



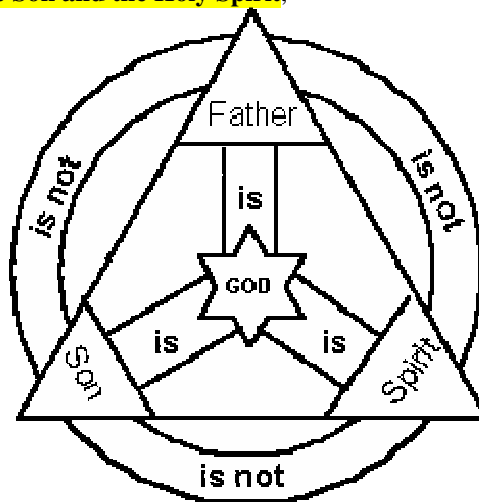
Statement of Faith

God – There is only one true God who exists in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who are equal in divine perfection, coeternal, and execute distinct but harmonious offices. God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) is Holy, sovereign, and personal. God knows all things, is everywhere present, and is all-powerful. God is love, gracious and merciful, and in every way good. God is spirit, self-existent, and transcendent. Being the Creator of all things, it is in Him that we live and move and exist. (Gen 1:1,26-27, Ex 34:6-7, Lev 11:44, Isaiah 9:6, 44:8, 45:5, Jer 23:23-24, Dan 4:35, Matt 3:16-17, John 4:24, Acts 17:24-28, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 1 Tim 1:15-16, 1 John 3:20, 4:8, Rev 4:11)

1. There is only one true God who exists in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who are equal in divine perfection, coeternal, and execute distinct but harmonious offices - God is Triune - There are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are *One God*. In the unity of the Godhead there are three, equal in divine perfection, equal in divine power, executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Genesis 1:26-27 - Then God said, "**Let Us** make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness; " And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. NAS

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**,



The word "Trinity" is never actually used in the bible. However, we understand God to be One in essence yet existing in three persons. *The bible states again and again that there is "One God," yet He is revealed again and again in three different personalities.* This is seen in many places in the bible and we consider it an important essential and

fundamental of the historic Christian faith. We must never compromise the nature of God as clearly defined in the scriptures, for the moment we do, we are now worshipping a different God than who He really is, and the One revealed in scripture. That is why we consider this an essential issue. We would divide with anyone who does not accept the biblical concept of the Trinity. When this truth is compromised, Jesus Christ ceases to be, "God VERY God."

Each person of the Triune Godhead possess all of the attributes of God and are equally divine. All of the capacities of God reside in each one of them.

	Father	Son	Holy Spirit
Eternal-	Ps 90:2	John 1:2, Rev 1:8	Hebrews 9:14
Omnipotent-	Daniel 4:35	Hebrews 1:3	Rom 15:19
Omniscient-	Jer 17:10	Rev 2:23	1 Cor 2:11
Omnipresent-	Jer 23:24	Matt 18:20	Ps 139:7
Holy-	Rev 15:4	Acts 3:14	Acts 1:8
True-	John 7:28	Rev 3:7	1 John 5:6

God says He is One and there is no other.

Throughout the bible, God explicitly states that He is the only ONE, true and living God. He is distinct from all other beings, whether natural or supernatural, all other beings were created by the ONE God and for His purposes. All other beings are *dependent* upon God for their existence, but God being *self-existent* is dependent on nothing. He alone is God, the Almighty, Eternal and Transcendent Creator and Sustainer of all things. (Duet 6:4, Isaiah 44:6, Jeremiah 10:10, 1 Cor 8:4, 1 Tim 2:5)

Isaiah 45:5 - "I am the LORD, and there is no other; **Besides Me there is no God.** NAS
Isaiah 44:8- "Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago? You are my witnesses. **Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock;** I know not one."
1 Timothy 1:17- "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, **the only God,** be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen."

God says He exists in three persons.

Throughout the bible, God is explicitly revealed in three distinct persons. There are not [two] persons of God revealed, nor are there [four or five]. There are three! Yet each person, as we have shown, possesses all of the attributes of the ONE God. This is indeed a profound mystery. Nevertheless, it is indeed the *true nature of God as revealed in Holy Writ*. Those of us who do know God personally, do experience the unique relation to God wherein we discern these distinct persons, do we not? He is indeed a TRIUNE being. He is a God of wonder and awe!

