

& ERROR

DISCERNING TRUTH

IMPORTANT
FACTS
FOR

TRINITARIANS

TO
CONSIDER

SEE FOR YOURSELF
THE HISTORICAL
EVIDENCE OF

Forgery
Conspiracy
Paganism
Dictator-Style Politics

AND HOW THE
TRINITY
CAME TO BE

PART I

“Trinity” is not in the Bible, did not exist until 325 A.D. and was first proclaimed not by devout Christians, but by a council of politicians, philosophers, and men who had world conquest in mind. Yet, millions of Catholics and Protestants alike agree that faith in the **Trinity** is a requirement of salvation.

Anyone who declares their God to be the non-biblical **Trinity** should get the **FACTS** on the origins of this man-made doctrine.

Q. Has the doctrine of the **Trinity** been promoted through biblical evangelism by pure and holy men of God since it was first introduced 1700 years ago?

A. No! The **Trinity** was **ENFORCED** by corrupt men bent on world conquest by means of politics, forgery, conspiracy, torture and murder. It’s promoters were wicked men who have committed every abominable atrocity towards women, children, Jews, heretics, true Christians and even each other. Catholics and Protestants both share a dark and shameful historical record. See the evidence for yourself. Jesus said —

Forgery & Conspiracy: Historical Evidence That Catholics Changed The Baptismal Formula From The Name Of Jesus To Father, Son and Holy Ghost

“The baptismal formula was changed from the name of Jesus Christ to the words Father, Son, & Holy Ghost by the Catholic Church in the second century.” — **BRI-TANNICA ENCYCLOPEDIA**, 11TH edition, Vol 3, Pg 365-366

“Everywhere in the oldest sources it states that baptism took place in the name of Jesus Christ.” — **BRI-TANNICA ENCYCLOPEDIA**, Vol 3, Pg 82

“The early church always baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus until development of Trinity doctrine in the 2nd century.” — **CANNEY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION**, Pg 53

The same church (Catholic) that gave us the non-biblical methods of infant baptism and sprinkling, are also responsible for changing the baptismal formula from the name of Jesus to the “Father, Son and Holy Ghost.” Here the Catholics acknowledged that baptism by the apostles was in the name of Jesus, but was changed by the Catholic Church.

“There has been a theological controversy over the question as to whether baptism in the name of Christ only was ever held valid. Certain texts in the New Testament have given rise to this difficulty. Thus St. Paul (Acts, xix) commands some disciples at Ephesus to be baptized in Christ’s name: “They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.” In Acts 10, we read that St. Peter ordered others to be baptized “in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ”. Those who were converted by Philip. (Acts, viii) “were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ”, and above all we have the explicit command of the Prince of the Apostles: “Be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of your sins (Acts, ii).

Owing to these texts some theologians have held that the Apostles baptized in the name of Christ only. St. Thomas, St. Bonaventure, and Albertus Magnus are invoked as authorities for this opinion, they declaring that the Apostles so acted by special dispensation.

Pope Nicholas replies that the baptism is to be held valid “if they were baptized, in the name of the supreme and undivided Trinity”. Here the pope does not give baptism in the name of Christ only as an alternative.” — **CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA**, Vol 2, Pg 263

“Christian baptism was administered using the words ‘In the name of Jesus’”. — **HASTINGS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION**, Vol 2, Pg 377

“The use of a Trinitarian formula of any sort was not suggested in early Church history.” — **HASTINGS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION**, Vol 2, Pg 378

“Baptism was always in the name of Lord Jesus until the time of Justin Martyr when Triune formula was used.” — **HASTINGS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION**, Vol 2, Pg 389

“Justin Martyr was one of the early Fathers of the Roman Catholic Church.” — **CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA**, Vol 8

“NAME was an ancient synonym for “person”. Payment was always made in the name of some person referring ownership. Therefore one being baptized in Jesus Name became his personal property. ‘Ye are Christ’s.’” — **HASTINGS ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION**, Vol 2, Pg 377 on **ACTS 2:38**

“The term “Trinity” was originated by Tertulian, a Roman Catholic Church Father.” — **NEW INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA**, Vol 22, Pg 477

“The formula used was ‘in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ’ or some synonymous phrase; there is no evidence for the use of the trine name... The earliest form, represented in the Acts, was simple immersion....in water, the use of the name of the Lord, and the laying on of hands. To these were added in at various times and places which cannot be safely identified, (a) the trine name...” — **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGION AND ETHICS**, (1951), II, 384, 389

