

THE TRIUNE NATURE OF GOD

Introduction – The three monotheistic faiths all agree there is one God. Christianity is unique in its understanding of God as three personalities of one being. For some this presents a logical problem about how three can also be one.

- A. Judaism says the Christian view is incompatible with Yaweh who would never appear as a human being or as three personalities.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

1. Some see the triune God in the creation account.

Genesis 1:1-3

2. The Hebrew Scriptures show God appearing in human form.

Genesis 18:1-2; 13-15; 22-23; 33

3. Jesus agreed with the Israelite confession of faith.

Mark 12:29-31

- B. The Koran claims that Christians are idolaters who worship three or four gods

1. The New Testament also considers idolatry a sin.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

2. The Old and New Testaments do not view God as a distant and threatening Deity like the Koran.

Matthew 1:22-23

- C. The life of Jesus and the understanding of the first Christians require the triune nature of God.

Luke 3:21-22

Matthew 28:19

2 Corinthians 13:14

1 Peter 1:1-2

D. The New Testament presents the triune nature of God as such a harmonious community that it functions as one. "God is love..." 1 John 4:16

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1. Love requires a relationship of at least one more personality.
2. Jesus discusses this nature of Divine unity.

John 17:20-23

Conclusion- The triune nature of the one God is not logically contradictory. If one understands how it is presented in the New Testament. The real challenge is not rationally comprehending the triune nature of God, but the call to be one in the example of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.