

LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

The Apostles' Creed



“The First Article—God And Man”
Part 2

by

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The First Article—God And Man

I The Creation of Man

A. Man was created on the _____ day (ixsth)

B. What is special about man's creation?

1. He was formed out of _____ (cayl)

“The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”

Gen. 2:7 (NIV)

2. He was created with a _____ (ousl)

3. He was created to _____ (anagem) the earth

“Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

Genesis 1:26-27 (NIV)

4. Man was made in the “Image of God”

II The Image Of God

A. What the “Image of God” does not refer to...

1. How man _____ . (ooksl)

2. How man is a _____-ing creature (easoningr)

3. How man has the ability to _____ his life (irectd) and make
_____ (ecisionsd).

B. The “*Image Of God*” only refers to the fact the Adam and Eve were created _____ like God (ohly). Because they were without sin, they were the perfect _____ (egima) or reflection of God’s holiness.

C. Adam and Eve lost the “Image of God” when they fell into _____ (ins).

D. What things did Adam and Eve lose when they lost the Image of God?

1. Their ability to be _____ (ohly)
2. The ability to _____ God by their good works (elapse)
3. Eternal _____ and salvation (iefl)
4. A _____ relationship with God (erfpect)

III How To Regain The Image Of God

A. Not by our own _____ (orksw)

B. Only by....

1. God’s working in our hearts through His _____ (ordw) and _____-ments (scraa)
2. Jesus’ suffering and death.

C. The “Image Of God” will be made perfect when we go to _____ (enveah)

The Holy Trinity

I Who is God?

- A. The _____ of heaven and earth (eatcor)
- B. He is _____ (ternale), that is, without beginning
or _____ (ned)
- C. He is _____ (erpsonal)
- D. He is _____ (iprsit), that is, he has no flesh or bones.
- E. He is not _____ or fe-_____ (elma)
- F. He is _____ our understanding (eyondb)
- G. He is the _____ of Jesus. (therfa)
- H. He is _____ (ytnitri)

II The Trinity

- A. The word “trinity” means “_____” and “_____” (eerht/eno)
1. “tri” means _____
 2. “unity” means _____
- B. _____ *True or False*: The word “Trinity” appears in the Bible.

C. Why we believe the Trinity?

1. Because the _____ teaches it (ibble)
2. Because _____ teaches it (essuj)
3. Because it is how God _____ Himself (evealedr)

III The Bible And The Trinity

A. The Bible And The Trinity

PERSON OF TRINITY	SYMBOLIZED BY...	IN BIBLE?	CALLED GOD?
God, the Father <i>Main Work:</i> <hr/> (reationc)			
God, the Son (Jesus) <i>Main Work:</i> <hr/> (emptionred)			
God, the Holy Spirit <i>Main Work:</i> <hr/> (tificationsanc)			

Note: “The Godhead”

The Godhead is a unit consisting of God the Father, Jesus Christ (the Son), and the Holy Spirit. Though often used interchangeably with the concept of Trinity, the terminology of Godhead is broader than the idea of Trinity, and includes other ideas of how the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are interrelated.

B. Trinitarian Insights From The Bible

- 1) The Bible states that there are THREE persons in God, ALL of whom are called God.
- 2) The Bible states that there are NOT three Gods, only ONE God.

"Hear, Israel, the Lord, Your God, is One." Deuteronomy 6:4

- 3) The Bible also says that Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are *NOT identical* persons

"Go, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Mt. 28:19-20.

IV How To Explain The Trinity

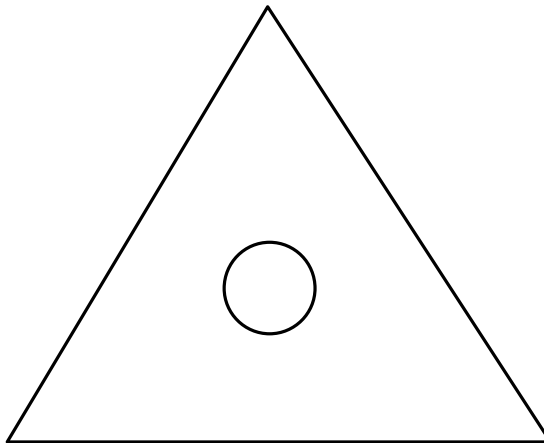
- A. FIRST, we simply follow the Bible's testimony without adding or subtracting.

THREE Persons
"Tri"-

ONE God
"-Unity" = "Trinity"





- B. SECOND, we try to clarify this profound teaching as simply as possible.

