

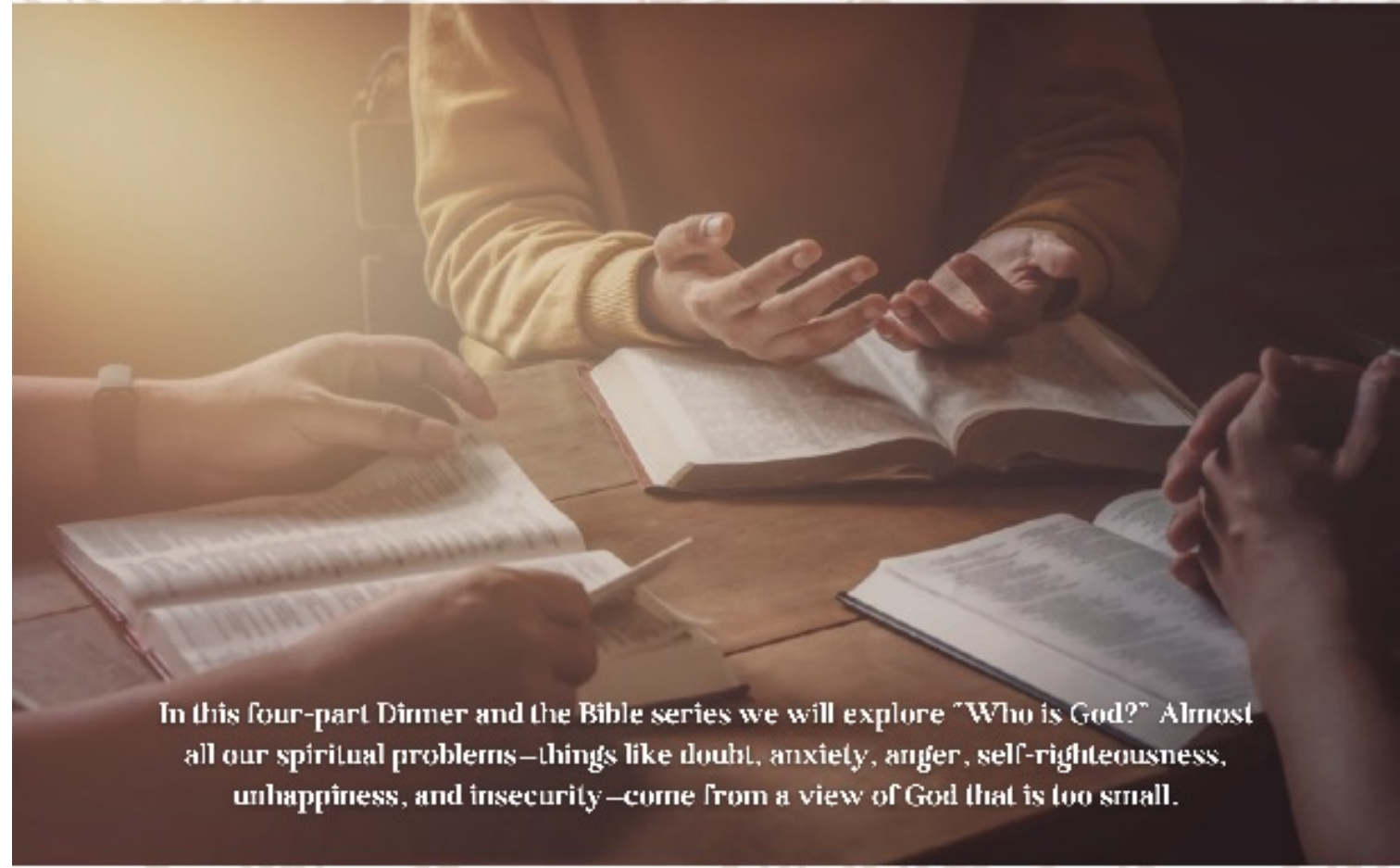
Who is God?

(Part 4 The Trinity)

- Emmanuel Episcopal Church - Wakefield

Dinner and The Bible

Join us as we renew our minds in Jesus and find rest for our weary and burdened souls.



