

Trinity

Review of Key Concepts:

-Eternal Relation of Origin-Distinguishes how each Person is related to another (Father-Paternity, begotten of none, Son-Filiation, begotten of the Father, Spirit-Spiration, proceeding from Father and Son). This phrase is synonymous with “modes of subsistence” and “personal properties”.

-Subsistence-Another way of referring to a divine Person. The One, simple divine **essence** subsists or exists in three Persons.

-Eternal Generation-The Son of God has from eternity been generated (begotten-come from) from the Father's essence. Therefore, the Son has no beginning and possesses all the divine essence.

Lesson 5 - Spiration of the Holy Spirit

There is less in Scripture concerning the Holy Spirit than there is concerning the Father or the Son. This is not problematic for Christians but _____.

The Holy Spirit is God

The Holy Spirit is called God in Scripture (Acts 5:4). The Holy Spirit is ascribed in Scripture as doing the _____ of God (John 3:3-8, Gal. 4:6, Rom. 8:9-11, 2 Peter 1:21) and possessing the attributes of God (Rom. 8:2). The Holy Spirit is mentioned alongside the Father and Son as being equally divine (Mt. 28:19, 2 Cor. 13:14).

The Holy Spirit is _____ with the Father and Son in power, glory, and majesty. The Holy Spirit is fully divine and lacks no divine attribute (possesses the complete divine essence).

The Holy Spirit is not the Father or the Son

The Holy Spirit _____ from the Father and Son. The spiration of the Spirit refers to His procession. The Son is the Only-Begotten of the Father. The Spirit is the One who proceeds from Father and Son (John 14:26, 15:26, Acts 2:33). Divine simplicity again helps us understand that the Spirit does not merely possess part of the divine essence but its totality.

That alone which distinguishes the Spirit from the Father and Son is its _____ eternal relation of origin.

“The Spirit is not from the Father in the same way that the Son is from the Father. The Spirit is not the Son’s twin brother...The Son is generated from the Father, which is why He is called Son, but the Spirit is not called Son, because He is not generated but spirated, proceeding from the Father and the Son as Spirit.”-Barrett, 271.

“In this divine and infinite Being there are three subsistences, the Father, the Word or Son, and Holy Spirit, of one substance, power, and eternity, each having the whole divine essence, yet the essence undivided: the Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Spirit proceeding from the Father and the Son...”-LBC 2.3

Importance of Spiration

Practically, eternal generation is important because the Son gives us a perfect representation of the Father (Hebrews 1:3). Eternal spiration is important because it establishes the fact that the Spirit is able to bring us into _____ with the Son and the Father.

The Holy Spirit is presented in Scripture as leading people to the Son as He is revealed in _____. The Son's mission is to reveal the Father. This is why the Spirit is referred to as the Third Person in the Trinity, not because He is inferior in any way but because there is an _____ that is presented to us in the relations of origin.

Eternal relations of origin is crucial to understand the nature of God. Eternal relation of origins is also helpful when thinking about the _____ and work of God.

“The word ‘Spirit’ in Scripture can also be translated as ‘breath’. Applied theologically, the Spirit is the One breathed out by the Father and the Son in eternity, which explains why the Spirit is the One sent from the Father and the Son in history. The Spirit's mission then reflects the Spirit's eternal relation of origin.”-Barrett, 272

The Holy Spirit, being the Sent One from the Father and the Son, is focused on pointing humanity to the Father _____ the Son.

In the _____, the Spirit brought life so that humanity might know the Father through the Son-Genesis 2:7

The Spirit _____ life so that fallen humanity might know the Father through the Son-John 3:3, 16

The Spirit gives _____ so that fallen humanity might know the Father through the revelation of the Son-2 Peter 1:21, John 20:22

The Spirit _____ the people of God so the world might know the Father through the image of Christ being formed in a person-Rom. 8:28, Gal. 5:22, Mt. 5:16

“The pouring out of love within us is the work of the Holy Spirit...The Spirit is manifested whenever we love God and neighbor...The gift of the Spirit by the Father and the Son is the gift of love to us even when we were quite unlovely.”-Barrett