The Doctrine of God
Week 3 – Trinity

Verses from the lesson:

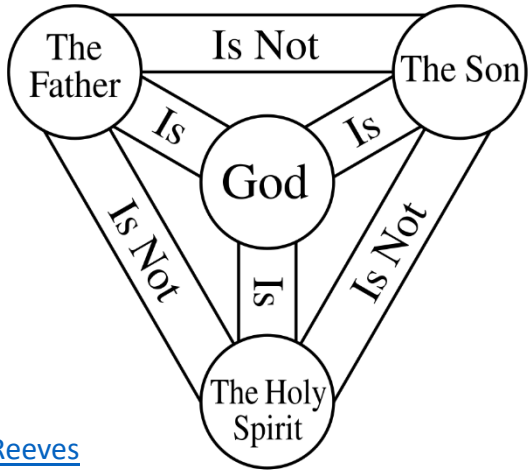
John 14:6-11
John 8:56–59
Philippians 2:5–7
Colossians 1:15–20
John 1:1–5
John 10:30
2 Corinthians 13:14
John 14:25–26
2 Corinthians 3:17–18
Ephesians 1:11–14
Matthew 3:16–17
Matthew 28:19-20
Matt 23:23 / Luke 24:27
Gensis 1:26, 3:22
Isaiah 61:1

Heresies

- **Arianism**: Denied the full divinity of Christ, claiming He was a created being.
- **Modalism (Sabellianism):** Taught that God is one person who manifests in different modes (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) at different times, denying the distinct.
- **Tritheism**: Claimed that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three separate gods, rather than one God in three persons. Denies the unity – the one essence.
- **Subordinationism**: Asserted that the Son and Holy Spirit are subordinate to the Father in nature and essence, rather than just in role or function.
- **Adoptionism**: Claimed that Jesus was born as a mere man and was later "adopted" as God's Son, denying His eternal divinity.
- **Partialism**: Suggested that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not fully God individually but are parts of God, who together form the complete Godhead.
- **Monarchianism**: Emphasized the oneness of God to the extent of denying the distinct persons of the Trinity. It came in two forms: Dynamic Monarchianism (similar to Adoptionism) and Modalistic Monarchianism (similar to Modalism).

Terms for further study:

- *Homoousios*
- *Subsistence*



Podcasts & Sites that are helpful:

- Ligonier Ministries - https://www.ligonier.org/learn/topics/trinity

Resources:

- Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith: Reeves
- *The Trinity*, Guides to Theology: Olson

Nicene Creed – 381 A.D.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds:
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:
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sits on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
And I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.