

## **ARTICLE 2**

**We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons;  
namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

### **1. The One God**

#### **a. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are the one God.**

Scripture references: 2 Corinthians 5:19; Galatians 1:3-4; John 3:5; Titus 3:5; Romans 5:5

#### **b. The Bible affirms that God is one.**

Scripture references: Deuteronomy 4:35; 6:4; 2 Kings 19:15; Jeremiah 2:11; Isaiah 42:8; 1 Corinthians 8:4, 6.

(1) **In the Old Testament the confession of faith is “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!”**

(2) **The Bible’s proclamation that there is no God but Jehovah, distinguishes the one true God from the many gods worshiped in the pagan religions during biblical times.**

### **2. The One God in Three Persons**

#### **a. Old Testament writings serve as witnesses to the existence and the unity of the Holy Trinity.**

Scripture references: Isaiah 6:3, 8; 48:16; 63:10; Genesis 1:2, 26; Job 33:4; Micah 3:8; Zechariah 7:12

God and “Spirit”—

“Us”—

“Elohim”—

“Holy, Holy, Holy”—

**b. New Testament writings serve as witnesses to the existence of three persons who each have distinct roles and work in unity as one God.**

Scripture references: Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Acts 2:1-33; 7:55; Romans 5:5; 15:16, 30; 2 Corinthians 1:20-22; Ephesians 2:18

**(1) Each member of the Trinity has a specific role.**

Father—

Son—

Holy Spirit—

**(2) God is a unified being; therefore, the Trinity operates in unity.**

Examples from the New Testament of the Holy Trinity’s Unified Work:

The Baptism of Jesus—

The Coming of the Holy Spirit—

The Stoning of Stephen—

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## **Discussion**

### **The One God**

- 1) What is your understanding of the unity of God?
- 2) Discuss the difference between the one God Jehovah in three persons and the many gods worshiped in the pagan religions.

## The One God in Three Persons

- 3) What are some examples from Old Testament writings that support the existence and the unity of the Holy Trinity?
- 4) What is a specific role of each member of the Trinity?
- 5) What are some examples from New Testament writings that support the existence of three persons with distinct roles, working in unity as one God?

## Prayer

Blessed Trinity, we approach You in adoration and worship. You are the ever loving and everlasting God.

Because of our finite minds, we cannot comprehend the magnitude of Your greatness—how that You can be the one true God existing from all eternity in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have revealed Yourself as Father, and the Holy Spirit affirms to our hearts that we are Your children.

Help us—

- to confess our faith in You, our Father, by living as Your children;
- to confess our faith in Christ by following in His steps; and
- to confess our faith in the Holy Spirit by serving in His power.

In this humble prayer we acknowledge the glory of the Triune God—all three persons equally divine.

Amen.

## Resources for Additional Study

Arrington, French L. *Christian Doctrine: A Pentecostal Perspective*, Vol. 1. Cleveland, Tenn.: Pathway, 1992; pp. 127-41.

Erickson, Millard J. *Making Sense of the Trinity: 3 Crucial Questions*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000.

Toon, Peter. *Our Triune God: A Biblical Portrayal of the Trinity*. Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books, 1996.

Torrance, Thomas Forsyth. *The Christian Doctrine of God: One Being Three Persons*. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1996.