In this four-part Dinner and the Bible series we will explore "Who is God?" Almost all our spiritual problems—things like doubt, anxiety, anger, self-righteousness, unhappiness, and insecurity—come from a view of God that is too small.

Opening Prayer – Brett





Our aim for this series

- Restore our sense of God's majesty ...
 1. Renew our minds
 2. Transform our thoughts about God
 3. Stir us to think of God's incomprehensible majesty
 4. Grow our faith in the one God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

PART 4

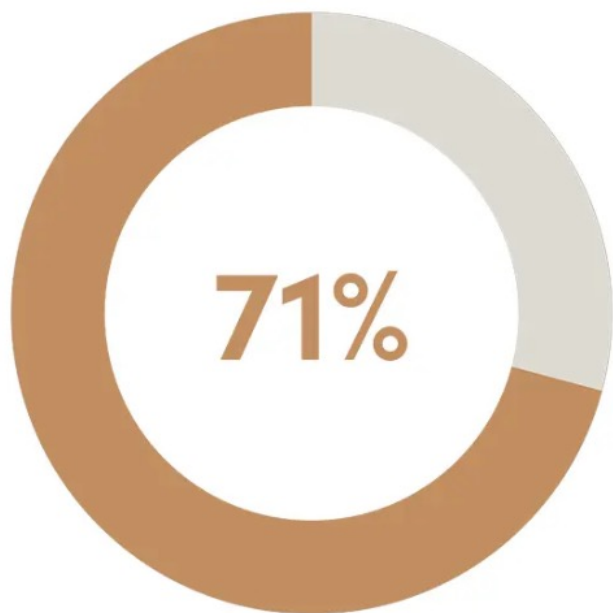
The Trinity

1. The Trinity in our Culture Today
2. Origins of The Trinity
3. What is The Trinity?
4. The Trinity in the Bible
5. Questions about The Trinity
6. Closing prayer
7. Conversation for those who want to stay