THE TRINITY



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C. THIRD, we use _____ to help visualize the Trinity. (ybmsosl)

Name	Symbol
Triangle	
Trefoil	
Triquetra	
Trefoil w/ Triquetra	

D. We Use _____ Of The Trinity (nalogiesa)

1. _____-emtical Analogy: $1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$ (amth)

2. Candle Analogy

3. Other Analogies: Egg: Yolk, Shell, White
 Water: Steam, Liquid, Solid
 Apple: Core, Fruit, Skin

E. We Use The Three Ecumenical _____ (eedsr)

1. The _____ Creed (spaostles)

2. The _____ Creed (ceneni)

3. The _____ Creed (thanasiana)

The Athanasian Creed

(Named After St. Athanasius, ca. 325 AD)

Whoever will be saved shall, above all, hold to the catholic (i.e. universal Christian) faith. Which faith, except everyone keeps whole and undefiled, without doubt he will perish eternally.

And the catholic faith is this, that we worship one God in three persons and three person in one God, neither confusing the persons [that is, making them all the same person with three different names], nor dividing the substance [that is, making each person of the Trinity only one-third God]..

For there is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is all one: their glory is equal, their majesty coeternal.

Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit. The Father is uncreated, the Son is uncreated, and the Holy Spirit is uncreated. The Father is incomprehensible, the Son is incomprehensible, and the Holy Spirit is incomprehensible. The Father is eternal, the Son is eternal, and the Holy Spirit is eternal. And yet they are not three eternals but one Eternal....

So likewise the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, and the Holy Spirit almighty. And yet they are not three almighties but one Almighty.

So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. And yet there are not three Gods but one God....

He therefore that will be saved is compelled thus to believe in the Trinity.

F. We recognize that we cannot _____ explain the Trinity. If we could, we would be God. (ulflyf)

All analogies for the Trinity fall short. We cannot fully understand the Trinity because it is beyond our limited human capacity to understand. All we can do is repeat what God has revealed about Himself in the Bible.

"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments and His paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?"
Romans 11:33-34 NIV

For Reflection:

- 1) Think of how God never had a beginning. How does this make you feel?

- 2) If God is larger than everything He made in the entire universe, how big is He?

- 3) Since God is so very powerful, what does say that God can do for us?

Study Guide: “Man And God”

Part I: True Or False. *The First Article* . Place a “T” (*True*) or “F” (*False*) before each question below.

- ___ 1. The Apostles’ Creed was written by Jesus’ apostles.

- ___ 2. The word “Trinity” appears in the Bible.

- ___ 3. The “image of God” is what makes humans smarter than animals.

- ___ 4. When we are baptized we totally regain the image of God.

- ___ 5. Adam and Eve lost the image of God when they sinned.

- ___ 6. Anyone who does not believe the Bible’s teaching on the Trinity will go to hell.

- ___ 7. The reason we can’t understand the Trinity better is because we’re not God.

- ___ 8. Because God is a spirit, He is neither male nor female.

- ___ 9. Because the word “Trinity” does not appear in the Bible, it is a false doctrine.

- ___ 10. The “Godhead” is basically just another way to refer God as Trinity.

Part II: Multiple Choice. Write the letter of the correct answer before each question below.

- ___ 11. The Ecumenical Creed which gives the most detailed description of the Trinity is...
 - a. The Apostles’ Creed
 - b. The Athanasian Creed
 - c. Creed of Constantinople
 - d. The Nicene Creed

- ___ 12. Human beings are special because....
- a. They're smart
 - b. They are created in God's image
 - c. God said so.
 - d. We're not special. After all, we came from monkeys.
- ___ 13. We regain the image of God...
- a. By doing enough good things
 - b. Only by God's gift of grace
 - c. Once you loose it, we can't get it back.
 - d. None of the above.
- ___ 14. The most common symbol for God, the Father is...
- a. A cross
 - b. A triangle
 - c. A dove
 - d. A creating hand.
- ___ 15. Which of the following is not a true explanation for the Trinity?
- a. One actor appears in three costumes
 - b. Three stages of growth: baby, child, adult
 - c. Three fruits: orange, apple, pear
 - d. None of the above.
- ___ 16. According to the Athanasian Creed, God is...
- a. Incomprehensible
 - b. Almighty
 - c. Eternal
 - d. All of the above.
- ___ 17. God, the Father's main work is...
- a. Creation
 - b. Redemption
 - c. Sanctification
 - d. None of the above
- ___ 18. God, the Son's main work is...
- a. Creation
 - b. Redemption
 - c. Sanctification
 - d. None of the above
- ___ 19. God, the Spirit's main work is...
- a. Creation
 - b. Redemption
 - c. Sanctification
 - d. None of the above
- ___ 20. The "Doctrine Of The Trinity" means...
- a. We have three Gods.
 - b. We have one God
 - c. God is three persons
 - d. A and C.