

Leadership Course: 1 Jan 16 2013

- Humanity made in the image of God, Gen 1:26-27 (the Trinity is important for us to understand who we are)
- If no Trinity – how could a God of Infinite love be
 - a) Joyfully satisfied ?
 - b) Not be an idolater ?
- Islam – Allah not a god of love

“It is inconceivable that Allah should love mankind because where there is love there must be a lover, a sense of incompleteness, a realisation that the beloved is needed for complete realisation of self, this is impossible for Allah since Allah is perfectly complete” Al Ghazali

Islam not a religion of love, joy or song

- Sects/heresy – deny the trinity
- That there is mystery is ok
- Love, praise, singing and joy = Trinity
- Gospel privilege – we participate in that love and delight
- Humanity reflects unity and diversity

The Gospel is Trinitarian

Prevents ‘lop-sided’ imbalance

“The essence of the Christian religion consists in this: that the creation of the Father, destroyed by sin is again restored in the death of the Son of God and recreated by the grace of the Spirit to a Kingdom of God”

Bavinck

Why Have Leadership Course?

- Encouragement & support
- Best leaders – always learning
- Always needing more leaders
- Vital Importance of ‘**Alignment**’

Alignment:

- **alignment** – all the elements of a Church work consistently together with its core values and vision
- **alignment** means being guided by own compass not fads fashions etc out there
- **alignment** - process of never ending identifying and doggedly correcting misalignments = ‘always reforming’

We need more than a vision statement and clear goals... We need to connect every leader directly to our strategic plan, we all have to participate in this alignment challenge. How can we claim to be members of one body unless we are going in the same direction, pursuing the same goals.... I'm not asking for your begrudging participation in this alignment, it's 100% time, we need everybody's participation to reach our full potential as a church” Bill Hybels

Failure to do that in a Church:

- A church going nowhere
- Each group doing its own thing
- Few carrying the many
- The church leading the leaders
- Busy leading but no one following
- All pulling in different directions

Doctrinal Basis:

- Majors in the Majors
- Unity rooted in Truth
- Covers important truths
- Ask those in leadership to be in agreement with Doctrinal Basis

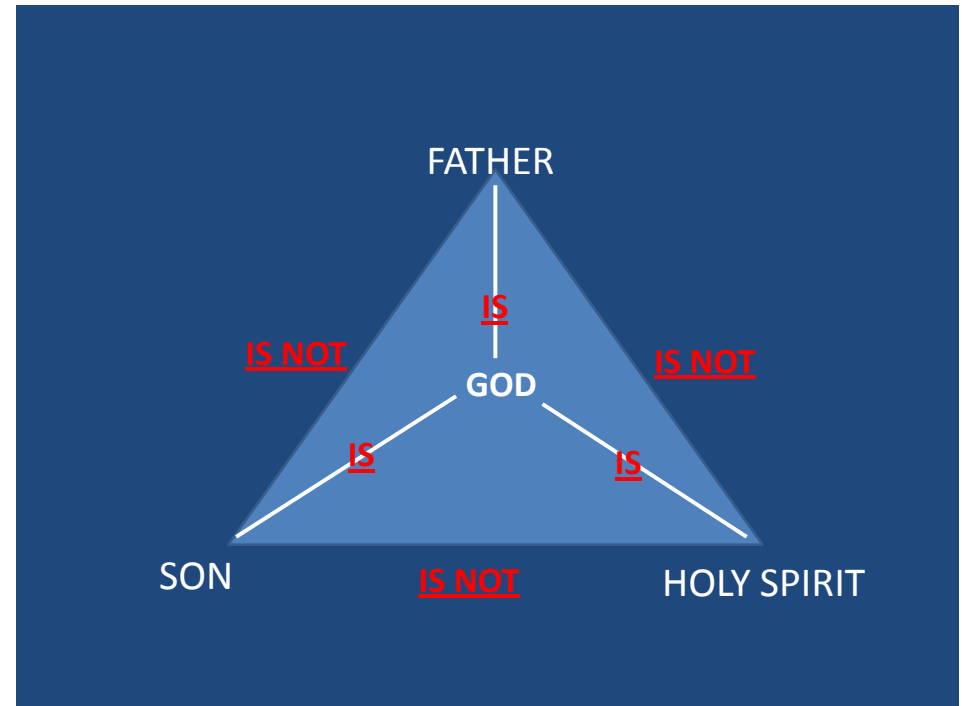
There is one God in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Not:

- One God – One person – why? (John 1)
- Three Gods - Why? (John 1)
- One God – 3 roles – Father, Son and Spirit – why?

The Trinity:

- Equality of being
- Different roles in creation and redemption
- Voluntary subordination of the Son John 5:30, Phil 2 Gal 4:4,6



The Trinity: Our Achilles Heel?

NO!

- Is it a surprise that the 'Infinite God' has a greater complexity in his being than my finite mind can fully grasp?
- Vital and glorious truths flow out of this truth
- Simplistic metaphors – more harm than good

Glory of the Trinity:

- God is Relational
- Love and Delight are at the heart of the Godhead
- God creates because of an overflow of love and delight – not because of a lack or deficiency in Him