**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Treasuring the Trinity |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Isaiah 6:1-3 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1884 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. The doctrine of the Trinity is one of the great Christian distinctives.
      1. It is what makes Christianity stand out from all of the religions of the world.
      2. While it is our great distinctive, it is beyond the shadow of any doubt the hardest to understand or to grasp.
      3. It is the idea that we worship one God, not three Gods, who has revealed Himself in three Persons.
   2. There are many who do not accept the doctrine of the Trinity.
   3. The doctrine of the Trinity needs to be preached and taught more than anything else.
      1. It is complicated, but it is necessary.
      2. It is absolutely fundamental to all that we say, all that we are, and all that we believe.
      3. This is not talking about polytheism, that is, worshipping three gods.
         1. The Bible completely condemns the worship of any god but Jehovah God.
         2. We worship a Trinitarian God.
   4. Isaiah 6:1
      1. In this passage, the prophet Isaiah was speaking.
      2. What kind of train was he talking about?
         1. Often a king would have attendants who would carry a part of his robe, which was called a “train”.
         2. This King had such majesty that it went from one end of the temple to the other.
            1. The longer the train, the greater the majesty.
            2. His train filled the temple.
   5. Isaiah 6:2-3
      1. Isaiah saw the Lord high and lifted up.
      2. Isaiah said the word “holy” once, twice, and three times.
         1. Even here, we see an insight into holy is the Father, holy is the Son, and holy is the Spirit.
   6. Isaiah 6:8
      1. We would expect Him to say, “Who will go for Me?”
         1. But He said, “*Who will go for Us*?”
      2. “*Whom shall I send*?” is singular.
      3. “*Who will go for Us*?” is plural.
   7. The only way we can understand or believe the Trinity is by divine revelation.
      1. We can never learn about the Trinity by human logic, by investigation, by philosophy, by mathematics, or by science.
      2. The only way we can know that God Almighty is a triune God is by divine revelation, by picking up the Bible and reading it.
   8. It may sound contradictory that God is one, and yet God is three.
      1. Don’t worry if you cannot understand it.
         1. We wouldn’t have much confidence in a God that we could understand.
         2. Someone said: “To try to explain the Trinity, you lose your mind; deny it, you lose your soul.”
      2. The Trinity is not contrary to logic; the Trinity is beyond logic.
         1. Think about infinity and eternity.
            1. Infinity is space that never ends.
            2. Eternity is existence that never ceases and never began.
         2. We cannot understand it; it is beyond us.
   9. God is the infinite and eternal God.
      1. Because we cannot understand God or the Trinity, don’t think that the Trinity is an impossibility.
         1. Charles Wesley: “When a worm can understand a man, then maybe man can understand God.”
   10. We know about the Trinity, not by logic or philosophy, but by revelation.
       1. God tells us in the Bible.
   11. Some will try to illustrate the Trinity.
       1. There is not one illustration that will actually illustrate the Trinity.
       2. Everything else can be compared to everything else.
          1. One man can be compared to another man.
          2. One chair can be compared to another chair.
       3. But there is only one God.
          1. Isaiah 40:18
             1. There is nothing we can say that God is like because God is not like anything.

God is God.

He is separate.

* 1. There are reflections of His triunity in everything that He has created.
     1. Space is height, width, and depth.
        1. You cannot have height without width, width without depth, or depth without height.
           1. They are all part of the same.
           2. Each is distinct, yet each is distinguishable and inseparable.
     2. Time is past, present, and future.
        1. You cannot have a past without a present, a present without a future, or a future without a past.
           1. They are all distinguishable, yet all are part of the same.
     3. Man is body, soul, and spirit.
        1. Man is made in the image of a triune God and has a triune nature.
     4. These are not proofs of God’s triunity; these are only reflections of God’s triunity.
  2. There is absolutely nothing that we can compare God to.
     1. Isaiah 40:18
  3. Don’t try to water the Trinity down or explain it away.
     1. Sometimes people will say that there is just one God, but He appears to us in three different modes, like someone may be a pastor, a father, and a husband.
        1. But that doesn’t fit the Trinity.
        2. We are not talking about three different modes in which God appears.
           1. There are three distinct Persons in the Godhead.
  4. In today’s message, we will look at the doctrine of the Trinity in both the Old and the New Testaments.

