



## LESSON FOUR - UNDERSTANDING WHO GOD IS

### Introduction

In our last lesson we studied the importance of Faith in God and in the Word of God. Hebrews 11:6 – “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

There are three important concepts that effect our Faith in God. Like the rest of the foundation, Satan tries to destroy all three of these concepts by confusing people who would believe in God with various falsehoods. The three concepts about God where we must have the truth are these:

- His existence
- His essence
- His identity

If we are wrong in any of these concepts then it is impossible to really come to the true God, and as a result we will be led astray.

### His Existence

Is it essential to believe that God exist?

- Hebrews 11:6
- Romans 1: 18-20 (Why is evolution taught in the schools instead of creationism)
- How long has God existed?
  - Everlasting God – Deuteronomy 33:27, Psalms 90:2
  - Isaiah 9:6 – Is Jesus the “everlasting or eternal son” or is he the “everlasting Father”?
  - I Timothy 6:16 – says that God is the only one who has immortality
- God is called the “First and the Last”, and the “Beginning and the Ending” and the “Alpha and Omega”. These all refer to the fact that he has always been and always

will be. That he was before anything else or anyone else.

- Was Jehovah God – or God the father the “First and the Last” – Isaiah 44:6 and Isaiah 48:12
- Was Jesus Christ the “First and the Last”? Revelation 1:11, 17; Rev 2:8; Revelation 22:13 (here Jesus says he is all of these)
- Did Jesus Christ exist in heaven as the “eternal son” or the “everlasting father”? One of the fundamental teachings of the trinity doctrine is that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three separate co-equal, co-existent, and co-eternal beings.

### **Definitions of the Trinity from Trinitarians**

- The Catholics - "The Catholic faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confounding the persons nor dividing the substance."
- James Finnis Dake (Assembly of God) – “What we mean by the trinity is that there are three separate and distinct persons in the Godhead, each one having his own personal spirit body, personal soul, and personal spirit” (page 489 Dakes Bible).
- Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes him the Father and not the Son; there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter, the Son is the Begotten, and the Holy Ghost is the one proceeding from the Father and



the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one. *The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are never identical as to Person*; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence, neither Person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others.

- Dictionary Net: (Christian Theol.) The union of three persons (the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost) in one Godhead, so that all the three are one God as to substance, but three persons as to individuality.
- Dictionary Net: Any union of three in one; three units treated as one; a triad, as the Hindu trinity, or Trimurti.



THE CHRISTIAN TRINITY  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit



HINDU TRINITY - THE TRIMURTI  
Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva



THE BUDDHIST TRINITY - THE TRIKAYA  
Dharmakaya, Sambhogakaya, Nirmanakaya



THE EGYPTIAN TRINITY  
Osiris, Isis, and Horus