

Ephesians Series

Lesson #011

December 9, 2018

Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Implications of the Trinity
Ephesians 1:3–14

Praise for the blessings provided by the Father (Ephesians 1:3–6) is followed by the praise statement in vs. 6.

Praise for the blessing of the work of the Son (Ephesians 1:7–12) ends with the praise statement of vs. 12, to the praise of His glory.

Praise for the blessings of the Holy Spirit, praise in vs. 14 (Ephesians 1:13–14).

Matt. 3:16, “When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

Matt. 3:17, “And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’ ”

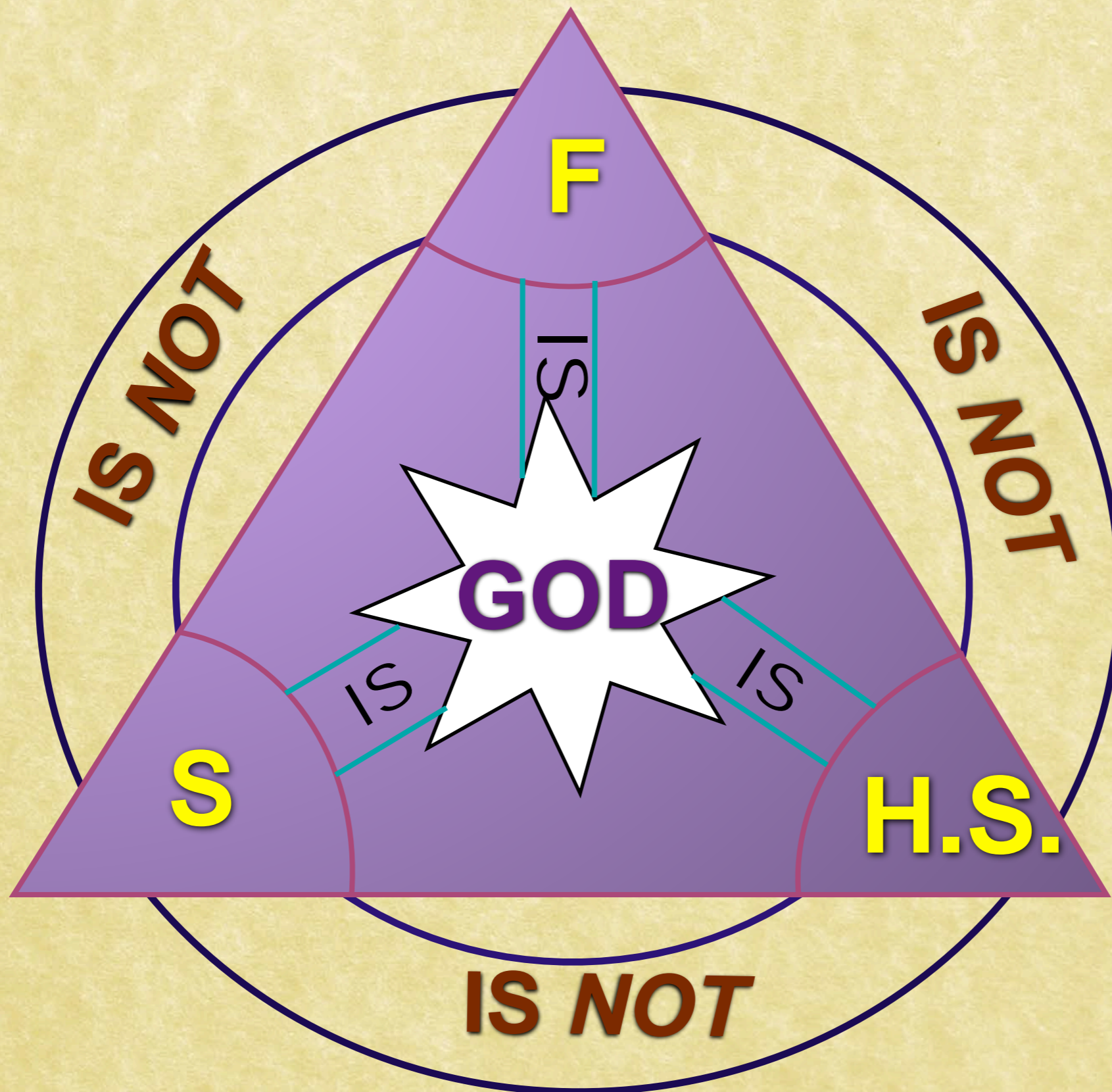
What the Bible Teaches About

The Trinity



- 1. Old Testament passages on the Plurality of God and the Deity of Messiah.**
- 2. New Testament passages on the Plurality of God and the Deity of Jesus.**
- 3. Is the Son's submission to the Father related only to His incarnation, or is it eternal?**
- 4. The Nicene Creed.**

Trinity: One God in Essence (*ousia*), but Three in Person



Eph. 1:3, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

Eph. 1:4, “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Eph. 1:5, “having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,”

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscience

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

Immutability

FATHER

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscient

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

Immutable

SON

**HOLY
SPIRIT**

Personality:

Personality exists where there is mind, intelligence, reason, free-will, self-consciousness, self-determination, and individuality.

