

First-century Judaism strongly believed in one God, based on passages such as the Shema in Deuteronomy 6:4: “Hear, O Israel: The LORD, our God, the LORD is one.” However, some Jewish writings and interpretations recognised complexity within God’s self-revelation. Jewish teachers spoke about God’s Wisdom, Word, and Spirit as active in creation and revelation. Passages such as Genesis 1, Psalm 110:1, and Daniel 7:13–14 raised questions about divine figures alongside God. The “Son of Man” in Daniel receives worship and eternal authority, while the “Angel of the LORD” sometimes speaks as God Himself. Some Jewish thinkers also described God’s Wisdom almost personally, especially in writings connected with Proverbs and intertestamental literature. While first-century Judaism did not teach the Trinity fully, these themes created a framework that helped early Jewish Christians understand Jesus and the Holy Spirit without abandoning belief in one God.

What helpful ideas or examples can you suggest that help people to think of 3 things that are 1?

Read: Genesis 1:1-10,26-31 and John 1:1-4,14-18

1. In Genesis 1:1–3, what roles do God, the Spirit of God, and God’s spoken Word play in creation?
2. Compare Psalm 33:6 with John 1:1–3. How are God’s Word and Spirit connected with creation?
3. Compare Proverbs 8:22–31 with John 1:1–4. How does the description of Wisdom alongside God at creation resemble John’s description of Jesus?

4. Read Isaiah 48:12–16. What different persons are mentioned in this passage, and how might it hint at the Trinity?
5. Read Matthew 3:16–17. How are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit all revealed at Jesus’ baptism?
6. How does knowing that God is relational — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — shape the way you understand your need for relationships and community?
7. How might your understanding of self-worth change if you truly believed you were created for relationship with God and others?
8. How does the unity within the Trinity challenge the church to pursue unity, humility, and love with one another?
9. In what ways can prayer become more relational when you understand the Trinity more deeply?
10. Which Person of the Trinity do you naturally relate to most in prayer — the Father, the Son, or the Holy Spirit? Why might that be?

Prayer Points

Pray for those organisations that we partner with. Pray particularly for the work of the Foodbank and CAP. Pray for those who lead, support and volunteer.

Pray for Christians in Afghanistan who still endure after almost five years of Taliban rule. As we celebrate Pentecost, ask the Lord to fill Afghan believers 'with all joy and peace [...] so that [they] may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit' (Romans 15:13)

Sermon Notes



BIBLE STUDY

May 31st 2026

The Trinity in the Old Testament

**Genesis 1:1-10,26-31 and
John 1:1-4,14-18**

The Trinity is not fully explained in the Old Testament, but there are important hints that prepare the way for the fuller revelation in the New Testament. In Genesis 1, God creates through His Word while the Spirit hovers over the waters. God also says, "Let us make mankind in our image," suggesting distinction within God's unity. Passages such as Isaiah 48:16 and 61:1 mention the LORD, His Spirit, and the One sent by Him. The "Angel of the LORD" sometimes speaks with God's authority and identity. These passages do not teach three gods, but point toward one God revealed in three Persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001