1. the doctrine of the trinity in the old testament
   1. The doctrine of the Trinity did not suddenly appear in the New Testament.
   2. We find the Trinity in the first verse in the Bible.
      1. Genesis 1:1
         1. In this verse, the word for God is the plural noun “Elohim”.
            1. Elohim is not a singular noun; it is a plural noun.
            2. It has the plural ending “im”.

For example:

One angel is a seraph; more than one are seraphim.

One angel may be a cherub; more than one are cherubim.

* + - 1. This literally says, “*In the beginning, Gods created the Heaven and the Earth*.”
         1. This word translated “Gods” is exactly the same word in Exodus 20:3 where it says, “*Thou shalt have no other gods before Me*.”

It is the same word (elohim); it comes as plural.

* + - * 1. It is the same word that is used when God warns against pagan gods (other elohim) in Deuteronomy 13:2.
      1. In this passage, the verb “created” is singular, but the noun “Gods” is plural.
         1. It is a plurality acting as a unity.
  1. The same thing is seen, not only in the creation of the Heaven and the Earth, but also in the creation of man.
     1. Genesis 1:26
        1. Elohim is plural.
        2. To whom was God speaking?
           1. He was not speaking to the angels; we are not made in the likeness of the angels.
           2. He was speaking as Jehovah God communing with His Triunity.
     2. Who made everything?
        1. Genesis 1:1 says that God made it.
        2. John 1:1-3 says that Jesus made it.
        3. Job 26:13 says that the Holy Spirit made it.
        4. “Gods” made the Heaven and the Earth.
           1. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit made it.

“*Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God of Hosts*.”

Isaiah 6:3

* 1. The Jew’s great profession of faith is called the Shema.
     1. It is a passage of Scripture taken from the book of Deuteronomy.
     2. Deuteronomy 6:4-5
        1. In the New Testament when they asked Jesus Christ what was the great commandment, Jesus answered with this passage of Scripture.
           1. Mark 12:29-30
           2. This is the first commandment.
        2. The word “Lord” comes from the word “Jehovah”.
        3. We can read it this way, “*Hear, O Israel: The Jehovah, our Elohim (our Gods), is one Lord*.”
           1. The word “Jehovah” (Lord) is singular.
           2. The word “God” (Elohim) is plural.
        4. “*The Lord our God is one Lord*.”
           1. In this passage, the word “one”, echad, does not mean one as a singular digit; it means a collective one.

This word “one” is also used in other places in the Bible:

Genesis 2:24

“*They shall be one flesh*.”

Genesis 11:6

“*They are one people*.”

Numbers 13:23

“*One cluster of grapes*.”

1 Samuel 13:17

“*One company*.”

2 Samuel 2:25

“*One troop*.”

1 Chronicles 17:21

“*One nation*.”

