

How the Trinity Blesses the Church and How We Should Respond

SESSION 1: How the Trinity Helps Us Understand God

Simple Premise: The Trinity is who God is.

Importance of the Trinity

The doctrine of the Trinity is a way to help us understand more fully

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14

Context to Scripture 2 Corinthians 13:14

- This is the ending of Paul's last letter to the church at Corinth
- Church had experienced much division.
- The church was also being influenced by the super-apostles.
- The church had improved, but was still struggling with sin
 - 13:5 –

 - 13:10 -

Despite their failings, Paul ends the letter with a full Trinitarian blessing. *¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Cor 13:14*

Properly contextualized, these three phrases are full of theological depth. This is a final statement to the Corinthians to live and love this way and to know that they can because of the work of the Trinity.

Other biblical analogies of the Trinity

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

The context of John 15

What is Jesus telling His disciples and why is He telling them it this way?

The next three sessions:

The Father's love

The Grace of the Son

The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit