

**TRINITY**

# The Trinity Series - The Incarnation

# TRINITY

- ▶ **Ideas have consequences.**  
What you think and believe matters.

# TRINITY

## Niceno Constantinopolitan Creed (excerpt)

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only-begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the  
Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our  
salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was  
incarnate  
of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

# TRINITY

*“If you ask someone to give you change, he will argue with you about whether the Son is begotten or unbegotten. If you inquire about the quality of the bread, the baker will answer, ‘The Father is greater, the Son is less.’ And if you ask ‘Is my bath ready?’ the attendant answers that the Son was made out of nothing.”*



**Gregory of Nyssa, On the Deity of the Son and the Holy Spirit**

# TRINITY

*“The monks of Egypt and Palestine took arms; many fell in the streets; others were burned alive in their monasteries. It was for the one nature of Christ that they contended unto death.”*

**Evagrius Scholasticus, *Ecclesiastical History* (Book II)**

# TRINITY

▶ **For if Christ were not truly God, He could not save.**

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- ▶ **For if Christ were not truly God, He could not save.**
- ▶ **If He were not truly man, He could not heal.**
- ▶ **And if He were divided, our nature would remain unredeemed.**

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v1 - 4)

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, **2** make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. **3** Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; **4** do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v5 - 8)

5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, as He *already* existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself *by* taking the form of a bond-servant *and* being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death: death on a cross.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v9 - 11)

9 For this reason also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and *that* every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v1 - 2)

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, **2** make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v3 - 4)

**3** Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; **4** do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (3 - 4)

### *kenodoxia*

keno = empty

*doxia* = glory

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v3 - 5)

**3** Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; **4** do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others. **5** Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v5 - 6)

5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, as He *already* existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

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## Genesis 3:6

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit...

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v5 - 6)

5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, as He *already* existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

# TRINITY

*ekenosen*

‘Kenosis’ or ‘Kenotic Theory’:  
teaching that describe how  
Jesus became human during  
His incarnation

**Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v7)**

7 but emptied Himself *by* taking  
the form of a bond-servant *and*  
being born in the likeness of men.

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:1 - 11 (v7 - 8)

7 but emptied Himself *by* taking the form of a bond-servant *and* being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death: death on a cross.

# TRINITY

## Birth and Physical Growth

▶ “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...”

**John 1:14**

▶ “And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man”

**Luke 2:52**

# TRINITY

## Experiencing Human Life

▶ "...so Jesus wearied as He was from His journey, was sitting beside the well"

**John 4:6**

▶ "Jesus wept"

**John 11:35**

## Tempted and Suffered



“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin”.

**Hebrews 4:15**

# TRINITY

- ▶ God is One nature (being/essence): infinite, eternal and unchangeable.
- ▶ God is Three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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- ▶ God is One nature (being/essence): infinite, eternal and unchangeable.
- ▶ God is Three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ▶ At the Incarnation, Christ has two natures in the person of the Son.

# TRINITY

▶ **The humility of Christ - seek not our own advantage.**

**3** Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; **4** do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others.

**Philippians 2:3 - 4**

# TRINITY

▶ **The humility of Christ - seek not our own advantage.**

▶ ***Theosis* - divine participation.**

20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

**John 17:20 - 21**

# TRINITY

## Philippians 2:6 - 11

*<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,<sup>[b]</sup>*

*<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,<sup>[c]</sup> being born in the likeness of men.*

*<sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

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*<sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

*<sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,*

*<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,<sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

TRAINING