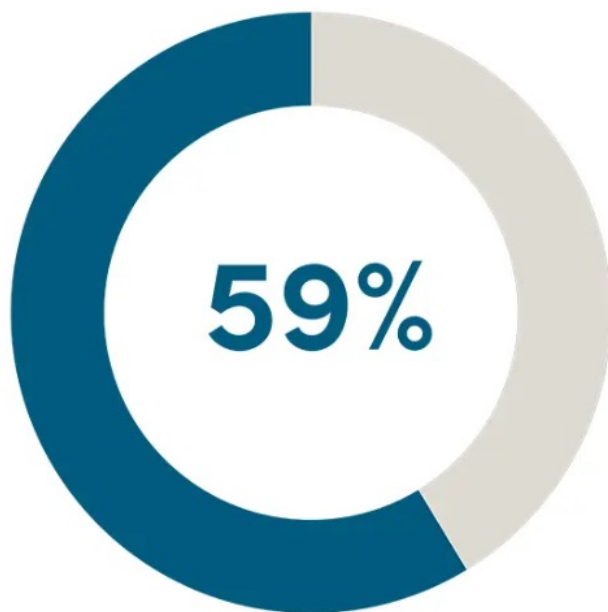


God-sized Confusion

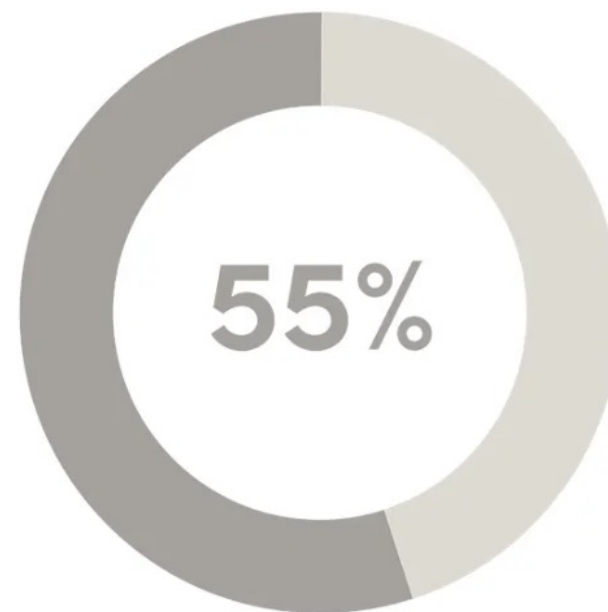
Percentage of Americans who agree



**THERE IS ONE TRUE GOD
IN THREE PERSONS**



**THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A FORCE
BUT NOT A PERSONAL BEING**



**JESUS IS THE FIRST AND GREATEST
BEING CREATED BY GOD**

Lifeway research

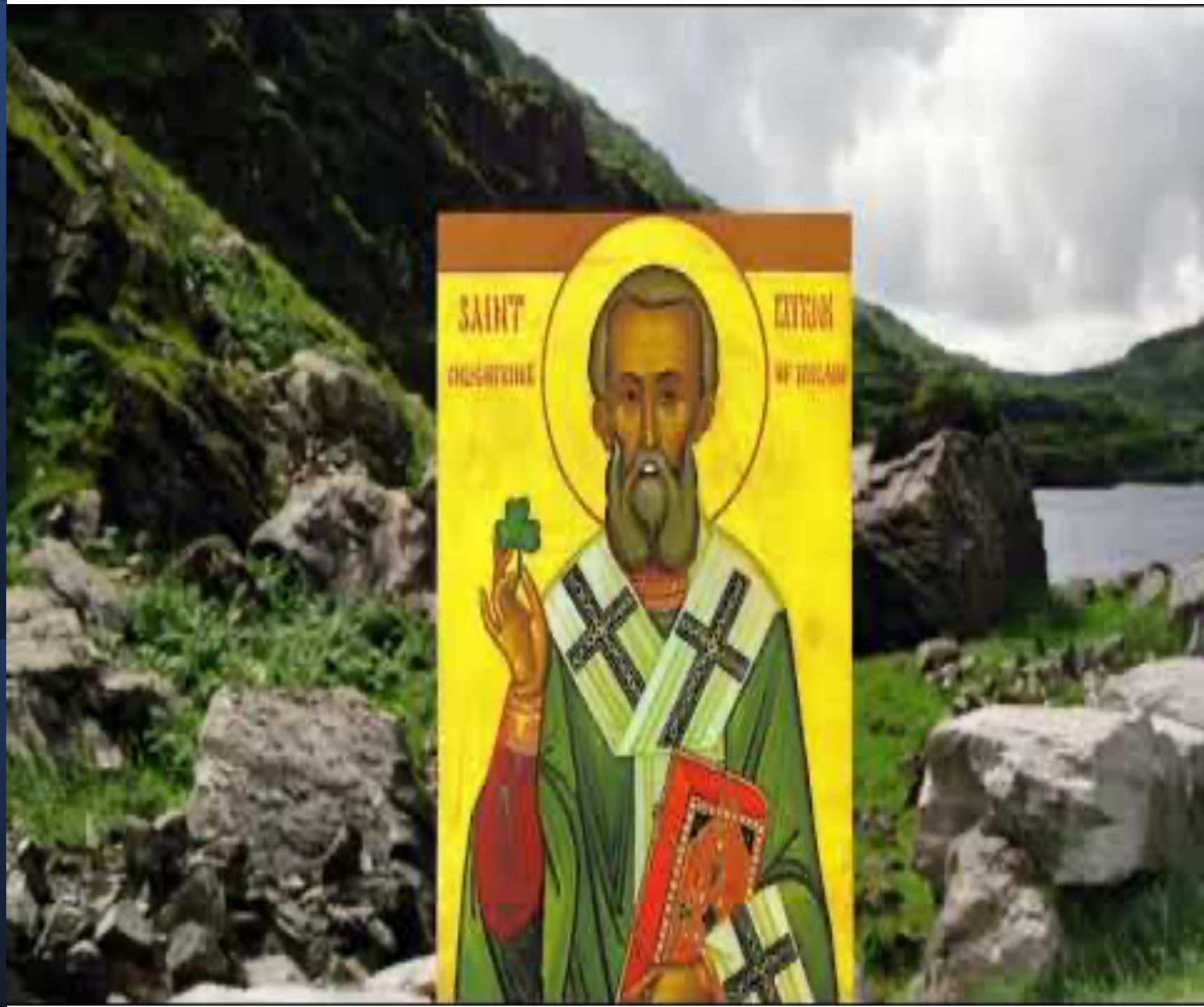
lifewayresearch.com



STATE of
THEOLOGY

Non-Trinitarians

- Unitarians
- Oneness Pentecostals
- Mormons
- Judaism
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Islam



