

From Your Pastor

A Study of the Shorter Catechism

Question: How many persons are there in the Godhead?

Answer: There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Scripture memory: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...” (Matthew 28:19); Jesus says: “I and the Father are one” (John 10:30).

*“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” - ^{ESV}
2 Corinthians 13:14*

An explanation: There are three persons in the Godhead (Godhead = the divine essence or being). Christians are monotheists; there is but one God (1 Cor. 8:6; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 44:8), yet at the same time we must affirm that there are three persons in the one Godhead (there are not three divine *essences*, but three “*persons*”). Theologians emphasize that the three persons have the same nature as God, with three ways of subsisting, each person of Godhead having His distinct personal properties: Eph. 1:3-14; *The Father is not the Son; the Son is not the Father; the Spirit is not the Father or the Son, but the Father is God, the Son is God, the Spirit is God.*

The Bible clearly teaches that the **Father is God**: Exo. 3:14, Rom. 7:25, 8:32, 1 Tim. 1:17, and His personal property is *to beget the Son from all eternity* (Heb. 1:5, 8); **The Son is God**: John 1:1, 8:58, Rom. 9:5, Acts 20:28, Titus 2:13, Heb. 1:3, and His personal property is *begotten of the Father* (John 1:14); **The Spirit is God**: Acts 5:3-4, Psalms 95:3, 7-9, 139:7, John 14:17, and His personal property is *to proceed from the Father and the Son* (John 15:26). All three persons of the one Godhead possess the same divine attributes such as eternity, omnipotence, immutability, and immensity; They are “*same in substance*” (One Godhead), “*equal in power and glory*” (although distinct from each other, nevertheless possessing the qualities of Deity).

It is true that the finite cannot comprehend the infinite, yet we receive this teaching about our Triune God from Holy Scripture in humble submission. This doctrine is not unreasonable, or illogical, but rather *supra-reasonable*. It is beyond our ability to fully fathom our Great and Holy God as He has clearly revealed Himself in Scripture, but we can apprehend the truth, and by His grace commune with Him, and glory in Him. This should not puzzle us, but rather humble us before Him, and cause us to worship and adore. Let us take off our shoes in reverence and awe, for the ground on which we stand is HOLY! Let us draw near to the Throne of Grace (Heb. 4:16), and seek to commune with each person of the Godhead, desiring Him, delighting in, and enjoying the relationship of happiness and glory that the three persons of God have graciously included us in through the Covenant of Grace (Psa. 27:4; cf. Luke 10:42). **“One thing I have asked of the LORD...”**

A prayer: Our Father, thank you that you are God, and have chosen me in Christ to be your child. Beloved Son, thank you that you are my Heavenly Bridegroom who has taken upon yourself my nature permanently, and lived in it perfectly for me, and died in it for me, and been raised and exalted in it for me. You have betrothed me to yourself in love, and I am yours. Dear Holy Spirit, thank you for applying the work of Jesus to me, and regenerating me spiritually, uniting me to Jesus, the Lover of my soul, and bringing the truth of God to my mind through Holy Scripture, and the love of God to my heart. Let me serve you, worshipping and adoring you as the one God in three persons.

**In Christ's love,
Pastor Biggs**

*“Of the Father's love begotten/ ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega — / he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, / and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore..”*

Hallelujah!