

Delighting in the Trinity

The word "Trinity" never appears in the _____.

Instead, the doctrine is a result of centuries of _____ on biblical texts.

What is _____?

"The deepest questions which face Christianity cannot be answered in purely biblical language, because *the questions are about the meaning of biblical language itself.*" –R.P.C. Hanson

Doctrine develops as we _____ biblical truths to a new situation in our own words.

"Our goal is not to *transform* the Christian message to fit the context, thereby making it into something unrecognizable to biblical authors and believers throughout history, but to *translate* the message so that it is intelligible for contemporary audiences and new contexts." –Rhyne Putman

Why are there _____ about doctrine?

The problem:

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

1. Some are _____ teachers:

"In many ways, it was heresy-not orthodox belief-that gave birth to the practice of systematic theology. Early Christian apologists felt an obligation to offer formal responses to the complex philosophical and theological systems advocated by these religious groups." –Rhyne Putman

Matthew 7:15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. (Matt. 7:15 NIV)

2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce

destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them-- bringing swift destruction on themselves. (2 Pet. 2:1 NIV)

2. Disagreement on _____

Sola Scriptura: "Scripture is the supreme source and _____ normative standard for Christian doctrine." The term *suprema Scriptura* has also been suggested.

"Evangelicals may recognize the need for postcanonical doctrinal developments, but they do not afford them the same authoritative or normative status as inspired Scripture." –Rhyne Putman

3. Different Awareness of _____

4. Bias because of _____

5. Bias because of _____ and background

6. Differences in translations and/or _____.

History of the Trinity Doctrine:

Outside of the Bible, many early Christians wrote of the divinity of _____

(2nd Century):

-Ignatius: Jesus is "God incarnate"

-Clement "think of Jesus as God"

-Justin Martyr: the Logos "God, being eternally rational, from the beginning had his Logos in himself"

First uses the term:

-Theophilus used *trias*. The "triad" was God, his Word, and his Wisdom/Spirit

-Tertullian (early 3rd Cent): *Trinitas*: he advanced Latin terminology

-Novatian (mid 3rd Cent) wrote, "On the Trinity"