The Doctrine of The Trinity - ORIGINS

1. The Bible foreshadows The Trinity in the OT
2. The Trinity is further illuminated in the NT
3. The Trinity is seen in the Apostolic church (see Acts)
4. The Trinity is seen in writings of the "church fathers"
5. The Trinity is captured in the Nicene Creed

"Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known." (1 Corinthians 13:12)

The Trinity

BEING of God

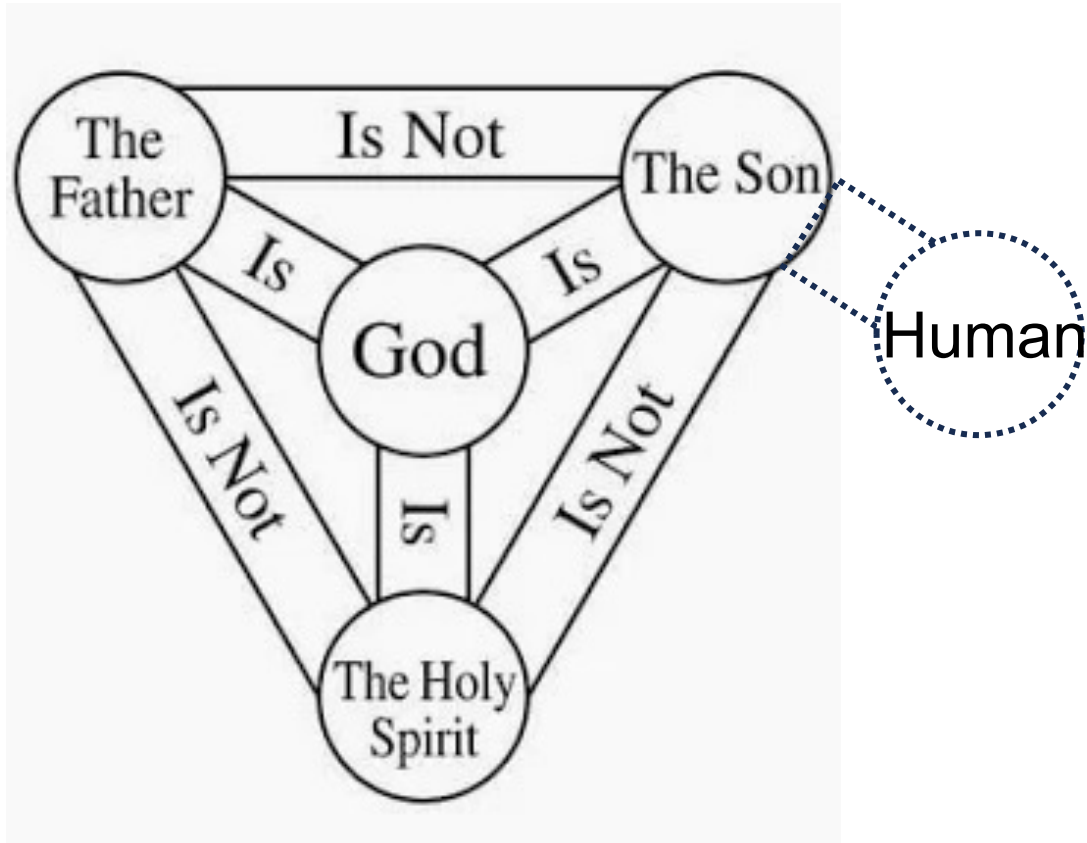
“Consists of all the attributes comprising God’s nature or essence ”

