jesus was God, **John 1:1, NLT** “In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.” If there is any question of who that Word is he explains it in **verse 14, NKJV** “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.” The Apostle Thomas proclaimed Jesus was God, **John 20:28, NKJV** “And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus proclaimed He was God, the Apostles proclaimed He was God, Paul was converted because He saw Jesus and proclaimed He was God and spent the rest of his life proclaiming that truth.

### **God the Holy Spirit:**

When talking of the trinity each person of the trinity has His own personhood. Even the Holy Spirit has His own personality, His own will, He thinks, He acts He feels, all of those things. We start with sins being forgiven, only God can forgive sins, well Jesus said this in **Mark 3:28-29, NKJV** “Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation.” Jesus even proclaimed that the Holy Spirit has power to forgive or not forgive sins making Him God. In **1 Corinthians 2:10-11**, Paul says the Spirit knows things and searches out stuff, NKJV “But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.” The Holy Spirit has, as best we can describe in human terms, feelings, **Ephesians 4:30, NKJV** “And

do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” And also 1 Thessalonians 5:19, NLT “Do not stifle (NKJV says quench) the Spirit.” I can put down a computer and make fun of it all day and it will never feel bad. I can make fun of electricity and it will NOT have bad feelings about what I say or do to it.

Does the Bible say somewhere that the Holy Spirit is God? Yes it does. Acts 5:3-4, NKJV “But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.” Notice how Peter says that they lied to the Holy Spirit in verse 3 which was lying to God, essentially, is what he says in verse 4. Acts 13:2, NKJV “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” The Holy Spirit talks in this verse, He has His own will and men act upon His will. Acts 8:29 speaking of Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, NKJV “Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.” And down in verse 39, NKJV “Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.” We see the Holy Spirit has power as well. Again, in Acts 10:19-20, NKJV “While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are seeking you. Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them.” We see that the Holy Spirit is God, called God, He has a separate personhood from the other 2 persons of the trinity, and He thinks acts and feels.

### **The Trinity:**

As we stated before nowhere does the Bible say trinity, however the concept is clearly seen.

It's vitally important to know the “Comma Johannine”, which is a textual variant in regards to 1 John 5:7-8. The word comma simply means “short clause,” and Johanneum means “pertaining to John.” Without the “comma,” 1 John 5:7-8 reads, NLT “For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.” With the “comma,” 1 John 5:7-8 reads, KJV “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.” If the Comma Johanneum was originally part of 1 John 5:7-8, it would be the clearest and most direct reference to the Trinity in the entire Bible. However, it is highly unlikely that the Comma Johanneum was originally a part of 1 John. None of the oldest Greek manuscripts of 1 John contain the comma, and none of the very early church fathers include it when quoting or referencing 1 John 5:7-8 in their commentaries. In the 16th century, when Desiderius Erasmus was compiling what became known as the Textus Receptus, he did not include the Comma Johanneum in the 1st or 2nd editions. Due to intense pressure from the Catholic Church and others who wanted it included because of its support for trinitarianism, Erasmus included the Comma Johanneum in later editions of the Textus Receptus. While what the Comma Johanneum says is true, it is not part of

the original statement and probably shouldn't have been added to the Bible. Though that's a great trinitarian verse, the doctrine of the Trinity is taught and implied in many other biblical passages, so we really don't need that special one.

**Some of those passages include,**

Though Jesus doesn't mention the Spirit, He does combine Him and the Father, **John 10:30**, NKJV "I and My Father are one."

**1 Corinthians 8:6**, NKJV "yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live." There again only the two but still combines them.

Same thing in **John 17:22**, NKJV "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:"

**Matthew 28:19**, NKJV "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the **name** of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," The word "name" there is singular in its context, which means Father, Son and Spirit are one, because of the singular way Jesus describes the three.

**2 Corinthians 13:14**, NKJV "The grace of the **Lord Jesus Christ**, and the **love of God**, and the **communion of the Holy Spirit** be with you all. Amen."

**Matthew 3:16-17**, NKJV "When He had been baptized, **Jesus** came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

**1 Peter 1:2**, NKJV "elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:"

**John 14:16**, NKJV "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—" The word helper here is the Greek word "*Parakletos*" which means **intercessor**, **helper**, or one who appears in another's behalf, **mediator**, **advocate**. Same word is used to describe Jesus, **Romans 8:34**, NKJV "Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also **makes intercession for us.**" **1 John 1:9**, NKJV "we have an **Advocate**(*parakletos*) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." **1 Timothy 2:5**, NKJV "For there is one God and one **Mediator** between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,"

**Titus 3:4-7**, NKJV "But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom

He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

There are passages that says, Christ lives in us, and there are ones that say the Spirit lives in us, and ones that say the Father lives in us.

### Jesus in us:

Colossians 1:27, NKJV “...which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.” Ephesians 3:17, NKJV “that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...” Galatians 2:20, NKJV “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;” Romans 8:10, NKJV “And if Christ is in you...”

### The Spirit in us:

1 Corinthians 3:16, NKJV “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” 1 Corinthians 6:19, NKJV “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” 2 Timothy 1:14, NKJV “That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.” Romans 8:11, NKJV “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you...” Romans 8:9, NKJV “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.”

### The Father in us:

2 Corinthians 6:16, NKJV “And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” Ezekiel 36:27, NKJV “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.” Isaiah 63:11, NKJV “Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: “Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them,”

### Trinity Plural:

The Bible is very clear that there is only one God,

Isaiah 43:10, NKJV “You are My witnesses,” says the Lord, “and My servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me.”

Deuteronomy 4:35, NKJV “To you it was shown, that you might know that the Lord Himself is God; there is none other besides Him.”

Deuteronomy 4:39, NKJV “Therefore know this day, and consider it in your heart, that the Lord Himself is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.”

**2 Samuel 7:22, NKJV “Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.”**

**1 Kings 8:60, NKJV “that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other.”**

**Isaiah 46:9, NKJV “Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,”**

The list goes on and on and on.

However, in the very first verse of the Bible very interesting thing is seen. In **Genesis 1:1** it reads, **NKJV “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”** Now the interesting thing is the word for God, which is **not plural** but singular in our English translations, is actually **plural** in the original Hebrew. The word translated God here is the Hebrew word “*Elohim*,” which is translated God over 2,600 times in the Old Testament. What is interesting is that *Elohim* is the masculine noun for God, but it is plural in the Hebrew, which should be translated God’s. Why do we translate it as just God singular? because of the nature of God, because He is one God, yet three separate persons. But it gives more evidence of the trinity, when we see God, plural *Elohim*, speaking in the three person in **Genesis 1:26-27, NKJV “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.” So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”** So yes, God is one God but has three parts, clearly one God is shown in the Bible but also are all three of His distinct separate persons shown as well. This is what separates man from animals, which is the fact that man thinks, acts and feels, just like God, that’s why we are created in His image. Animals are not because they don’t do things based on thought, they do things based on instinct.

**The Bible does not say Trinity but the concept is clearly seen all throughout.**