

## ***Of God and the Holy Trinity (Part 3) – Matthew 28:19***

*Baptist Confession of Faith (1689) Chapter 2, Paragraph 3*

### **The Doctrine of God**

#### *God is Trinity*

- God is **One** – in substance, power, and eternity (Dt. 6:4).
- God is Three **Persons** – Father, Son, Spirit.
- The **Father** is neither begotten nor proceeding.
- The **Son** is eternally begotten, not made (Jn. 1:1, 14).
- **Begotten** means the Son is the same in essence (deity) as the Father.
- **Eternally** begotten means that the Son is eternal and equal with, and communicating the essence of, the Father (Jn. 1:18).
- The **Spirit** proceeds from the Father and the Son (Jn. 15:26).
- To **Proceed** means to go forth – the Holy Spirit goes forth effecting the will of the Father and work of the Son (Gal. 4:6).

#### *In Trinity, Perfect Unity*

- God is **One** – all infinite and without beginning.
- He is not **Divided** in nature and being.
- The Three Persons of the Trinity are **Distinguished**, and yet is one God.

- ‘Begotten’ are ‘Proceeding’ do not describe creation or submission, but **Relationship**.

#### *The Trinity as Necessary*

- The Trinity is necessary **Doctrinally**: To confuse the doctrine of the Trinity is to form an idol and deny the doctrine of salvation through Christ.
- The Trinity is necessary **Experientially**: We are saved by the unified will of God, accomplished by the work of the Son, effected by the Spirit.
- The Trinity is necessary **Relationally**: The Trinity provides the foundation to communion with God and to the Church.

#### **Application:**

- 1) **Awe**: There is no one like our Triune God!
- 2) **Confession**: We must agree with this biblical doctrine of the Trinity.
- 3) **Communion**: We fellowship with the Father through the mediation of the Son by the work of the Holy Spirit.