“The evidence ... suggests that baptism in early Christianity was administered, not in the threefold name, but ‘in the name of the Lord Jesus.’” — **INTERPRETERS DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE**, (1962) I, 351

“At first baptism was administered in the name of Jesus, but gradually in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.” — *A HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT* (Otto Heick), (1965), I, 53

“[One explanation is that] the original form of words was ‘into the name of Jesus Christ’. Baptism into the name of the Trinity was a later development.” — *HASTINGS DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE*, (1898), I, 241

“The Trinitarian baptismal formula ... was displacing the older baptism in the name of Christ.” — *A HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH*, Williston Walker, (1947), Pg 58

“The New Testament knows only baptism in the name of Jesus ..., which still occurs even in the second and third centuries.” — *THE NEW SCHAFF-HERZOG ENCYCL. OF RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE*, (1957), I, 435

“Persons were baptized at first ‘in the name of Jesus Christ’ ... or ‘in the name of the Lord Jesus.’... Afterwards, with the development of the doctrine of the Trinity, they were baptized ‘in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.” — *CANNEY’S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGIONS*, (1970), Pg 53

“It is natural to conclude that baptism was administered in the earliest times ‘in the name of Jesus Christ,’ or in that ‘of the Lord Jesus.’ This view is confirmed by the fact that the earliest forms of the baptismal confession appear to have been single – not triple, as was the later creed.” — *ENCYCLOPEDIA BIBLICA*, (1899), I, 473

“The Trinitarian formula and trine immersion were not uniformly used from the beginning... Bapti[sm] into the name of the Lord [was] the normal formula of the new Testament. In the 3rd century baptism in the name of Christ was still so wide spread that Pope Stephen, in opposition to Cyprian of Carthage, declared it to be valid.” — *ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA*, 11TH edition, (1910), Vol 2, Pg 365



Norway. Trinity (Father, Son, holy spirit), c. 13th century C.E.

Why did the Catholics change the baptismal formula? Because Jesus name baptism was contrary to their MAN-MADE Trinity doctrine.

Paganism and Dictator-style Politics

How Did the Trinity Doctrine Develop?

ROMAN emperor Constantine summoned all bishops to Nicaea. About 300, a fraction of the total, actually attended.

Constantine was not a Christian. Supposedly, he converted later in life, but he was not baptized until he lay dying. Regarding him, Henry Chadwick says in *The Early Church*: "Constantine, like his father, worshipped the Unconquered Sun; . . . his conversion should not be interpreted as an inward experience of grace . . . It was a military matter. His comprehension of Christian doctrine was never very clear, but he was sure that victory in battle lay in the gift of the God of the Christians."

What role did this unbaptized emperor play at the Council of Nicaea? The *Encyclopedia Britannica* relates: "Constantine himself presided, actively guiding the discussions, and personally proposed . . . the crucial formula expressing the relation of Christ to God in the creed issued by the council, 'of one substance with the Father' . . . Overawed by the emperor, the bishops, with two exceptions only, signed the creed, many of them much against their inclination."

Hence, Constantine's role was crucial. After two months of furious religious debate, this pagan politician intervened and decided in favor of those who said that Jesus was God. But why? Certainly not because of any Biblical conviction. "Constantine had basically no understanding whatsoever of the questions that were being asked in Greek theology," says *A Short History of Christian Doctrine*. What he did understand was that religious division was a threat to his empire, and he wanted to solidify his domain.

None of the bishops at Nicaea promoted a Trinity, however. They decided only the nature of Jesus but not the role of the holy spirit. If a Trinity had been a clear Bible truth, should they not have proposed it at that time?

Further Development

AFTER Nicaea, debates on the subject continued for decades. Those who believed that Jesus was not equal to God



India. Triune Hindu godhead, c. 7th century C.E.



France. Trinity, c. 14th century C.E.



Italy. Trinity, c. 15th century C.E.

even came back into favor for a time. But later Emperor Theodosius decided against them. He established the creed of the Council of Nicaea as the standard for his realm and convened the Council of Constantinople in 381 C.E. to clarify the formula.

That council agreed to place the holy spirit on the same level as God and Christ. For the first time, Christendom's Trinity began to come into focus.

Yet, even after the Council of Constantinople, the Trinity did not become a widely accepted creed. Many opposed it and thus brought on themselves violent persecution. It was only in later centuries that the Trinity was formulated into set creeds. *The Encyclopedia Americana* notes: "The full development of Trinitarianism took place in the West, in the Scholasticism of the Middle Ages, when an explanation was undertaken in terms of philosophy and psychology."

