

# The Attributes of God

---

## The Trinity

**Monotheism:** the belief that there is only one God

**Polytheism:** the belief that there is more than one god

## Deuteronomy 6:4-5

---

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Isaiah 44:6-8

Isaiah 45:5-6

James 2:19

Even though the Bible teaches that there is only one God, it also refers to three different persons being God: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:16-17

Matthew 28:18-19

1 Peter 1:1-2

**1 Corinthians 12:4-6**

---

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

Jude 1:20-21

**Trinity:** One God, in Whom exist three co-eternal and co-equal persons: God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All being God but distinct in person

When learning about the Trinity, it is helpful to learn what the Trinity is not.

Is the Father the Son?

Is the Spirit the Son?

Is Jesus the Father?

Each person of the Godhead is referred to as God. They are the same in essence but distinct as to their persons.

### John 17:24

Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

1 John 2:1

John 1:1-2, 14

John 14:25-26

---

"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 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 that I have said to you.

Acts 1:7-8

---

He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Genesis 1:26

Genesis 3:22

Genesis 1:2

Matthew 22:41-46

Acts 5:3-4

**Tritheism:** An over-distinction of the Father, Son, and Spirit that becomes a form of polytheism

**Modalism:** The belief that there is only one God who manifests Himself in different modes as either Father, Son, or Spirit at the exclusion of the others.

**Arianism:** The belief that the Son of God is not eternal, but was created by God the Father, and is not equal to God the Father in His nature and attributes.

The Athanasian Creed was written in the 4th century to refute false teaching about the Trinity that was gaining in popularity.

The Athanasian Creed