

TRINITY

Week of June 29, 2014 • Message 2

THE GREAT LCC THEOCACHE ADVENTURE

VIDEO BUMPER • PRAY • DEUTERONOMY 4:29 • ACTS 17:26-27 • HEBREWS 11:6

REVIEW

- ❖ God wants to be found.
- ❖ God is Holy, completely different from everything else.
- ❖ Everything we know about God is “wrong.”
TODAY'S LESSON BUILDS OFF THAT UNDERSTANDING • TODAY WE WILL BE WRONG!

THE PARADOXICAL GOD

- #1. God does not **LIE**.
NUMBERS 23:19 • WHY DO WE LIE • HE IS HOLY AND DOESN'T CARE WHAT YOU THINK!
- #2. God is **ONE**.
DEUTERONOMY 6:4 • EXCLUSIVE, UNIFIED, SIMPLE • HOWEVER GENESIS 1:27 & 2:24
- #3. The **FATHER** is God.
PSALM 2:7 • MATTHEW 6:9
- #4. **JESUS** is God.
JOHN 8:58 • JOHN 10:30 • ACTS 13:32-33
- #5. The Holy Spirit is also **DISTINCTLY DIVINE**.
ACTS 5:3-4
- #6. The first Christians affirmed this **PARADOX**.
MATTHEW 28:19 • 1 PETER 1:2

EXPLANATION ATTEMPTS

- ❖ Reduce God's Oneness to “**TEAMWORK**.”
TRI-THEISM / MORMONISH
- ❖ Reduce God's Threeness to “**HAT-WEARING**.”
MODALISM (SABELLIUS) • PHILLIPS, CRAIG AND DEAN • APOSTOLIC CHURCHES HERE
- ❖ Reduce God's Threeness to “**FATHER-ONLY**.”
ARIANISM (ARIUS) / MORMON, JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
- ❖ Distinguish between “**BEING**” and “**PERSON**.”
HOMO-OUSIAN (ATHANASIUS) • CONSUBSTANTIAL, CO-EQUAL, CO-ETERNAL
- ❖ Throw your **HANDS UP** in **WONDER**!
GOD'S HOLINESS MEANS WE ARE WRONG, BUT OUR BEST ASSESSMENT OF SCRIPTURE IS...

Trinity: God is one single being whose **ESSENCE**
sustains **THREE DISTINCT PERSONS**.
ONE WHAT • THREE WHOS • WE ARE PROBABLY WRONG, BUT NO OTHER OPTION WORKS

IMPLICATIONS OF THE TRINITY

To say that God is Trinity is not simply a philosophical claim. If God is Trinity, then it means some very significant things!

1. A Triune God **NEEDS NOTHING**.
SIMPLICITY MEANS HE DOESN'T NEED ANYTHING • NOT EVEN RELATIONSHIP
2. A Triune God is **NOT PRETEND**.
THIS MUST HAVE BEEN REVEALED.
3. A Triune God is the ultimate object of **WORSHIP**.
ALL OTHER SYSTEMS PRESENT A LESSER BEING CALLED GOD.

TAKE THE TRINITY HOME

- ❖ Avoid silly, weak **METAPHORS**.
EGG • SHAMROCK • LIGHT • THIS IS A MYSTERY!! REJOICE IN IT!
- ❖ Understand God's **INTRINSIC LOVE**.
EPHESIANS 2:13, 18 • 1 CORINTHIANS 15:27-28
- ❖ Let it transform your **PRAYER** and **SPEECH**.
NOT JESUS AND GOD
GOD = TRIUNE / FATHER = SOURCE, INITIATOR / SON = WORD, ENACTOR
SPIRIT = ILLUMINATOR, INDWELLER, EMPOWERER

for further study, consider this message from 2011
<http://lafayettecc.org/news/077-02-dogma-part-02-the-trinity>