## The Bridge to Grace

Jesus is the bridge that brings Muslims to a saving knowledge of Him



The Trinity
One True God

My dear Muslim friends,

In the name of our most Precious Heavenly Father, I bring this topic to you in the spirit of love. May the eyes of your understanding be enlightened. Amen

Muslims say, "There is only one God, and the <u>Trinity</u> is a false teaching," basing their beliefs on what the Qur'an says in Surah Al-Nisa 171, which states, "Do not say 'Three.' Desist, it will be better for you. God is only One God." To associate partners with God, according to Islam, is to commit an act of <u>shirk</u>, a sin worse than murder according to the Qur'an, and is punishable by unforgiveness from Allah and eternal hell. Surah Al-Nisa 4:48 states, "Surely Allah will not forgive the association of partners (shirk) with Him, but He forgives (sins) less than that to whomever He wishes." The main article of faith in Islam is called <u>shahadah</u> - bearing witness and professing, "There is no god except The God, and Muhammad is His messenger."

And right you are regarding the Oneness of God. The Bible clearly states that there is only one God. This is the doctrine of <u>Christianity</u>. This is <u>monotheism</u>. The belief you as a Muslim have regarding Christianity's <u>Trinity</u> is greatly misunderstood. As a Muslim, it may be difficult to understand, because, as the Bible states in 1 Corinthians 2:14, "But the unbeliever does not welcome what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually." The Trinity is a very difficult thing to explain because God is limitless, infinite in His wisdom, and we as humans have such finite minds. Let me explain.

There are not three gods, as Islam and the Qur'an would have you to believe about Christianity, but there is only one God, yet with three distinct natures. The Trinity is derived from the Latin word *triune*; *tri*meaning three, and *-une* meaning one; hence, triune means three in one. As humans, we all are made up of three parts - body, soul, and spirit. We cannot live without one of those parts. They make up our total

being. We are created in the image of God. Genesis 1:26 states, "Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness." God made us different from angels and animals. What is the image of God? In Genesis, we are told that God is Spirit, so we cannot be in His image in a physical aspect. But we have a <u>soul</u> and a <u>spirit</u>. A soul of a man is his life - who he is, what makes him tick. An animal has a soul. The word means life. It is how we relate to mankind. Our spirit is how we relate to God. Animals do not have spirits; therefore, they do not relate to God, or reason spiritual things.

God Himself took the time to explain this mystery to us in His word, the Holy Scriptures. James 2:19 says, "You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe -- and tremble!"

The Bible confirms that Christians believe in One God, and worship that One God in spirit and in truth. Deuteronomy 6:4 states, "The Lord our God, the Lord is one!" Another affirmation of the <u>oneness of God</u> is in Isaiah 45:5, which declares, "I am the Lord, and there is no other; there is no God besides Me," and 1 Corinthians 8:4 affirms, "...there is no other God but one."

In Genesis 1:1, it states, "In the **beginning**, God created the **heavens** and the **earth**." This statement explains the whole topic of the Trinity in just those few words. The word <u>beginning</u> describes time, while the <u>heavens</u> are space, and the <u>earth</u> is matter. Time, space and matter all coexist 100% together. One cannot exist without the other. Time includes hours, minutes and seconds, as well as days, weeks, and months, years, decades and centuries, and past, present, and future. None can exist without the other.

Space includes length, width and height. Again, one cannot exist without the other, yet together, they represent the same space. Read the words of C.S. Lewis: "The three dimensions of space: length, width, and height. All coincide in the same place, yet are distinct."

At the same time, matter consists of gas, solid and liquid, but they are all matter, coexisting together. They are all 100%, and none can exist without the others.

By the same token, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are three distinct natures, yet the same One God.

Another explanation of the Trinity would be direct sunlight, which includes infrared, visible, and ultraviolet light. The infrared light represents God the Holy Spirit, which can be felt, but not seen; the visible light represents God the Son, which can be seen and felt, and ultraviolet light represents God the Father, which can't be seen or felt.

The Bible clearly shows all three parts of the Godhead existed together from the beginning of time.

God The Father - Isaiah 63:16- "You are our Father."

Romans 8:15- "For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, Abba, Father."

God The Son - Isaiah 9:6 - "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Titus 2:13 - "...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us..."

God The Holy Spirit - 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Hebrews 11:3 - "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."

The Three are One - 1 John 5:7 - "For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one." Galatians 4:6 - "And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!" The number three is a symbol of divine perfection in the Scriptures.

God in three persons, the Trinity, paints a beautiful picture of the Oneness of God, as God the Father shows His invisible quality, God the Son exhibits His Divine nature, and God the Holy Spirit declares His eternal power. Romans 1:20-21 - "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

And Jesus said Himself in John 10:25-30 - "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one."

John 14:15-17 - "If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him, but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."



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## **Sharing the Truth in love!**

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

"Love is patient, love is kind..."
1 Corinthians 13:4

Due to space constraints, please study on your own, read, open your heart and pray that God will give you understanding. Underlined words are key words that can be more deeply studied.