2 Corinthians 13:14- "May the grace of the **Lord Jesus Christ,** and the love of **God,** and the fellowship of the **Holy Spirit** be with you all."
Matthew 3:16-17 - 16 And after being baptized, **Jesus** went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the **Spirit of God** descending as a dove, and coming upon Him, 17 and behold, a **voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son,** in whom I am well-pleased." NAS

The Son, Jesus Christ is called God.

Isaiah 9:6- "For to us a **child is born, to us a son is given**, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, **Mighty God, Everlasting Father**, Prince of Peace."

Colossians 2:9-10 - 9 For in **Him(Jesus Christ) all the fullness of Deity dwells** in bodily form, **Hebrews 1:2-3** - 2 in these last days has spoken to us in **His Son**, whom He appointed heir of all things, **through whom also He made the world**. 3 And **He** is the radiance of His glory and the **exact representation of His nature**, and **upholds all things by the word of His power**. NAS

Colossians 1:15-17 - 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For **by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth**, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things were created by him and for him**. **17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together**. NIV

John 1:1-3 - 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 **Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made**. NIV

The Holy Spirit is called God. There is only ONE who is "holy." Therefore if the Spirit is Holy, He must be God.

Exodus 31:3-4 - 3 And I have filled him with the **Spirit of God** in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship, NAS

Genesis 1:2 - 2 And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the **Spirit of God** was moving over the surface of the waters. NAS

Ephesians 4:30 - 30 And do not grieve **the Holy Spirit of God**, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. NAS

Let us embrace the fact that the bible certainly portrays God in three persons without compromising the fact the He is One. The three persons of the Godhead most definitely are distinct and enjoy interpersonal relationships between each other, yet they are all referred to as God. Understand that each one is God or Deity, **but the Father is not the Son, and the Son is not the Spirit, and the Spirit is not the Father**. Another thing we might notice is the beautiful attributes of the relationships between the Godhead, their authority and submission, self-sacrificing love, and the harmony of their purposes in the ever unfolding plan of God. Thus we see the Trinity. This concept can never really be fully understood this side of heaven, but we trust the scripture by faith.

2. God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) is Holy, sovereign, and personal -

God is Holy – When we speak of the holiness of God we refer primarily to the fact that He is "**other**" or "**set apart**" from all of His creation. There is no one like Him. He being the creator of all things, is infinitely transcendent, greater, and more powerful than everything He has created. Further, when we speak of the holiness of God we refer to the fact that He is "**sanctified, sinless and completely pure**," that He is "**morally excellent**" and "**without the slightest imperfection**." Indeed God is Light and in Him there is no darkness at all! (1 John 1:5).

Exodus 15:11 - 11 "**Who is like Thee** among the gods, O LORD? Who is like Thee, **majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders**?" NASB

Job 15:14-16 - 14 "What is man, that he should be pure, Or he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous? 15 "Behold, He puts no trust in His holy ones, And the heavens are not pure in His sight; 16 How much less one who is detestable and corrupt, Man, who drinks iniquity like water! NASB

God is Sovereign – And so the scripture says,

1 Chronicles 29:11-12 “Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are **exalted as head over all**.¹² Wealth and honor come from you; **you are the ruler of all things**. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.”

The bible says that **God is Sovereign**. He possesses absolute dominion and authority over all things. So He is said to sit on a “throne” in heaven! Just think how ridiculous it would be to say that God created the universe, but He is not in control of what takes place in it. Well the truth is God not only controls nature and history, but He literally sustains the entire universe by his power, and orders the events of his entire creation to accomplish his purposes and plans. Friends, we must understand that what is happening in the world is happening at the express purpose and will of God, who rules the world and all who are in it. He is **“the Lord of Heaven and Earth”** (Acts 17:24) and whatsoever happens in the world, happens because God has permitted, indeed He has decreed it to happen. Although there is much evil in the world, which God hates, He is allowing these things to achieve His eternal purposes which will, without a doubt, come to pass. God not only permits the events of human history, but has ordained them from eternity past, and is furthermore actively involved in seeing that they all come to pass, fulfilling all of His plans and purposes.

Psalms 103:19 - 19 The LORD has established His throne in the heavens; And **His sovereignty rules over all**. NASB

Ephesians 1:11-12 - 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, **having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will**. NASB

Even Satan was created by God to achieve the very purpose for which God made him.

Isaiah 10:15 - 15 **Does the ax raise itself above him who swings it**, or the saw boast against him who uses it? As if a rod were to wield him who lifts it up, or a club brandish him who is not wood!

