

## II. Concerning the One, True God

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, and infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love, that in the unity of the of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

### ***The Being of God:***

‘The existence of God has been referred to as the greatest mystery, but it furnishes a key to unlock a thousand other mysteries. How many things can be accounted for on the supposition that there is a God, which can be understood on no other supposition! If there is a God, man can know something about himself, whence he came; something about the world, whence it sprang; something about the universe, why it exists. If there is no God, nothing can be satisfactorily known, and all things, whether they exist by fate or chance, are in hopeless confusion and darkness.’<sup>1</sup>

### ***Fundamental Verse:*** Romans 1:18-20

#### ***God’s Natural Attributes:***

I. He is a Spirit: John 4:24 – ‘Spirit’- pneuma- a current of air, a breath- This is what makes the Christian God (Jehovah) expressly unique from the other deities of the world. They have some idol image they usually worship, yet Jesus taught that God is a spirit- which is why Jesus himself, could be Man & God- because God is a spirit! We know that God is does not have a physical form!

A. Gen 1: 26-27- the creation of man- let us make man in our IMAGE- meaning we have an eternal soul! A spirit like that of God- Death is the separation of body & soul.

II. He is Self-Existent- John 5:26- This makes God unique from his creation. This defies human logic & reasoning. (Jehovah-self-existent)

III. He is Eternal- Ps 90: 1-2 The nature of self-existence implies eternity! We believe that God is the Alpha & Omega, the beginning and the end. We know that we are eternal creatures: Matt 25:46 with an eternal God.

A. Rev 4:8- The eternal God.

IV. He is Immutable (unchangeable)- James 1:17- We know that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, & forever! His promises, personality, uniqueness, love, wrath, & justice do not change!

A. Heb 6:17-20- Because of his immutability, we have him as a rock, an anchor for our soul in this ever-changing world!

V. He is omnipresent (Every where)- Ps 139:7-12- Understanding God’s omnipresence, will, ultimately, steer us from sin; knowing that God is everywhere, where can I privately

sin? However, we should also be thankful that we may call upon the name of the Lord ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

VI. He is omnipotent (all powerful)- Heb 1:1-3, Col 1:7- what power does God not have?

VII. He is omniscient (all knowing)- Heb 4:13 – God knows all, no secrets can be kept...

### ***God's Moral Attributes:***

I. Goodness: Rom 5:8 – All moral and legal laws are based on the fact that GOD IS LOVE. His goodness is the grounds on which society functions. All standard, contemporary laws are based on the moral scale of God. Because God is a moral, rational creature, he is a proper subject of moral government, allowing us to have fellowship with him.

II. Just: Acts 17:31 – Because God alone, can keep his laws, he is the only appropriate judge. If God was not just, if he had been able to side step justice in accordance with his own law, then Christ would have never been subjected to his physical death on the cross! God is a just God- ‘How can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?’

III. Veracity: (Truth) John 17:17 – ‘The impossibility is moral, not natural. That is, God has the natural ability to say what is not true, but the infinite excellence of his character, including his veracity, makes it morally impossible for him to lie.’<sup>1</sup>

IV. Wisdom: Romans 11:33 – Wisdom implies knowledge; there is a difference.

V. Holiness: Isa 6:3 – Holiness is the moral attributes of God combined.

### ***The Doctrine of the Trinity***

Though incomprehensible to the human mind, the doctrine of the Trinity is a religious truth. Though many deny the Trinitarian aspect of God, we SHOULD NOT. The term ‘trinity’ does not appear in the Bible, however, the definition & the doctrine does. There are three distinct persons of the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. These three are ONE IN SUBSTANCE, YET THREE IN OFFICE, thereby establishing Christianity as monotheistic (one God).

#### ***The Harmony of the Three***

1. Matt 28:19-20- The Great Commission- Why would we baptize in the name of the Son and the Holy Ghost if they weren't God?
2. Matt 3:16-17- all three persons (deities) in harmony with each other.
3. John 15:26- Son & Spirit of the Son sent by the Father.
4. 1 John 5:7- this is the clearest text on the trinity.

\*NOTE: if all three are God (& they are)- then they all share the above attributes Natural & Moral (i.e. they are all SELF-EXISTENT).

### *The Individuality of the Three*

1. 2 Cor 13:14- The Love of the Father, The Sacrifice of the Son, The communion of the Holy Ghost...

a. What part does each play in salvation? How are they distinct?

1. God the Father- The creative mind of the worlds, seen & unseen, is the offended party, for WE BROKE HIS LAW. He devised the scheme of redemption, the predestined plan of salvation.

2. Jesus Christ- became the substitutionary atonement for the sins of mankind. Through Christ, we have the forgiveness of sins. With the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. He became the perfect sin sacrifice, this God-man, bridging the gap between God & mankind.

3. The Holy Ghost- active in the hearts of believers. He is our direct line of communication with God. He testifies of Christ, thereby, condemning the lost, and blessing the saved. He teaches us, leads us, guides us as Jesus Christ would if he were here today. He is the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

2. Rev 1:5- The Work of Jesus Christ

3. John 14:16 & 26- The Work of the Holy Spirit- takes the place of Christ on earth- HOWEVER, THE SPIRIT, TOO, IS ETERNAL! The Spirit was present in the Old Testament, He enabled Christ to do all miracles (for Christ emptied himself of his Godly nature), He is present today touching our lives & filling our hearts.

A. Mark 3:28-30- the Holy Ghost is as much God as the Father is God. We don't call the Father 'it'- nor should we call the Spirit 'it'- it is HE- masculine form- denoting authority. The Spirit is SENSITIVE to our Spirits, our minds, & our murmurings which 'proceedeth from the heart.'