

THE R.U.S.H. BIBLE STUDY

THE TRINITY



KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FAST



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This positional paper is dedicated to Cade, Dylan, and Jack for having the guts to ask the tough questions, the Names of God version of the Bible, and the class of 2024 and 2025 for inspiring the debates that demand the truth.

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Names of God Bible (NOG) 2011 *This Bible is really cool. It retains God's names throughout the text, such as in Exodus 20 "Then Elohim spoke these words: I am Yahweh your Elohim, who brought you out of slavery in Egypt."*

My first line of defense for this topic is Isaiah 48:16 in the Old Testament and Luke 3:22 in the New Testament.

**"Come near to Me, listen to this: From the beginning I have not spoken in secret,
From the time that it happened, I was there.
And now the Lord God has sent Me, and His [Holy] Spirit." Isaiah 48:16 (AMP)**

and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, "You are My Son, My Beloved, in You I am well-pleased and delighted!" Luke 3:22 (AMP)

Biblical Christianity affirms from scripture that there is One God, who exists eternally in three distinct Persons:

We call this a Trinity. The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit.

You are human, you are comprised of one person, and God is God, He is comprised of three persons. A “tri-unity”. The word Trinity is not found in scripture, but the truth of the Trinity is everywhere in scripture. Here are some of the scriptures we use to attest to this truth. There are many more.

The Plurality of God:

Genesis 1:26: *“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.’”
Notice the plural let “us” “our” and “our” again. Not “let me make man in my image.”*

Genesis 3:22: *“Then the Lord God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil...” Again the plural, “like one of us.” Not “like one of “me.”*

Genesis 11:7: *“Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.” The plural here again “let us go”, not “let me go.”*

Isaiah 6:8: *“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘whom shall I (singular) send, and who will go for us (plurality)?’” “Who will go for us”, this also points to another aspect of God’s nature, distinction. “I” will send for “Us”. **not** “who will I send to go for me, or we for us”*

The Trinity Together:

Matthew 3:16: *“After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him.” Here we see all two members of the Trinity in one place. Jesus in the water, and the Holy Spirit descending as a dove from the sky.*

Luke 3:22: *“And the Holy Spirit descended upon Him [Jesus] in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, “You are My [the Father’s] beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased.” In Luke’s account of the same event, we have the added notation that God the Father was also present at the baptism. Jesus in the water, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking.*

Matthew 28:19: *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Here in the great Commission we learn that all three members of the Trinity consecrate the new believer in baptism.*

John 14:16-17: *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.” Jesus (God the Son) will ask the Father (God the Father) to send the Spirit (God the Holy Spirit).*

John 15:26: *“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.” Jesus (God the Son) will send the Spirit (God the Holy Spirit) from the Father (God the Father).*

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John 14:26: "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My [Jesus'] name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you." *Here we see all three members of the Trinity working together again.*

2 Corinthians 13:14: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." *I want to point out another interesting observation of how God thinks here. Whenever the disciples are listed as a group, Peter (if he is present) is always listed 1st. However with the Trinity, if you look at these passages, the Father is not always listed 1st. Sometimes the Son is 1st, and sometimes the Spirit is 1st.*

1 Peter 1:2: "According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood."

Jude 20-21: "But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life."

There is only One God:

Deuteronomy 4:35, 39: Unto thee it was shown, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.....the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. *The Trinity stands alone as one God.*

Deuteronomy 6:4: Hear, O Israel: The LORD thy God is one LORD. *He is one Lord. He's the boss.*

Isaiah 43:10, 11: Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no savior. *He is one God, and only God can save us. Also regarding the deity of Jesus, if your Jesus isn't God, He can't save you.*

Mark 12:29-34 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. *The God of scripture is the only God.*

James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. *From the ½ brother of Jesus, "there is one God".*

The Father is God:

1 Corinthians 8:6: "Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom all things are and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things are and through whom we exist." *Here we see the Father is the one God.*

Ephesians 4:4-6: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." *Our God the Father.*

The Son is God:

John 1:1-4: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. *The Word (Jesus) is God and is with God.*

John 20:24-29:

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the Twin), was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!" ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!" *Thomas calls Jesus "my Lord and my God" and Jesus says finally! And then proclaims on all of us who believe without having been eye-witnesses a blessing. How beautiful.*

Revelation 1:7-8:

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the Beginning and the End,*" says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." *Here Jesus says outright that He is The Almighty.*

"Jesus is God" will be the most apologetically attacked belief that you will face.

