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Trinity in Unity

What is the nature of God's person?

According to the Holy Bible, God is unlimited. (Job 11:7) "Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?" In the same way (Romans 11:33–36). We cannot fully understand the personality of God in any way.

The Holy Bible is a witness to the existence of God. (Genesis 1:1) "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." About God's personality, there is a very famous statement among the Jews (Deuteronomy 6:4): "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." Then the Lord Jesus Christ explained about God's personality (John 4:24): "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." Also (Matthew 5:48): "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect."

God has different names:

- **Elohim** This name is used 2500 times in the Holy Bible. It means *The Living God*.
- **El** It means *Mighty One*.
- El Elyon It means *The Most High*.
- **El Olam** It means Everlasting God.
- **El Shaddai** It means *The Almighty God*.
- **Adonai** It means *Lord*, *Master*.
- Jehovah

Attributes of God:

- **Self-Existed** (John 5:26) "As the Father has life in Himself."
- Immutable (Malachi 3:6) God never changes.
- **Eternal** Everlasting.
- Omnipresence (Jeremiah 23:23–24) Present everywhere.
- Omniscience Knows everything.
- Omnipotence All powerful, Almighty.

Trinity in Unity

Christians are often accused of believing in three gods. I believe that every Christian believes in the Oneness of God (Unity), because without it our faith is not complete. The purpose of my topic today is not only to guide Christians but also to help them explain to others that Christians do not believe in three gods but believe in one God only.

GOSPEL MINISTRIES

In ancient cultures and religions, we find beliefs where people believed in one God, but they also accepted many other gods. Among them, *Henotheism* and *Monolatrism* are such beliefs – they believed in many gods but said one is the greatest among them. **Hinduism** is one example. They say God is one but also believe in many other gods. In the Book of Acts, such people are also mentioned (Acts 14:12–13).

That's why in the Old Testament, God made this clear in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1–3) (Deuteronomy 6:4) (Isaiah 45:5–6) (Malachi 2:10) (1 Corinthians 8:4,6) (Ephesians 4:6).

Against *Henotheism* and *Monolatrism*, there is another term we call *Monotheism*. This is a combination of two words – "mono" means one, and "theism" means belief in God. This means belief in one God who is the Creator and Owner of the world. We believe in the unity of God (Oneness).

Let me share one thing with you – you cannot explain these truths to those who believe that the Holy Bible has been changed.

Only those will understand these truths who believe that the Holy Bible is unchangeable. Because these revelations are written in this unchangeable Word, anyone who wants to understand must first believe that the Holy Bible is the unchangeable book.

Let's see from the Holy Bible what it says about this matter. The Holy Bible confirms that Christians believe in One God (Unity). There are many references, but keeping in mind the limited time, I will share a few of them:

- (Deuteronomy 6:4) "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!"
- (1 Corinthians 8:4) "So we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one."
- (Galatians 3:20) "Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one."
- (1 Timothy 2:5) "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus."

• Understanding God is Impossible for a Human

It is impossible for a human to fully understand the being of God. John Wesley says that just as it is not possible for a worm to fully understand a human, in the same way, it is not possible for a human to fully understand God.

• Christian Belief:

Now we Christians say based on the Bible that God has revealed Himself in the Holy Bible more than anywhere else. Christians believe that God is infinite, and He cannot be limited to the number one (1). The Holy Bible confirms this.

In mathematics, the number "1" is limited, so it is not right to compare God with something limited.

Our problem is that our thinking is limited, and because of our limited thinking, we think of God like a human being.

Being One is Not a Big Deal:

The God of the Holy Bible is not only one in His being but also plural.

• Trinity in Unity:

There is plurality in the being of God, and this plurality is limited to three. Christians believe in the doctrine of the Trinity, which means Three in One and One in Three.

The word "Trinity" is not written in the Holy Bible. Just like the word "Great Commission" is not in the Bible, and the words of blessing are not written in the Holy Bible either.

• However, this is the basic, unique, and complete belief of the Christian religion which is mentioned from the first page of the Holy Scriptures (Genesis 1:1) to the last page (Revelation 22:16).

• God is Not Limited but Infinite:

To explain this, first, we will take guidance from the Old Testament.

In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word "Elohim" is used for God, and this is a plural word.

So, applying the concept of "one" from mathematics to God is wrong. God is both one and plural.

Such a limit cannot be placed on God.

- There are many verses in the Holy Bible that show that God is one and also plural.
- (Genesis 1:1) "In the beginning God (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth." Here, we cannot translate it as "gods," but while reading this, we should keep in mind that God has plurality in His being.
- (Genesis 1:26) "Then God said, Let us make man in our image, in our likeness."