What Influenced It

THROUGHOUT the ancient world, as far back as Babylonia, the worship of pagan gods grouped in threes, or triads, was common. That influence was also prevalent in Egypt, Greece, and Rome in the centuries before, during, and after Christ. And after the death of the apostles, such pagan beliefs began to invade Christianity.

Historian Will Durant observed: "Christianity did not destroy paganism; it adopted it. . . . From Egypt came the ideas of a divine trinity." And in the book *Egyptian Religion*, Siegfried Morenz notes: "The trinity was a major preoccupation of Egyptian theologians . . . Three gods are combined and treated as a single being, addressed in the singular. In this way the spiritual force of Egyptian religion shows a direct link with Christian theology."

Thus, in Alexandria, Egypt, churchmen of the late third and early fourth centuries, such as Athanasius, reflected this influence as they formulated ideas that led to the Trinity. Their own influence spread, so that Morenz considers "Alexandrian theology as the intermediary between the Egyptian religious heritage and Christianity."

In the preface to Edward Gibbon's *History of Christianity*, we read: "If Paganism was conquered by Christianity, it is equally true that Christianity was corrupted by Paganism. The pure Deism of the first Christians . . . was changed, by the Church of Rome, into the incomprehensible dogma of the trinity. Many of the pagan tenets, invented by the Egyptians and idealized by Plato, were retained as being worthy of belief."

A Dictionary of Religious Knowledge notes that many say that the Trinity "is a corruption borrowed from the heathen religions, and ingrafted on the Christian faith." And *The Paganism in Our Christianity* declares: "The origin of the [Trinity] is entirely pagan."

That is why, in the *Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics*, James Hastings wrote: "In Indian religion, e.g., we meet with the trinitarian group of Brahma, Siva, and Visnu; and in Egyptian religion with the trinitarian group of Osiris, Isis, and Horus . . . Nor is it only in historical religions that we find God viewed as a



Germany. Trinity, 20th century C.E.

'Fourth century Trinitarianism was a deviation from early Christian teaching.' — *The Encyclopedia Americana*

Trinity. One recalls in particular the Neo-Platonic view of the Supreme or Ultimate Reality," which is "triadically represented." What does the Greek philosopher Plato have to do with the Trinity?

Platonism

PLATO, it is thought, lived from 428 to 347 before Christ. While he did not teach the Trinity in its present form, his philosophies paved the way for it. Later, philosophical movements that included triadic beliefs sprang up, and these were influenced by Plato's ideas of God and nature.

The French *Nouveau Dictionnaire Universel* (New Universal Dictionary) says of Plato's influence: "The Platonic *trinity*, itself merely a rearrangement of older *trinities* dating back to earlier peoples, appears to be the rational philosophic *trinity* of attributes that gave birth to the three hypostases or divine persons taught by the Christian churches. . . . This Greek philosopher's conception of the divine *trinity* . . . can be found in all the ancient [pagan] religions."

The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge shows the influence of this Greek philosophy: "The doctrines of the Logos and the Trinity received their shape from Greek Fathers, who . . . were much influenced, directly or indirectly, by the Platonic philosophy . . . That errors and corruptions crept into the Church from this source can not be denied."

The Church of the First Three Centuries says: "The doctrine of the Trinity was of gradual and comparatively late formation; . . . it had its origin in a source entirely foreign from that of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures; . . . it grew up, and was engrafted on Christianity, through the hands of the Platonizing Fathers."

By the end of the third century C.E., "Christianity" and the new Platonic philosophies became inseparably united. As Adolf Harnack states in *Outlines of the History of Dogma*, church doctrine became "firmly rooted in the soil of Hellenism [pagan Greek thought]. Thereby it became a mystery to the great majority of Christians."

"The Triad of the Great Gods" Many centuries before the time of Christ, there were triads, or trinities, of gods in ancient Babylonia and Assyria. The French "Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology" notes one such triad in that Mesopotamian area: "The universe was divided into three regions each of which became the domain of a god. Anu's share was the sky. The earth was given to Enlil. Ea became the ruler of the waters. Together they constituted the triad of the Great Gods."

Hindu Trinity

The book "The Symbolism of Hindu Gods and Rituals" says regarding a Hindu trinity that existed centuries before Christ: "Siva is one of the gods of the Trinity. He is said to be the god of destruction. The other two gods are Brahma, the god of creation and Vishnu, the god of maintenance. . . . To indicate that these three processes are one and the same the three gods are combined in one form."—Published by A. Parthasarathy, Bombay.