

THE TRINITY IN SCRIPTURE AND JEWISH CONTEXT SYLLABUS

A 6-Week Bible Study Series

Purpose:

To explore the biblical and Jewish foundations for the doctrine of the Trinity, showing that Trinitarian thought arises from within the Hebrew Scriptures and Second Temple Judaism—not Hellenistic philosophy.

Week 1: God Is One – Unity and Complexity in the Hebrew Bible

- **Key Texts:** Deut. 6:4, Gen. 1:26–27, Gen. 18, Isa. 48:16, Ps. 110:1
 - **Focus:** The Shema and divine plurality in the Old Testament
 - **Concepts:** *Echad*, Monotheism, Christophany
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Week 2: The Two Powers in Heaven

- **Key Texts:** Gen. 16:7–13, Exod. 3:1–6, Dan. 7:9–14, Zech. 3:1–2
 - **Focus:** Pre-Christian Jewish acceptance of divine plurality
 - **Concepts:** Angel of the Lord, Binitarianism, Second Temple Judaism
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Week 3: The Divine Word and Spirit in Jewish Thought

- **Key Texts:** Gen. 1:1–3, Ps. 33:6, Isa. 63:10, Wisdom of Solomon 9:17, John 1:1–14
 - **Focus:** Memra and Ruach as distinct yet divine agents
 - **Concepts:** Logos, Hypostasis, Personal agency
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Week 4: Traces of Trinity – Angels, Glory, and the Name

- **Key Texts:** Exod. 23:20–22, Ezek. 1:26–28, Deut. 12:5, John 17:11–12, Phil. 2:9–11
 - **Focus:** Angel of the Lord, Kavod (Glory), and the Shem (Name) theology
 - **Concepts:** Presence theology, Hypostasis, Worship language
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Week 5: From Second Temple Thought to Apostolic Witness

- **Key Texts:** John 1:1–18, Col. 1:15–20, John 14:16–17, Matt. 28:19
 - **Focus:** Apostolic use of Jewish categories to describe Jesus and the Spirit
 - **Concepts:** High Christology, Triadic formula, Fulfillment theology
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Week 6: Jewish Objections and Christian Responses

- **Key Texts:** Deut. 6:4, Isa. 45:5, John 8:58, Acts 5:3–4, Phil. 2:9–11
 - **Focus:** Responding to monotheism-based objections using Jewish thought
 - **Concepts:** Monolatry, Shema, Scriptural apologetics, *Sensus plenior*
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Each session includes:

- Key scriptures and Jewish texts
- Opening and closing reflections
- Group discussion questions
- Take-home challenges
- Hebrew/Greek terms with explanations
- Respectful, biblically grounded responses to objections