 These are not respectful or royal words. Like when a king says, "We want this or that," it is not like that here.
 - Instead, here we see a picture of plurality in God. Some critics say these are literary or royal words that kings usually used, but according to the Hebrew text, this is not so. Here, the plurality in the being of God is being talked about.
- (Genesis 3:22) "And the Lord God said, Behold, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever—"
- (Genesis 11:7) "Come, let us go down and confuse their language so that they will not understand each other."
- (Isaiah 6:8) "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? And I said, Here I am. Send me!"

 Such verses show us that God is both one and plural.
- (Isaiah 48:16) "Come near to me and listen to this: From the beginning I have not spoken in secret; from the time it came to be, I was there. And now the Lord God has sent me, and His Spirit."
 - Here, besides God, we also see another person.
- (Isaiah 61:1) "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the humble. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners."
- Many critics say that in these verses, God is speaking while including all the heavenly beings.
 - But this explanation does not fit with Genesis 1:1.
- From all these verses, we come to the conclusion that there is both unity and plurality in the being of God.
- We See the Same in the New Testament:
- (Matthew 3:16-17) "As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on Him. And a voice from heaven said, This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

- Here, we see the same plurality in the being of God that is shown in the Old Testament. Here, this plurality is given more **clarity**:
 - God the Father.
 - God the Son,
 - and God the Holy Spirit.
- (Matthew 28:19) "Go and make disciples of all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
- (2 Corinthians 13:14) "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."
- In the letters of Apostle Paul, there are about thirty verses where these three divine persons are mentioned together. In the Holy Bible, we see three persons in the one being of God. And we cannot say that any one of these three is greater or lesser than the other because all three are God.
- These three are different from each other. The Holy Bible gives proof of this.
- God the Father is unique:
 - (Genesis 19:24) "Then the Lord rained down sulfur and fire from the sky on Sodom and Gomorrah."
- Second person of the Holy Trinity: The Son of God
 (Psalm 2:7,12) "I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to me, You are my Son.
 Today I have begotten you."
- Third person of the Holy Trinity: The Holy Spirit is separate from God (Numbers 27:18) "And the Lord said to Moses, Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand on him."
- God the Son is different from God the Father:
 - (Psalm 45:7) "You love righteousness and hate wickedness. That is why God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions."
 (Hebrews 1:8–9)
- All three persons of the Trinity are God:
- The Father is God:
 - (John 6:27) "Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that lasts to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." (Romans 1:7; 1 Peter 1:2)
- The Son is God:
 - (John 1:1) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
 - (John 1:1–14; Romans 9:5; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:2,8; 1 John 5:20)
- The Holy Spirit is God:
 - (Acts 5:3–4) "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? Wasn't it yours before you sold it? And after you sold it, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God."
 - (1 Corinthians 3:16)
- We can also see this one-in-three nature of God in nature.
- God has left some examples in His creation to help us understand the Trinity in Unity.
- Our own being is made of spirit, soul, and body.

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- Question:
- You may have many questions, but I will answer a few that were brought to me:
- 1. Some people ask, in (John 14:28) the Lord Jesus Christ says, "The Father is greater than I."
- 2. In (Matthew 24:36) the Lord Jesus Christ says, "No one knows the day or hour, not the angels in heaven, not the Son, but only the Father."
- This is not about someone being small or big, but about **respect**. There is such unity between the three persons that no one is against the other. Each one respects the work of the other and does his own work. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Word of the Father, not that the Father is the word of the Son.
- Then people ask: Why does the Lord Jesus Christ pray to the Father many times? If He is God, why does He pray to the Father?

 The answer is: At that time, He was also present in human form. He was God and also man.
- Another question: Where will the Son be in heaven, and where will the Father's throne be?
 - This is not only their question, but many people want to know.
- In our Bible colleges, we study a subject called **Anthropomorphism**. It means describing divine things in human ways.
- The Holy Bible often uses this kind of language.
- Now what is the truth?
 - When we hear the word "throne", we think as if God the Father is sitting on a chair like humans do. And the Lord Jesus Christ is sitting or standing at His right hand.
- Besides this, we also read in the Bible that:
 - God has fingers, hands, ears, arms, eyes, a mouth, and eyelids.
- But if we read (John 4:24) it says, "God is spirit..."

 And the Lord Jesus Christ said in (Luke 24:39) "...a spirit does not have flesh and bones..."
- So on one side, the Bible tells us about God's body parts, and on the other side, it says that He is spirit.
- There is no contradiction. It's just a matter of understanding.

 To make it easy for us to understand, **Anthropomorphism** is used meaning divine things are explained in human ways so we can understand.
- The same method is used to describe the throne.

 The throne in heaven will not be like the chairs we imagine.

 In heaven, only the glory of God will be there, where no worldly thinking will remain.