* + - * 1. God was telling Israel that Jehovah, our Gods, is a unity.
  1. When Isaiah came to worship the Lord, he saw the Lord high and lifted up, and His glory filled the temple.
     1. Isaiah 6:1-3, 8
        1. Jehovah was saying, “*Who will go for Us*?”
           1. Not “Who will go for Me,” but “Who will go for Us?”
        2. In verse 1, the word for “Lord” is “Adonai”, which is a name used for God alone.
        3. In verses 3 and 5, Adonai is identified as Jehovah, the Lord of Hosts.
           1. It was Jehovah, the Lord of Hosts, who was asking, “*Who will go for Us*?”
  2. We see the Trinity through the prophecies concerning the Lord Jesus Christ.
     1. We did not suddenly learn in the New Testament that God has a Son; we learned that God had a Son in the Old Testament.
     2. Daniel 3:19-25
        1. Three Hebrew servants of God were thrown into the fiery furnace.
        2. When the king looked in, he saw four men walking loose, and the fourth was like the Son of God.
     3. Proverbs 30:4
        1. This question was by divine inspiration.
        2. The writer asks what is God’s name and what is His Son’s name.
     4. Psalm 2:6-7
        1. In this passage, God speaks of all of the contortions and imaginations of the wicked people of this Earth, and yet God overrules history.
        2. The Lord God declares Himself that He has a Son.
     5. These are Old Testament passages of Scripture containing prophecies concerning the Lord Jesus.
        1. The Lord Jesus is shown as co-equal and co-eternal with God the Father.
  3. Isaiah 48:12-13
     1. God was speaking in this passage.
        1. He was talking about Himself.
           1. He is the first and the last.
           2. He is the one who made everything.
  4. Isaiah 48:16-17
     1. “*The Lord God and His Spirit sent Me*.”
        1. God sent God.
     2. Here, we have God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
     3. The Lord our God is the Redeemer.
  5. Isaiah 63:9-10
     1. The context of this passage makes it very clear that “He” is Jehovah.
     2. “*The Messenger of His presence*” is what the word “angel” means in verse 9; this is Jesus.
     3. “V*exed His Holy Spirit*” refers to the Holy Spirit.
        1. The Holy Spirit here is a person who can be vexed.
     4. In this passage, we have three distinct Persons in the Godhead:
        1. Jehovah God
        2. The Angel of His Presence
        3. The Holy Spirit
  6. Isaiah 59:19-20
     1. In verse 20, the “Redeemer” is Jesus.
     2. Here, we have Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
     3. This Jesus in the Old Testament is God.
        1. He is co-equal and co-eternal with God.
  7. Isaiah 9:6
     1. The child is the Earthly Jesus.
     2. The Son is the Heavenly Messiah.
        1. They are one in the same person.
     3. “*Unto us a child is born*.”
        1. That is His humanity.
     4. “*Unto us a Son is given*.”
        1. That is His deity.
     5. “*His name*” refers to the child’s name.
     6. Is He the child or is He the Father?
        1. Yes, He is the Mighty God.
     7. The word “*Mighty God*”, El-gibbor, literally means “God-Man”.
        1. He is the God-Man.
        2. In Isaiah 10:20-21, “*Mighty God*” refers to God the Father alone.
           1. Yet, it is spoken of as God the Son in Isaiah 9:6.
  8. In the Old Testament, we see that God has a Son, and that Son is the Mighty God.
     1. That Son is called the Everlasting Father.
  9. When Jesus Christ was born into this world, He was older than His mother and just as old as His Father.
     1. There was not a time when Jesus was not.
        1. He existed in the bosom of the Father through all eternity.
        2. If God is the Everlasting Father, then there must be an Everlasting Son.

1. the doctrine of the trinity in the new testament
   1. We see the doctrine of the Trinity in the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      1. Luke 1:35
         1. The Holy Ghost is “the Spirit”.
         2. The “Highest” is the “Father”.
         3. The holy thing is “the Son”.
         4. In this verse, we see the Trinity; the Holy Ghost, the Father, and the Son of God.
   2. We see the Trinity in the baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      1. Matthew 3:16-17
         1. Jesus – the Son
         2. The dove is the Holy Spirit.
         3. The voice is that of God the Father.
         4. In this passage, we have the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
            1. There is no way to explain the deity of Christ apart from the Holy Trinity.
   3. When Jesus was here on Earth, He spoke of Himself as having a unique relationship with God the Father.
      1. He was not merely the Son of God, He was God the Son.
      2. John 8:58
         1. The great Old Testament name for Jehovah God was “The Great I AM”.
         2. Jesus did not say “I was,” but He said, “I AM.”
            1. There was never a time when He was not.
      3. John 14:6
      4. Matthew 11:27
      5. John 5:22-23
      6. John 14:9
      7. John 10:30
         1. “*I and my Father are one*.”
2. CONCLUSION
   1. This is the treasure of the Trinity:
      1. The Father above us.
      2. The Spirit within us.
      3. The Savior who died for us.
   2. We worship one God who has revealed Himself in three Persons.
   3. When God wants to bless a congregation, the blessing is the following:
      1. Numbers 6:22-27
         1. Verse 24 speaks of Jehovah God.
         2. Verse 25 speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ.
            1. We see the face of God in Jesus.
            2. The grace of God came through Jesus Christ.
         3. Verse 26 speaks of the Holy Spirit.
            1. The fruit of the Spirit is peace.

Galatians 5:22

* 1. John 3:16
     1. God so loved you that He sent His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus (who is God in the flesh), to pay your sin debt with His blood.
  2. The Holy Spirit will open your heart, give you faith, and help you to believe in God the Father who sent His Son.
  3. Are you saved?
  4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
  5. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
     1. Romans 3:23
     2. Romans 10:9-10
     3. Romans 10:13
     4. Acts 16:31
     5. John 3:16