

BA43. Knowing that God is Triune.

We are to know that God is triune.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Father, Son, & Holy Spirit

Matthew 1:23

"The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and they will call him 'Immanu El.' (The name means, "God is with us.")

Matthew 28:18-19

Yeshua came and talked with them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make people from all nations into talmidim, immersing them into the reality of the Father, the Son and the Ruach HaKodesh, ...

Titus 2:12-13

It teaches us to renounce godlessness and worldly pleasures, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives now, in this age; while continuing to expect the blessed fulfillment of our certain hope, which is the appearing of the Sh'khinah of our great God and the appearing of our deliverer, Yeshua the Messiah.

1 Peter 1:1-2

From: Kefa, an emissary of Yeshua the Messiah To: God's chosen people, living as aliens in the Diaspora- in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, the province of Asia, and Bythinia – chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father and set apart by the Spirit for obeying Yeshua the Messiah and for sprinkling with his blood: Grace and shalom be yours in full measure.

Father & Son

John 1:1-4 & 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing made had being. In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. ... The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah, the Sh'khinah of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

John 10:30

"I and the Father are one."

John 14:10-11

Don't you believe that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me? What I am telling you, I am not saying on my own initiative; the Father living in me is doing his own works.

Trust me, that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me. But if you can't, then trust because of the works themselves.

John 20:27-28

Then he said to T'oma, "Put your finger here, look at my hands, take your hand and put it into my side. Don't be lacking in trust, but have trust!" T'oma answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Acts 7:59

As they were stoning him, Stephen called out to God, "Lord Yeshua! Receive my spirit!"

Colossians 2:9

For in him, bodily, lives the fullness of [the deity] all that God is.

The Holy Spirit Referred to As an Entity¹

John 14:16-17

*.. and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforting Counselor like me, the Spirit of Truth, to be with you forever. The world cannot receive **him**, because it neither sees nor knows **him**. You know **him**, because **he** is staying with you and will be united with you. (CJB)*

*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. (NKJ)*

John 14:26

*But the Counselor, the Ruach HaKodesh, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything; that is, **he** will remind you of everything I have said to you. (CJB)*

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He** will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. (NKJ)*

John 15:26

*When the Counselor comes, whom I will send you from the Father- the Spirit of Truth, who keeps going out from the Father- **he** will testify on my behalf. (CJB)*

*But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He** will testify of Me. (NKJ)*

John 16:8

*When **he** comes, **he** will show that the world is wrong about sin, about righteousness and about judgment (CJB)*

¹ Most instances of the English word "he" in the following paragraphs are a translation of the Greek word "ekeinos" which means "he," "she," or "it." Its significance is showing that the Holy Spirit is an entity of its own and not a mere spiritual extension of God from Heaven.

And when **He** has come, **He** will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: (NKJ)

John 16:13-15

*However, when the Spirit of Truth comes, **he** will guide you into all the truth; for **he** will not speak on his own initiative but will say only what **he** hears. **He** will also announce to you the events of the future. **He** will glorify me, because **he** will receive from what is mine and announce it to you. Everything the Father has is mine; this is why I said that **he** receives from what is mine and will announce it to you. (CJB)*

*However, when **He**, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He** will guide you into all truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own authority, but whatever **He** hears **He** will speak; and **He** will tell you things to come. **He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that **He** will take of Mine and declare it to you. (NKJ)*

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Father, Son, & Holy Spirit

Luke 1:35, 3:21-22

John 14:26, 16-17, 15:26

Acts 2:33, 10:38

1 Corinthians 6:11

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Jude 1:20-21

Father & Son

John 5:18, 10:30-36, 20:28

1 Corinthians 8:6

2 Corinthians 1:15-17

Philippians 1:2, 2:5-8

Colossians 1:16

Titus 1:4

Hebrews 1:8

1 John 1:3, 5:20

Related New Testament Mitzvot

BA22 Knowing that God is One – Both Singular & Composite

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

(A mere sample of the many references to God's Spirit in the *Tanakh*)

Exodus 31:2-3

I have singled out B'tzal'el the son of Uri the son of Hur, of the tribe of Y'hudah. I have filled him with the Spirit of God- with wisdom, understanding and knowledge concerning every kind of artisanry.

Numbers 11:17

I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the Spirit which rests on you and put it on them. Then they will carry the burden of the people along with you, so that you won't carry it yourself alone.

Judges 3:10

The spirit of ADONAI came upon him, and he judged Isra'el. Then he went out to war, and ADONAI gave Kushan-Rish'atayim king of Aram into his hands; his power prevailed against Kushan-Rish'atayim.

1 Samuel 11:6-7

The Spirit of God fell on Sha'ul when he heard this; blazing furiously with anger, he seized a pair of oxen and cut them in pieces; then he sent them throughout the territory of Isra'el with messengers saying, "Anyone who doesn't come and follow Sha'ul and Sh'mu'el, this is what will be done to his oxen!" The fear of ADONAI fell on the people, and they came out with united hearts.

Isaiah 48:16

Come close to me, and listen to this: since the beginning I have not spoken in secret, since the time things began to be, I have been there; and now Adonai ELOHIM has sent me and his Spirit.

Comment

The triune nature of God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), sometimes referred to as the “Trinity,” is not described in the Bible in those very words, but it can be inferred from several Scriptures read together – most notably Matthew 28:18-19. The tri-unity of God is not acknowledged in traditional (Rabbinical / Talmudic) Judaism and is controversial even in certain segments of Christianity. Some who believe that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Messiah, nevertheless, deny his deity. Others believe that Yeshua is all of God – i.e., the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in one person. We call that belief “Jesus only.” So far as I am aware, Messianic Judaism is entirely trinitarian in its belief that God is *echad* (a composite unity), existing as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. While the three are integrally connected as “one” God, they are able to be at different places (in Heaven and earth) at the same time and can function separately but not independently. For example, we read in Scripture that Yeshua (originally spirit in nature) walked on earth as a human being while, at the same time, the Holy Spirit impacted various individuals and, all the while, God the Father remained in Heaven. While the composite “oneness” of God may be difficult to comprehend, it is not unique in Scripture. The clearest example of it is in Genesis 2:24 (mirrored in Ephesians 5:31): “*This is why a man is to leave his father and mother and stick with his wife, and they are to be one flesh.*”

Although Yeshua’s Messiahship is not acknowledged within wider Judaism, the Holy Spirit’s ability to be (and function) on earth while God (presumably the Father) remains in Heaven is acknowledged. That notwithstanding, wider Judaism does not consider the Holy Spirit to be an

entity or component of a composite God; rather, it considers him to be a kind of spiritual extension of God and refers to him as “God’s Spirit” or “Spirit of God.” The term “*Ru’ach Ha-Kodesh*” (the Holy Spirit) is used in Psalms 51:13(11) in which David prays to God that he (David) is not taken away from God’s presence – that the *Ru’ach Ha-Kodesh* is not taken from him. The “*Ru’ach Ha-Kodesh*” is also referred to in Isaiah 63:10-11 in which the Holy Spirit is remembered to have been put among the Israelites by God during the time of Moses. Other times in Scripture, the Holy Spirit is referred to by terms such as the “*Shekinah Glory*.” Such is the case in Exodus 24:16-18 in which the *Shekinah Glory* rested on the Tabernacle, and in Exodus 40:34-38 in which the *Shekinah Glory* filled the Tabernacle.

See *Mitzvah* #BA22 herein for a discussion of God’s single and composite nature.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

G03 Knowing that God Is Echad & Triune