

The Knowledge of the Holy
Questions - Chapter 4: *The Holy Trinity*

1. Define faith.

2. Christians have faith in the God who has revealed Himself in the Holy Scriptures. What are some of the things in which non-Christians place their faith?

3. Why is it so important to understand that all people have faith in something?

4. Why is the claim by some “scientists” that they live by science and reason instead of faith false? Explain.

5. Why can the Trinity (the Triunity of God) only be comprehended by faith?

6. What is the danger of trying to understand the Trinity apart from or in addition to faith?

7. What is the importance of the Nicene Creed in regard to the Trinity?

*We believe in one God, the FATHER Almighty, Maker of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord JESUS CHRIST, the Son of God, begotten of the Father [the only-begotten;*

*that is, of the essence of the Father, God of God], Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made [both in heaven and on earth]; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down and was incarnate and was made man; he suffered, and the third day he rose again, ascended into heaven; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
And in the HOLY GHOST.*

7. What is the importance of the Athanasian Creed in regard to the Trinity?

Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic [true Christian] faith. Which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish everlastingly. But this is the catholic faith: That we worship one God in trinity, and trinity in unity; Neither confounding the persons; nor dividing the substance. For there is one person of the Father: another of the Son: another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost is all one: the glory equal, the majesty co-eternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Ghost. The Father is uncreated: the Son is uncreated: the Holy Ghost is uncreated. The Father is immeasurable: the Son is immeasurable: the Holy Ghost is immeasurable. The Father is eternal: the Son eternal: the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet there are not three eternals; but one eternal. As also there are not three uncreated: nor three immeasurable: but one uncreated, and one immeasurable. So likewise the Father is almighty: the Son almighty: and the Holy Ghost almighty, And yet there are not three almighties: but one almighty. So the Father is God: the Son is God: and the Holy Ghost is God. And yet there are not three Gods; but one God. So the Father is Lord: the Son Lord: and the Holy Ghost Lord. And yet not three Lords; but one Lord, For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity to acknowledge every Person by himself to be God and Lord, So are we forbidden by the catholic religion to say, there are three Gods, or three Lords. The Father is made of none; neither created; nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone: not made; nor created; but begotten. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and the Son: not made; neither created; nor begotten; but proceeding. Thus there is one Father, not three Fathers: one Son, not three Sons: one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts. And in this Trinity none is before or after another: none is greater or less than another. But the whole three Persons are co-eternal together, and co-equal, So that in all things, as aforesaid, the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshipped. He therefore that will be saved, must thus think of the Trinity. Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting salvation, that we believe also rightly in the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now the right faith is, that we believe and confess, that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and Man. God, of the substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds: and Man, of the substance of His mother, born in the world. Perfect God: perfect Man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting. Equal to the Father as touching His Godhead: inferior to the Father as touching His Manhood. And although He be God and Man; yet He is not two, but one Christ. One, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh; but by assumption of the Manhood into God. One altogether, not by confusion of substance; but by unity of person. For as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man; so God and Man is one Christ. Who suffered for our salvation: descended into hades: rose again the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven: He sit-teth on the right hand of God, the Father

almighty: From whence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. At whose coming all men must rise again with their bodies; And shall give account for their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting; but they that have done evil, into everlasting fire. This is the catholic faith; which except a man believe truly and firmly, he cannot be saved.

8. What do the Scriptures teach about each person of the Trinity in regard to the following:
(Look up only the underlined verses if you are short on time)

Creation: Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 37:16; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Psalm 33:6, Psalm 104:30

The Incarnation: Luke 1:35, Hebrews 5:5; Philippians 2:7-8; John 1:1, 14; Matthew 1:20

Jesus' Baptism: Matthew 3:16-17

The Atonement: Isaiah 53:10; Romans 8:32; Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 9:14

The Resurrection of Jesus: Acts 2:32; John 10:17-18; Romans 1:4

Salvation of man: John 3:17; Eph. 2:8; Mark 10:45; 1 Timothy 1:15; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:2;

9. Can the Trinity (Tri-Unity) be explained?

Try to find the error (heresy) in the following analogies that are sometimes used to attempt to describe the trinity.

A. Water. It exists in three forms - Solid, Liquid, & Vapor - yet it is still water.

Error: _____

B. An Egg. It has a shell, a protein layer (the 'white'), and a yolk, and together they make up an egg.

Error: _____

C. The relationships of a man. He is the child of his parents, the husband of his wife, and the father of his children, yet he is one man.

Error: _____

2) How would you respond to a Jehovah Witness's denial of the trinity? Examine the following passages for an answer.

A. Isaiah 48:16 _____

B. Matthew 3:16,17 _____

C. Matthew 28:19 _____

D. John 14:26 cf. John 15:26 _____

E. Galatians 4:4-6 _____
