

I AM JESUS

EXPLORING THE CLAIMS OF THE MAN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

WEEK 3 :: GOD

THE PROMISE & THE BURNING BUSH

GENESIS 12:1-9, EXODUS 3:1-15

THE CLAIM: JESUS IS _____.

JOHN 8:48-59, MARK 2:1-12, JOHN 10:22-33

THE MEANING: THE TRINITARIAN GOD

THE TRINITY IS ONE GOD WHO ETERNALLY EXISTS AS THREE DISTINCT PERSONS - FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT - WHO ARE EACH FULLY AND EQUALLY GOD IN ETERNAL RELATION WITH EACH OTHER.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRINITARIAN THEOLOGY

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH HAD TO DEAL WITH THE REALITY OF 3 TRUTHS:

(1) ONE GOD (2) JESUS' LORDSHIP (3) THE HOLY SPIRIT'S PRESENCE.

OLD TESTAMENT INDICATORS: GENESIS 1:26-27, 19:24, ISAIAH 6:8, 48:16, 63:9-10, PSALM 110:1, 45:6-7, DANIEL 7:13-14, HOSEA 1:6-7.

NEW TESTAMENT REALITIES: MATTHEW 3:16-17, 28:19-20, LUKE 1:35, JOHN 14:11, 16-17, ACTS 1:7-8, 1 CORINTHIANS 13:14, EPHESIANS 1:4-13, 1 PETER 1:2, TITUS 3:4-6

WHAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN:

1. GOD IS THREE MODES OR MANIFESTATIONS OF THE ONE GOD. GOD WAS FATHER IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, THEN SON AS JESUS AND NOW AS THE HOLY SPIRIT. (MODALISM)
2. JESUS WAS NOT FULLY GOD, BUT WAS THE HIGHEST CREATED BEING OF GOD. (ARIANISM) THIS IS THE TEACHING OF THE JEHOVAH WITNESSES.
3. THE TRINITY CONSISTS OF THREE EQUAL, INDEPENDENT, AND AUTONOMOUS BEINGS, EACH OF WHOM IS DIVINE. (TRITHEISM) THIS IS THE TEACHING OF MORMONISM.

THE FAITH TO BELIEVE :: JOHN 20:24-31

THE LIFE TO LIVE

WHAT DOES A GODLY/CHRIST-LIKE/SPIRIT FILLED LIFE LOOK LIKE?

1. H_____ :: PHILIPPIANS 2:1:11, 1 CORINTHIANS MICAH 6:8
2. L_____ :: 1 JOHN 4:7-12
3. W_____ :: TO THE FATHER, THROUGH THE SON, BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.
4. R_____ :: JOHN 1:1,14
5. LIVING IN U_____ & D_____ COMMUNITY :: 1 CORINTHIANS 12
6. S_____ :: MATTHEW 6:10, EPHESIANS 5:21, LUKE 22:42
7. J_____ :: ROMANS 12:12, ISAIAH 49:13

HOME GROUPS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS :: GOD :: JOHN 8:58

1. WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE FROM SUNDAY'S SERMON? WHAT STOOD OUT TO YOU? WAS ANYTHING CONFUSING TO YOU?
2. WHY IS IT SO HARD FOR PEOPLE TO BELIEVE JESUS IS GOD? IS IT HARD FOR YOU? WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU TO HAVE FAITH IN THIS REALITY?
3. READ JOHN 8:48-59, MARK 2:1-12, AND JOHN 10:22-33. WHAT DID THIS CLAIM MEAN TO THOSE THERE? WHAT DOES "BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, I AM!" MEAN?
4. JESUS' CLAIM THAT HE WAS GOD WAS AN OBVIOUSLY DIFFICULT AND DIVISIVE CLAIM IN HIS TIME. HOW HAS THIS BEEN A DIVISIVE TOPIC TODAY AMONG CHURCHES, CULTS AND CULTURE?
5. WHAT IS THE MOST CONFUSING ASPECT OF THE TRINITARIAN GOD FOR YOU? WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO EXPLAIN THE TRINITY (HINT: IT'S NOT A CLOVER, AN EGG, A PREGNANT LADY, OR WATER)
6. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE A PROPER VIEW OF JESUS AND THE TRINITY? HOW DOES IT TEACH US TO LIVE?
7. READ THROUGH THE LIFE TO LIVE SECTION. WHAT ASPECTS OF THIS LIFE ARE MOST DIFFICULT FOR YOU?
9. HOW HAS THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE/DISCUSSION CHANGED THE WAY YOU VIEW JESUS AND YOUR WORSHIP OF THE TRIUNE GOD?