

Foundations 1: Essential Teachings of the Christian Faith  
November 26 2023

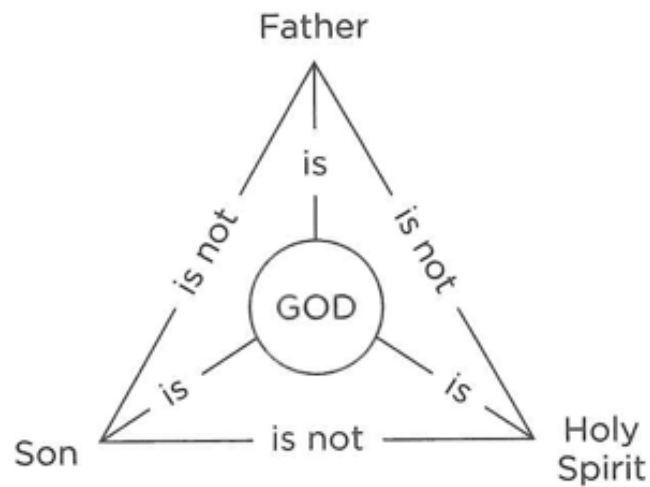


Figure 2.1

1. Nobody seems to know when the diagram originated, though it is at least as old as the twelfth century and is a straightforward representation of the first part of the Athanasian Creed.

The Trinity in:

Creation

Jesus' baptism

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20

Unity in the Trinity is best understood as "Tri-unity"

One God, Three Persons

## 1 what & 3 whos

Why this matters;

We are created in God's image for relationship, for community, for love.

Loneliness is not sinful.

"Alone" is "not good."

## Opening Discussion:

Best kids' message you've heard on what God is like

### Attributes

- I. Divine Essence
  - a. Immaterial
  - b. Spirit
  - c. Personal
  - d. Is and subsist by Himself
  - e. First, Last (Alpha, Omega)
  - f. Divine Essence
    - i. John 4:24
    - ii. Isaiah 44:6
- II. Divine Attributes
  - a. Essential attributes
    - i. As they are in themselves
      1. What God is
        - a. Simplicity
        - b. Incorporeality
        - c. Stability
      2. What God is like
        - a. Invisible  
1 Timothy 1:7
        - b. Impassible (discussion)
          - i. External Passibility
          - ii. Internal Passibility
          - iii. Sensational passibility
        - c. Immutable
          - i. Malachi 3:6
          - ii. James 1:17
          - iii. Psalm 102:27
          - iv. Not fickle
      3. Contrasted with time
      4. Contrasted with space
    - ii. As we perceive them
      1. Omnipresence: everywhere
      2. Omnipotence: all powerful
      3. Omniscience: all knowing

- b. Relational attributes
  - i. As they are: Personal, relational, rational
  - ii. As we perceive them
    - 1. Holy
    - 2. Righteous
    - 3. Good
      - a. Loving
      - b. Merciful
      - c. Gracious
      - d. Long-suffering

### Creation

- I. Creator
  - a. Free
  - b. voluntary
- II. Creation
  - a. Orderly
  - b. Ultimate end: glory
  - c. Rev. 4:11
  - d. Jer. 32:17
- III. Rest

Fast & furious:

Write down your unanswered questions:

Who God is

What God is like

Creation

Closing Prayer

From Psalm 66

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power... All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name. Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man. You have brought us to a place of abundance. Amen.