PERSON

“A distinct individual unique from others in personality in an enduring entity”

“Within the one Being that is God, there exists eternally three co-equal, co-eternal persons, namely, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit”

The Trinity (2)



THREE FOUNDATIONS

1. There is only one God (being)
2. Three distinct persons share all attributes of the one being of God
3. The three persons share these attributes equally and eternally

“One WHAT (Being) and three WHOs Persons)”

The Trinity in Matthew 28:19, ESV

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit,”*

There is
One God

THERE IS NO GOD EXCEPT THE LORD

Deuteronomy 6:4

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד:

Sh'ma, Yisrael ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

- *Other passages declaring “one God”*
 - *See also Isa 45:5-6, Dt 4:35; 6:4; 32:3; 1Ki 8:60; Ps 83:18; 86:10; Isa 43:10-11; 44:6-8; 45:18; 1Co 8:4-6; Eph 4:6; 1Ti 2:5*

The Trinity in the Old Testament

1. Plurality in unity
2. Names of God
3. Theophanies and The Angel of the LORD
4. The Spirit of God
5. God's self-references
6. Messianic Passages
7. Repetition of God's attributes or name:

The Deity of Jesus Christ – An Overview

1. Jesus is called God

Hebrews 1:8, John 20:27-29, 2 Peter 1:1,
Titus 2:12b-14, Phil 2:6, John 1:1-3,14)

2. Divine names are applied to Jesus

(Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:11; Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 3:3;
Jeremiah 23:5–6; Luke 1:32-33; Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21)

3. Divine attributes are ascribed to Jesus

Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-2; Revelation 1:8; 22:13
Matthew 18:20; 28:20; John 3:13
John 2:24-25; 21:17; Revelation 2:23
Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 3:21; Revelation 1:8
Hebrews 1:10-12; 13:8, Colossians 2:9

4. Jesus is spoken of doing divine works

John 1:3, 10; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2, 10, Luke 10:22;
John 3:35; 17:2; Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3
Matthew 9:2-7; Mark 2:7-10; Colossians 3:13, Matthew 25:31, 32;
John 5:19-29; Acts 10:42; 17:31; Philippians 3:21; 2 Timothy 4:1
Hebrews 1:10-12; Philemon 3:21; Revelation 21:5

5. Jesus accorded divine honor

John 5:22-23; 14:1; 1 Peter 1:6–7; 2 Peter 1:17; Revelation 5:13)

6. Jesus refers to himself with divine names

John 8:58-59 and Exodus 3:14,
Mark 14:62 and Daniel 7:13,
Revelation 22:13 and Isaiah 44:6

The Deity of Jesus Christ – John’s Prologue

GREEK VERB TENSE

ην imperfect tense,
(en) continuous action in past,
root ειμι

εγενετο Aorist tense,
(egeneto) Discrete action or origin,
root γινομαι

γεγονεν Aorist tense,
(gegonen) Discrete action or origin,
root γινομαι

1^a In the beginning^a was^b the Word^c and the Word^d was with God, and the
 Ἐν₁ → ἀρχῆ₂ ἦν₃ ὁ₄ λόγος₅ καὶ₆ ὁ₇ λόγος₈ ἦν₉ πρὸς₁₀ τὸν₁₁ θεόν₁₂ καὶ₁₃ ὁ₁₆

Word^e was^f God. ² He^g was^h in the beginning with God. ^{3^e} All thingsⁱ were^j
 λόγος₁₇ ἦν₁₅ θεὸς₁₄ οὗτος₁ ἦν₂ ἐν₃ → ἀρχῆ₄ πρὸς₅ τὸν₆ θεόν₇ πάντα₁ ← →

made^k through him, and without him^l was^m not any thingⁿ made^o that was made^p
 ἐγένετο₄ δι'₂ αὐτοῦ₃ καὶ₅ χωρὶς₆ αὐτοῦ₇ ▶₈ οὐδὲ₉ ἔν₁₀ ← ἐγένετο₈ ὁ₁₁ → γέγονεν₁₂

The Deity of Jesus Christ – Isaiah’s Vision



In context, this passage says that Isaiah saw Jesus’ glory, but when?



