

THE FUNCTION OF THE TRINITY AND WHY IT MATTERS

John 5:19-29

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INTRODUCTION: THE TRINITY

John tends to follow a pattern in his Gospel that goes something like this: Story/Statement/Theology.

The Story Man healed by the pool.

The Statement

“My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working.”

Isaiah 63:16

For You are our Father, though Abraham does not know us

And Israel does not recognize us.

You, Lord, are our Father,

Our Redeemer from ancient times is Your name.

Psalms 82:6

I said, “You are gods,

And all of you are sons of the Most High.

The Theology: The Function of the Trinity

(It’s not really a difficult doctrine!)

Ephesians 2:14; 4:4; John 17:20, 21

? What does it mean that God is one?

God has one quality, one set of attributes that make Someone God.

? What does it mean that three Persons are God?

There are three Persons, life forms, entities that have all the characteristics of God equally.

In this passage, Jesus develops the relationship between Father and Son in the Trinity, by describing the functions of the Persons of God. This passage is easily outlined by first identifying two statements Jesus begins with, "Truly, Truly,"

I. TRULY, TRULY, [THE SON IS EQUAL TO THE FATHER]

? How is the Son equal to the Father?

A. FOR FATHER AND SON DO THE SAME WORK

? How does this fit as an answer to the question of Sabbath?

He doesn't follow the father nor imitate the father. He naturally does the same thing the father is doing.

Christ naturally does what pleases God.

John 8:29

B. FOR THE FATHER LOVES THE SON

Point of Application: That you should marvel

C. FOR FATHER AND SON HAVE THE SAME POWER OF LIFE

D. FOR FATHER AND SON HAVE THE SAME RIGHT TO JUDGE

Point of Application: That you should honor the Son even as you honor the Father.

II. TRULY, TRULY [YOU WILL RISE FROM THE DEAD]

A. SOME TO ETERNAL LIFE

1. Those Who Hear

John 10:4

2. Those Who Believe

John 14:1

3. Those Who Obey

These are all one and the same.

John 3:20, 36

B. SOME TO ETERNAL JUDGMENT

Dylan Thomas

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

John 5:39, 40

2 Corinthians 5:10

That which is ordinary, base, natural, evil.

Point of Application: Don't be amazed that life and judgment come through the Son.

CONCLUSION: THE TRINITY

Jesus claims an equality with God unlike anything the world had understood up to that time.

IMPLICATIONS

Positive

1.

2.

3.

Negative

1.

2.

3.