The muscle of this attack is situated around the following argument.

Mark is the earliest Gospel, and Mark never states that Jesus is God.

Therefore, the Deity of Christ is an addition to Orthodox Christianity added at a later date.

Below is one scripture from every chapter in Mark that SHOWS Jesus is God.

You will enjoy ripping off heads with this list. Trust me, I know I have.

The Inescapable Deity of Christ in the Gospel of Mark

Chapter Reference **New Testament in RED (KJV)**, **Old Testament in BLUE (NOG)**.

1. Mark 1:3, John "makes the path straight" for Jesus in verse 2 and 3.

As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

This quote is originally from Isaiah 40:3 from the Names of God Version which preserves the names of God from the original text.

"Clear a way for Yahweh.

Make a straight highway in the wilderness for our Elohim.

In the Isaiah text it says who he is making the way straight for, it says, "for YHWH". John the Baptist is making the way for YHWH.

2. Mark 2:5-7 Jesus forgives sin.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there was certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

People who saw him do that said “only God can forgive sin”, does Jesus deny that truth from Isaiah 43:25?

*I alone am the one who is going to wipe away your rebellious actions
for my own sake.*

I will not remember your sins anymore.

Nope, he says what’s easier, to forgive or heal?

3. **Mark 3:1-23 Jesus casts out Demons by His own power. Some religious leaders claim He does this by Satan’s power. He tells them He has the power to tie Satan up and plunder his house in Mark 3:23-29.**

And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan?

And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.

No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:

But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation.

Only God has power over Satan. Hear this testimony about God in Psalms 91:13

“You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.”

– Psalm 91:13

4. **Mark 4:38-39 Jesus calms the storm.**

And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Psalm 107:28-29 God is the only one in scripture to claim this power.

In their distress they cried out to Yahweh.

He led them from their troubles.

He made the storm calm down,

and the waves became still.

5. **Mark 5:35-43 Jesus raises Jairus daughter from the dead.**

*And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.
And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.
And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.
And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.*

When in the O.T. prophets did this miracle, they cried out to YHWH, but when Jesus did this, He commanded them Himself. Deuteronomy 32:39.

*See, I am the only Elohim. There are no others.
I kill, and I make alive.
I wound, and I heal, and no one can rescue you from my power.*

6. **Mark 6:48 Jesus walks on water.**

And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.

In Job 9:8 it proclaims it is God alone who walks on the waves of the sea.

He stretches out the heavens by himself and walks on the waves of the sea.

7. **Mark 7:37 Jesus heals the deaf mute and blind. (Jesus heals the blind man in the next chapter.8:22-25)**

And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

Exodus 4:11 Moses is standing at the burning bush and YHWH says that He make man mute or deaf, seeing or blind.

Yahweh asked him, "Who gave humans their mouths? Who makes humans unable to talk or hear? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? It is I, Yahweh!"

8. **Mark 8:1-10 Jesus feeds the 5000.**

And they had a few small fishes: and he blessed, and commanded to set them also before them. So they did eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets. And they that had eaten were about four thousand: and he sent them away.

This He did in Exodus 16:8. YHWH gave Israel flesh in the evening and bread in the morning.

Moses also said, "Yahweh will give you meat to eat in the evening and all the food you want in the morning. Yahweh has heard you complaining about him. Who are we? You're not complaining about us but about Yahweh."

9. **Mark 9:2-5 tells the story of the transfiguration.**

And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.

In the Old Testament there are only 2 people who climb up a mountain to commune with God. Moses in Exodus 24,

Yahweh said to Moses, "You and Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and 70 of Israel's leaders come up the mountain to me and worship at a distance. Moses may come near Yahweh, but the others may not."

and Elijah in 1 Kings 19.

