

JEHOVAH AND CHRIST—ARE THEY PART OF A TRINITY?

Note to the speaker:

Convincingly demonstrate that both the facts of history and the Bible prove that Jehovah and Jesus are no part of a Trinitarian Godhead

ORIGIN OF THE “MYSTERY” OF THE TRINITY (5 min.)

Early Christians held firmly to inspired Word that the Father was supreme and worthy of all worship (Re 15:3, 4) United also in the belief that Jesus Christ was God’s Son, a separate person and lower in position than his Father (Joh 14:28; Php 2:5, 6)

During second century C.E. unfaithful leaders began to turn to popular Greek philosophies supposedly to convert educated pagans. They especially turned to Platonism (*ti* 11-12)

Philosophies of Plato and teachings of Philo, a Jew, were combined to form the basis for the Trinity doctrine. No Scriptural foundations (*ti* 11)

Brought into the church through a series of church councils and finally adopted in the Athanasian Creed (*ti* 8-9)

JEHOVAH—ONE GOD OR PART OF A TRIUNE DEITY? (12 min.)

Almighty God made name Jehovah known during confrontation with all the pagan gods of Egypt, sixteenth century B.C.E. (Ex 6:3)

After delivering the Israelites, he formed representative nation and commanded them: “You must not have any other gods against my face” (Ex 20:3)

He demanded exclusive devotion to him, the “one Jehovah” (De 4:24; 6:4; Na 1:2)

Centuries later he restated his name and declared that to NO ONE else would he give his glory. Swore by himself that to him alone ‘every knee will bend down’ (Isa 42:8; 45:23)

Israelites were given honor to be his witnesses that, ‘Before me no God formed,’ none after, “I am Jehovah” (Isa 43:10, 11)

Hebrew word for God is *elohim* (plural) which some have said is a compound unity of three persons in one. However, in Hebrew usage *elohim* “is almost invariably construed with a singular verbal predicate, and takes a singular adjectival attribute” (*ti* 13)

Not a plurality of persons, but an ‘intensive plural’ denoting greatness and majesty

Jehovah insisted that he was not to be divided into a group of aspects as did the pagans with the Baals. This would also prohibit the philosophical assignment of him to being part of a trinity of gods (Jg 3:7; *it*-1 229)

Paul acknowledged that there were many pagan gods, but only one (True) God, the Father, and one Lord, Jesus. Two different persons, not two gods in one (1Co 8:5, 6)

Jehovah eventually is to become ‘king over all the earth, One king, and his name one.’ All will worship ‘One God and Father who is over all.’ No association with a trinity (Zec 14:9; Eph 4:6)

JESUS CHRIST—EXALTED SON, BUT LOWER THAN FATHER (10 min.)

Jesus Christ is the only-begotten Son of God (Joh 1:14)

Prehuman existence in heaven as Logos, the Word (Joh 1:1)

Used to create all other things but was ‘firstborn of every creation’ (Joh 1:3; Col 1:15)

Thus, unlike ever existent Father, Jesus had a beginning

Appointed by Father as Chief Agent and Administrator for carrying out Jehovah’s purposes (Col 1:16, 20; 1Jo 4:9)

He is Jehovah’s agent to remedy all problems raised by Satan’s rebellion

Is foundation upon which Jehovah will build the administration to destroy Satan and unite all things (Heb 2:14; Eph 1:8-10)

Appointed as King of Theocratic government by Jehovah (Da 7:13, 14)

Became man’s Redeemer by giving himself as the ransom sacrifice; through him will come resurrection of the dead (Joh 11:25; Ac 10:42; 1Ti 2:5, 6)

Only by authority of Father could Jesus truthfully say, “I am the way and the truth and the life.” (Joh 14:6) He was not the originator or the source

He was highly honored and exalted but not to equality with Father (*ti* 19)

NO THREE-IN-ONE EQUALITY BETWEEN FATHER AND SON (7 min.)

Jesus never claimed equality with Father but declared that his authority came from God (Joh 5:19, 21, 24; 8:28)

He publicly declared that he had ‘been sent forth’ and that his message ‘belonged to him that sent me.’ One who sends forth always greater than one sent (Lu 4:18; Joh 7:16, 18; 13:16, 17)

Jesus, the Son, also learned obedience by the things he suffered. To whom was Jesus obedient? (Joh 7:28; 8:29, 42; Heb 5:8)

As Head of congregation, Jesus always upholds theocratic order, subjecting himself to Jehovah as his Head (1Co 11:3; 15:28)

Jesus always prayed to Father. No need if he himself was God. Did not direct prayers to himself (Mt 4:10; 6:9; Heb 2:12)

No Scriptural support for equality between Father and Son

WHAT ABOUT BIBLE TEXTS THAT SUPPOSEDLY PROVE OR SUPPORT BELIEF IN THE TRINITY? (6 min.)

As seen from information presented, Biblical and historical evidence does not support Trinity teaching

Texts used to support Trinity doctrine are commonly misinterpreted or taken out of context (briefly explain)

John 10:30 (Refer to John 17:21, 22 to show what Jesus meant)

John 1:1 (Consult appendix article 6A of *Rbi8*)

John 8:58 (See *ti* 26)

Keep in mind that these texts refer to only two persons, not three

Not one Bible text says that God, Jesus, and holy spirit are the same in substance, power, and eternity

JEHOVAH WILL RULE IN SUPREMACY FOR ALL ETERNITY (5 min.)

Events prove that Jehovah took his great power at end of Gentile Times in 1914 and began exercising sovereignty through Messianic Kingdom (Re 11:17)

Graciously invited his faithful and loyal Son to share that Kingdom in which Jehovah is the Supreme One. Honor given to the Son by the Father (Da 4:25; Re 11:15; 12:10)

Lovingly selected 144,000 others from mankind to share the throne with Jesus Christ (Re 14:1; 20:4, 6)

Theocratic order and arrangement is: (1) Jehovah, Supreme Sovereign; (2) Jesus Christ, loyal and exalted King; (3) 144,000 associated kings and priests; (4) all other creatures in submission

No trinity of Gods, no equality with Sovereign Lord Jehovah, all things in heaven and earth harmoniously submitting to Theocratic rule (1Co 15:24, 28)

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need be read. Source material in parentheses need not be mentioned)