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## Behold the Triune God

*The Approach • Heart Postures 9 – 11*

THE APPROACH: HEART POSTURES for APPROACHING YOUR BIBLE!		
START WITH THE HEART	Heart Posture #1	Approach Your Bible <b>HUMBLY</b>
	Heart Posture #2	Approach Your Bible <b>DESPERATELY</b>
	Heart Posture #3	Approach Your Bible <b>PRAYERFULLY</b>
BE A BEREAN	Heart Posture #4	Approach Your Bible <b>STUDIOUSLY</b>
	Heart Posture #5	Approach Your Bible <b>OBEDIENTLY</b>
EXPECT GREAT JOY TOGETHER	Heart Posture #6	Approach Your Bible <b>EXPECTANTLY</b>
	Heart Posture #7	Approach Your Bible <b>JOYFULLY</b>
	Heart Posture #8	Approach Your Bible <b>MUTUALLY</b>
BEHOLD THE <u>TRIUNE GOD</u>	Heart Posture #9	Approach Your Bible <b>THEOLOGICALLY</b>
	Heart Posture #10	Approach Your Bible <b>CHRISTOLOGICALLY</b>
	Heart Posture #11	Approach Your Bible <b>SPIRITUALLY</b>

### The One True God Reveals Himself as THREE-IN-ONE!

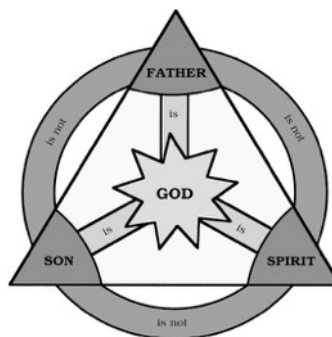
*God has revealed Himself as a Trinity: One God in Three Persons!*

#### The Doctrine of the Trinity: No Christianity Without It!

*"If any doctrine makes Christianity Christian, then surely it is the doctrine of the Trinity. The three great ecumenical creeds—the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed—are all structured around our three in one God, underlying the essential importance of Trinitarian theology."*  
– Kevin DeYoung

#### The Doctrine of the Trinity Summarized in Seven Statements.

1. There is only **ONE** God.
2. The Father **IS** God.
3. The Son **IS** God.
4. The Holy Spirit **IS** God.
5. The Father is **NOT** the Son.
6. The Son is the **NOT** the Holy Spirit.
7. The Holy Spirit is **NOT** the Father.



#### The Doctrine of the Trinity Is Revealed by Comparing Scripture with Scripture

*Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 1:3-14; 1 Peter 1:1-2; 2 Corinthians 13:14*

### Approach Your Bible to Behold the Triune God

*Three Heart Postures to Taste and Treasure the Glory of the Triune God!*

#### 1. Approach Your Bible Theologically...Read in a God-CENTERED Way!

**Theology:** Theos + Logos = A word about God; the study of God; biblical theology is the study of God as revealed in the Bible.

- Everyone is a **THEOLOGIAN**...the question is whether you are a bad one or a good one!
- The Bible can be summarized in one word: **GOD!**

*The Bible is a God-centered revelation.*

### How Do We Know the Bible Is God-Centered?

- See how the Bible **BEGINS** and **ENDS**. Genesis 1:1; Revelation 22:3-5; 1Corinthians 15:24-28

### How Should the God-Centered Bible Impact Our Approach?

- The Bible is first and foremost about God and not **YOU**!

*The Bible is God-centered **AND** people-focused.*

*"The Bible does tell us who we are and what we should do, but it does so through the lens of who God is. The knowledge of God and the knowledge of self always go hand in hand." – Jen Wilken*

### How Do I Approach My Bible Theologically in a God-Centered Way?

- Look for Him **BEFORE** you think about you!
- Look to see how His Kingdom **PLAN** for all of creation and redemption is progressing:  
*God's presence ruling through God's people over God's place!*
  - ☐ What do I see about God *in relation to* His **GLORY**?  
*The greatness of His attributes and the goodness of His acts?*
  - ☐ What do I see about God *in relation to* His **PEOPLE**?  
*Saved image-bearers who struggle to reflect His glory in all that they do. (Spirit Fruit)*  
*Unsaved Image-bearers who rebel against reflecting His glory in all that they do. (Flesh Works)*
  - ☐ What do I see about God *in relation to* His **CREATION**?  
*Animals, plants, geography, and everything in the created universe.*