Isaiah 54:16 - 16 Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; **and I have created the waster to destroy**. KJV

He has in mind a very definite purpose for everything that happens under the sun. That the divine purpose could meet with frustration is unthinkable, for then it could not be the divine purpose! Failure of God’s purpose is failure of His sovereignty. ***To sum it up generally, whatsoever happens is all for the express purpose of the glory of God!*** If the righteous praise Him, He is glorified. If the wicked curse Him, He is glorified. He is glorified in the reward of the righteous, and in the eternal damnation of the wicked!

Everything that God does ultimately reflects the Glory which He possesses.

Isaiah 43:7 - 7 Everyone who is called by My name, And **whom I have created for My glory**, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made. " NASB

Acts 17:24-31 - 24 "The God who made the world and everything in it is **the Lord of heaven and earth** and does not live in temples built by hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because **he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else**. 26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. 27 *God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him*, though he is not far from each one of us.

Man’s days are determined by God, He has set the limit and they cannot be exceeded. No one lives unless God decrees it and no one dies unless God decrees it. ***He is the Author, Giver, and the Sustainer of every living thing. He holds in His hand the lives of His beloved ones and that of His enemies also!*** Even Satan the father of lies, the destroyer, owes his next breathe to the Almighty!

Isaiah 42:5 - 5 Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, **Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk in it,** NASB

Job 34:14-15 - 14 "If He should determine to do so, If He should gather to Himself His spirit and His breath, 15 All **flesh would perish together, And man would return to dust.** NASB

Job 14:5 - "Since his days are determined, The number of his months is with Thee, And **his limits Thou hast set so that he cannot pass.** NASB

God arranges the circumstances of history according to his purpose and plan- ***God is very diligently governing this creation He has made. It is all coming to pass exactly like He planned it, He will be sure to see that it does.*** The rain falls on the good and the bad, both peace and calamity come from God. Every authority which is on the earth has been established by God. All the events of human history had the divine approval before one of them ever came to pass. God rules on the Throne in heaven! He is Sovereign!

Lamentations 3:37-40 - 37 Who is there who speaks and it comes to pass, Unless the Lord has commanded it? 38 **Is it not from the mouth of the Most High That both good and ill go forth?**

39 Why should any living mortal, or any man, Offer complaint in view of his sins? 40 Let us examine and probe our ways, And let us return to the LORD. NASB

Ecclesiastes 7:13-14 - 13 Consider the work of God, For who is able to straighten what He has bent? 14 In the day of prosperity be happy, But in the day of adversity consider- **God has made the one as well as the other** So that man may not discover anything that will be after him. NASB

Isaiah 25:1 - O LORD, Thou art my God; I will exalt Thee, I will give thanks to Thy name; For Thou hast worked wonders, **Plans formed long ago,** with perfect faithfulness. NASB

Isaiah 46:11 - 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man of My purpose from a far country.

Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it. NASB

Acts 4:27-28 - 27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 **They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.**

God is Personal – This communicable attribute of God is to say that He has a sense of personality. He has a personality which is unique and interrelational. This is to say that we can have personal relationship with him. He is not some abstract, cosmic force out in the expanse of heaven without personal attributes whereby He communicates with His creatures. In fact, the reason why we have an interrelational capability is because we were created in the image of God, with an intelligent and interpersonal capacity. God, very much like us is an emotional, intelligent, and interpersonal being. The heart of God can rejoice, become angry, be grieved and experience all the emotions that we as humans do. This is crystal clear in the scripture.

Ephesians 4:30-31 - 30 And do not **grieve the Holy Spirit of God,** by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. NASB

John 11:35 - 35 **Jesus wept** .NASB

Isaiah 62:4-5 -4 It will no longer be said to you, "Forsaken," Nor to your land will it any longer be said, "Desolate"; But you will be called, "My delight is in her," And your land, "Married"; For **the LORD delights in you,** And to Him your land will be married.

5 For as a young man marries a virgin, So your sons will marry you; And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, **So your God will rejoice over you.** NASB

Therefore, God, being personal can be known, loved, and enjoyed by mankind! What greater privilege could anyone have then this, to know the living and true God!

John 14:17 - 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. **But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.** NIV

Seeing that we have such a high calling as this, we must therefore live for the purpose for which we were made. It is imperative to focus our hearts and minds upon the priority of Life. As the great catechisms state;

“The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever!”

Friend, do you enjoy God? Does it bring fulfillment to your heart to commune with God? This is vital for Christian life, that we come to enjoy the presence of God, to be fulfilled in our relationship to Him, to hunger and thirst for Him. It is imperative that we make God the priority of our lives. Consider how this is expressed in the greatest commandment.

Matthew 22:36-38 - 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.**" 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. NIV