Then Yahweh spoke his word to Elijah. He asked, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "Yahweh Elohim Tsebaoth, I have eagerly served you. The Israelites have abandoned your promises, torn down your altars, and executed your prophets. I'm the only one left, and they're trying to take my life." Yahweh said, "Go out and stand in front of Yahweh on the mountain."

Here on the Mount of transfiguration are the 2 people who happen to did that, to talk to Jesus.

10. In Mark 10:18 a rich young ruler calls Jesus good. Jesus says why do you call me good, only God is good.

And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

He wasn't denying being good or being God, He was calling him on the carpet. The Bible calls many men good. Barnabas in Acts 11:24, Jesus in Matthew 12:35 says "a good man brings forth good treasure out of his heart etc. He wasn't saying He wasn't good. He was making a point.

Mark 10:17-22 Jesus tells him how he can get to Heaven.

Only YHWH gets to decide who enters Heaven, Isaiah 43:11.

I alone am Yahweh, and there is no savior except me.

11. Mark 11:1-11 is Christ's entry into Jerusalem to start passion week. As He enters, he is praised by the population that is present. Jesus doesn't rebuke them, but receives their praise.

And many spread their garments in the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strawed them in the way.

And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna;

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:

Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Only God can receive praise, 1 Chronicles 16:25-29, and Exodus 34:14 etc.

Never worship any other god, because Yahweh is El Kanna. In fact, he is known for not tolerating rivals.

12. In Mark 12:34 Jesus judges the soul of the Pharisee who was questioning Him.

And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

According to James 4:12, Isaiah 33:22 and Psalm 75:7 etc. explain that only God gets to make that call.

*Yahweh is our Shophet. Yahweh is our lawgiver.
Yahweh is our Melek. Yahweh is our savior.*

13. In Mark 13:31 Jesus claims His words will never pass away.

Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Isaiah proclaims in chapter 40:8 and Psalms 119:160 that it is God's word that endures forever.

Grass dries up, and flowers wither, but the word of our Elohim will last forever."

14. In Mark 14:61-62 Jesus calls Himself the I AM, says

"ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven".

This is a direct quote from Daniel 7:13-14 where His kingdom is described as receiving dominion, glory, kingship, that everyone should serve Him and His Kingdom will not pass away and will never be destroyed.

In my visions during the night, I saw among the clouds in heaven someone like the Bar-Enash. (one like a human) He came to the Ancient One, who has lived for endless years, and was presented to him.

¹⁴ He was given power, honor, and a kingdom. People from every province, nation, and language were to serve him. His power is an eternal power that will not be taken away. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

God had already previously claimed He would not give His glory to another in Isaiah 42:8,

I am Yahweh; that is my name. I will not give my glory to anyone else or the praise I deserve to idols.

therefore this enforces that the Father and Son are the same God, yet separate persons.

15. **Mark 15:37 Jesus gave up His own Ghost.**

And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

Life and death are only in God's hands according to Deuteronomy 32:39.

*See, I am the only Elohim. There are no others. I kill, and I make alive.
I wound, and I heal, and no one can rescue you from my power.*

God says I put to death and I bring life. Here Jesus shows He is God by giving up His own ghost.

16. **In Mark 16:19 Jesus is called Lord and was received into Heaven and sat at the right hand of God, the Second Person of the Trinity seated in Heaven.**

*So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven,
and sat on the right hand of God.*

From Isaiah 48:16-17 in two different Versions:

*Come here. Listen to this: From the beginning I have spoken nothing in private.
From the time it took place, I was there. Now Adonay Yahweh has sent me and his Ruach.
This is what Yahweh, your Go'el, Qedosh Yisrael, says: I am Yahweh your Elohim.
I teach you what is best for you. I lead you where you should go. (NOG)*

*Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was,
there am I: and now the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me.
Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit,
which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. (KJV)*

The Holy Spirit is God:

Acts 5:3-4:

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? ⁴ While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." *Here Peter proclaims that "lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God".*

2 Corinthians 13:14:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. *Yet another mention of all three members of the Trinity.*

Matthew 12:31-32:

Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come. *This passage says a lot. You can blaspheme and say anything about anything or anyone and still can be forgiven. Even Jesus himself. But if you blaspheme the Holy Ghost, you will never be forgiven. Period. And it's not just blaspheming, it's even speaking against the Holy Ghost. This verse also adds to the argument for distinction we will cover next, as speaking against the Holy Spirit carries a different penalty than speaking against the Son.*

They are Distinct:

Matthew 24:36:

But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. *The Father's decision, not the Son's. Both members of the God-Head or trinity, yet they are shown here to be distinct. They are not like water, (liquid, solid, gas) or time (past present future). They are distinct. Three separate persons as the One true God.*

John 14:26:

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. *The Father sends the Holy Spirit in the Son's name. Each working different responsibilities and operations in our redemption, as the One true God.*

Matthew 12:31-32

Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.

The remainder of our lesson is additional reading for "homework" if you like. It lists early and modern heresies, along with the early "creeds" of the church. Enjoy.

The Heresies you may encounter regarding the Trinity:

Modalism teaches that Father, Son and Holy Spirit are different names for the same God acting in different roles or modes. Modern day Modalists would be *United Apostolics* and *Oneness Pentecostals* among others. *Matthew 12:31-32* above shows this is false. If modalism were true, blaspheming any member of the God-Head would by necessity hold the same punishment. Jesus made it very clear, that is not the case.

Monarchianism teaches there is only one Person and that Jesus and the Holy Spirit subsist as impersonal attributes. This is what *Unitarians* believe. This is false in that it violates the deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit. See the verses on pages 4 and 5 above showing the clear teaching of the deities of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Arianism is named after a popular heretic named Arius and denies the full deity of Jesus Christ. Arius taught there was a time the Son did not exist. This is what *Jehovah Witnesses* and *Muslims* believe. We know this is a lie from John 1:1 where we see Jesus was with God in the beginning and was God in the beginning.

Tri-theism teaches there are three separate Gods. This is what *Mormons* believe. This pagan lie we have already refuted as well on page 4 above under the heading "There is Only One God."

The Early Creeds:

In order to develop a proper worldview for new converts and protect them from heresies the early Church developed concise creedal statements. The word "creed" comes from the Latin *credo*, which means, "I believe." These were important because in an age when people didn't have their own Bibles, these brief statements of belief summarized biblical orthodoxy while combatting heresy and false teachers.

The Old Roman Creed. An early version of the Apostles Creed.

I believe in God the Father almighty;
and in Christ Jesus His only Son, our Lord,
Who was born from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
Who under Pontius Pilate was crucified and buried,
on the third day rose again from the dead,
ascended into heaven,
sits at the right hand of the Father,
whence he will come to judge the living and the dead;
and in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Church,
the remission of sins,
the resurrection of the flesh, [life everlasting].

The Apostles Creed. This creed affirms a belief in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit:

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born from the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, descended into hell,
on the third day rose again from the dead,
ascended to heaven, sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty,
thence He will come to judge the living and the dead;
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic [universal] Church,
the communion of saints,
the remission of sins,
the resurrection of the flesh, and eternal life.
Amen.

The Nicene Creed. In order to clarify the Trinity in greater detail, the Nicene Creed was developed in AD 325, taking its final form in AD 381. Notice how developed the doctrine of the Trinity is:

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father...

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.

The Athanasian Creed. This robust statement of Trinitarian belief from the 5th Century is the strongest and the longest of the three. I'll just quote some of it but I commend all of it to you.

That we worship one God in trinity and the trinity in unity, neither blending their persons nor dividing their essence. For the person of the Father is a distinct person,

the person of the Son is another, and that of the Holy Spirit still another.

But the divinity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, their glory equal, their majesty coeternal.

What quality the Father has, the Son has, and the Holy Spirit has...

and yet there are not three eternal beings; there is but one eternal being.

So too there are not three uncreated or immeasurable beings; there is but one uncreated and immeasurable being... we must worship their trinity in their unity and their unity in their trinity.

Anyone then who desires to be saved should think thus about the trinity."

God Bless, and I hope this helped. DH