## 2. Approach Your Bible Christologically...Read in a Christ-EXALTING Way!

**Christology: Christos + Logos =** *A word about Christ; the study of Christ; biblical Christology is the study of Christ as revealed in the Bible.*

### Where Are the Words About Christ Found?

*Just the New Testament? Just the Gospel Accounts? Just the Red Letters?  
Jesus Says the **ENTIRE BIBLE** Is About Him and His Work of Salvation!*

- All Scripture points **FORWARD** to the Person and Work of Christ. (*Christotelic*)  
*Luke 24:13-49*
- The Person and Work of Christ **FULFILLS** all of Scripture. (*Christocentric*)  
*"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished." Matthew 5:17-18*  
*"For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us." 2Corinthians 1:20*
- The Person and Work of Christ brings all Scripture into **FOCUS**. (*The Substance that Brings the Shadows to Light*)  
*Hebrews 8:4-5; 10:1; 1Peter 1:10-12*

### How Do We Approach the Bible in a Christ Exalting Way?

- Let Scriptures themselves **LEAD** you to Christ.  
*"In short, be expositional first and Christological second." – Jason Allen, Letters to My Students Volume One on Preaching*

### In the Old Testament, Is Christ Being Exalted...

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> In a <b>Promise</b> ? | <input type="checkbox"/> In a <b>Prediction</b> ?                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In a <b>Picture</b> ? | <input type="checkbox"/> In a <b>Pre-Incarnate Appearance</b> ?           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In a <b>Pattern</b> ? | <input type="checkbox"/> In a <b>Passage Quoted or Implied</b> in the NT? |

### ***In the New Testament, Is Christ Being Exalted...***

- ☐ Through the **Good News** of **WHO** He is and **WHAT** He has done, is doing, and has yet to do?

**Note:** This is the perspective of Water Baptism

- ☐ Through a **Backward** Look? *His Fulfillment of the Old Testament or His Earthly Ministry*
- ☐ Through an **Upward** Look? *His Heavenly Ministry at the Right Hand of the Father*
- ☐ Through an **Inward** Look? *Our Union with Christ by His Spirit*
- ☐ Through a **Forward** Look? *His Coming Kingdom and Final Consummation*

**Note:** This is the perspective of the Lord's Supper.

### **3. Approach Your Bible Spiritually...Read in a Spirit-LED Way!**

**Pneumatology:** **Pneuma + Logos** = *A word about the Spirit; the study of the Spirit; biblical pneumatology is the study the Spirit as revealed in the Bible.*

*1Corinthians 2:9-16*

- The Spirit's **INSPIRATION**: *The Spirit of God had to reveal to Christ's apostles and prophets the spiritual realities that human reason cannot come up with much less understand on its own. (2:9-11; 2Peter 1:20)*
- The Spirit's **INDWELLING**: *The Spirit of God must dwell in you to understand the Spirit of God speaking to you. (2:12-13; John 14-16)*
- The Spirit's **ILLUMINATION**: *The Spirit must help us understand the words that the Spirit has inspired to be written. (2:14-16)*
- The Spirit's **INFLUENCE**: *The Spirit must control us for the Word to abide in us. (Ephesians 5:18; Colossians 3:16)*

*"...just as it is written, "things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him... For who has known the mind of the LORD, that he will instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."  
1Corinthians 2:9, 16*

### **Approach Your Bible to Behold the Triune God!**

**"Blessed be the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved

**In [Christ]** we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him **with the Holy Spirit of promise**, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory."  
*Ephesians 1:3-14*

**"To those who reside as aliens...who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure."** 1 Peter 1:1-2

**"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all."** 2Corinthians 13:14