John quotes from **Isaiah 53:1** and from **Isaiah 6:10**



The first quote is the great messianic passage and NT gospel in Isaiah but doesn’t speak of seeing God’s glory.



Isaiah 6:10 directly follows Isaiah’s vision of the LORD Yahweh that we discussed last session



John is saying that when Isaiah was seeing Yahweh on his throne, he was in reality seeing Jesus.

John 12:36–41, ESV

*“While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: **“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”** Therefore, they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, **“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.”** Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.”*

The Deity of Jesus Christ – “I Am”

”Debating the Pharisees”

Gospel of John, Chapters 7 and 8

Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles

“ego eimi” is Greek for I Am (“he” added)

LXX translates “ani hu” as “ego eimi” Ani Hu is synonymous with Yahweh in Isaiah and Exodus 3:14

John quotes Jesus using ego eimi or (ani hu) to present himself as God

John 8:23–24, ESV

“He said to them, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.””

John 8:28, ESV

“So, Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me.”

John 8:56–59, ESV

“Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” So, the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” So, they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.”

The Deity and Personhood of the Spirit

DEITY

Called God	<u>Acts 5:3-4</u>
Creator	Job 33:4, 26:13
Resurrects	<u>Rom. 8:11</u>
Indwells	<u>John 14:17</u>
Omnipresent	<u>Psalm 139:7-10</u>
Omniscient	<u>1 Cor. 2:10-11</u>
Sanctifies	<u>1 Pet. 1:2</u>
Life-giver	2 Cor. 3:6,8
Eternal	Rom. 8:11; Heb. 9:14
A Will	<u>1 Cor. 12:11</u>
Searches the heart	<u>1 Cor. 2:10</u>

PERSONALITY

- Relationship with Father and Son. Mt 28:19, Jn 16:14-15; 2Co 13:14; 1Pe 1:2; Jude 20-21
- Relationship with believers. Acts 15:28
- Has authority of God. Ac 5:3, Ac 5:9; Heb 10:29
- Wise. Isa 11:2; Eph 1:17, 14:26; Ro 8:27
- Grieves. Eph 4:30, Isa 63:10; Heb 10:29
- Teaches, testifies, speaks, counsels, intercedes, knows, hears, warns. Jn 14:16; 14:26; 15:26; 16:7; Lk 12:12; 1Co 2:13; Ro 8:16; Ro 8:26; Ac 20:23; 2Sa 23:2; Ac 8:29; 10:19; 11:12; 13:2; Rev 2:1; Co 2:11; Gal 4:6; Jn 16:13
- Possesses and gives gifts

Relationships within the Godhead

1. God's infinite being is unique and undivided yet with interpersonal relationships
2. The Father, Son, and Spirit share one nature but have distinct subsistence's
3. The Father, Son, and Spirit are always in agreement
4. The Father begets and sends the Son
5. The Son is obedient to the Father (submits)
6. The Son "sends" the Holy Spirit, who "proceeds" from the Father
7. The Spirit is obedient to both the Father and the Son (submits)
8. Everything comes "from" the Father, "through" the Son, and "in" the Spirit

Answering Some Common Questions

1. Jesus said, “the Father is greater than I”
2. Colossians 1:15 says Jesus is a created being
3. Was Jesus praying to himself when he prayed to God?
4. How can the Son of God be God?
5. Jesus never said he was God
6. ”I can’t believe in something I don’t understand”

Closing Prayer (Adapted from Romans 11:33-36)

Let us pray...

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are your judgments and your path beyond tracing out!
For who has known your mind O' God, or who has been your counselor?"

Who has ever given to you that you might repay him?"

For from you and through you and to you are all things.

To you O' God be glory forever and ever. Amen.