John 5:19, “Then Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.’ ”

John 6:38, “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”

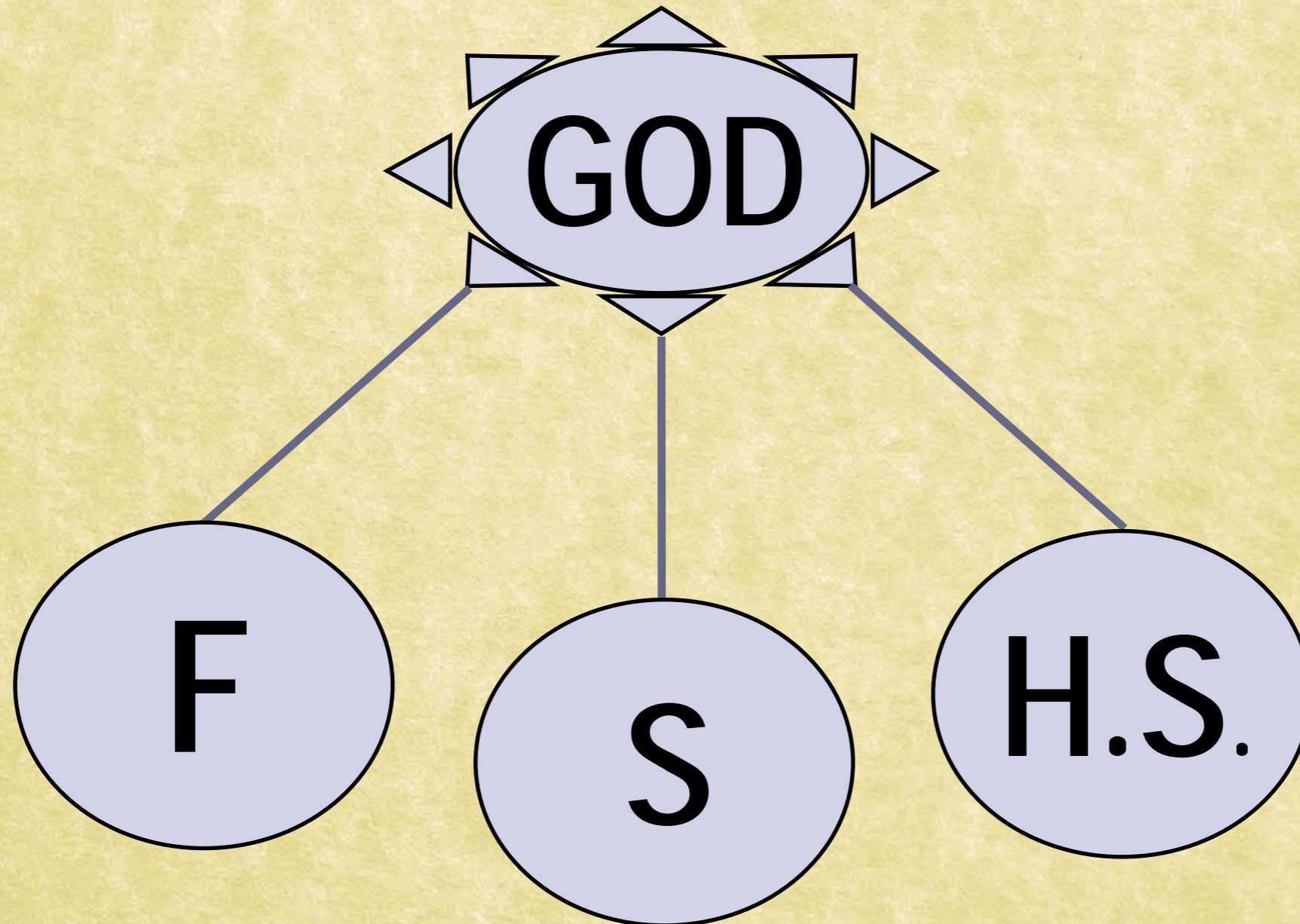
John 7:16, “Jesus answered them and said, ‘My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.’ ”

The Nicene Creed

- 1. Background**
- 2. What did Arius teach?**
- 3. What did Athanasius understand?**
- 4. Consequences**
- 5. Evaluate the creed itself**

Modalism:

The Son is NOT Distinct from the Father



**Three MODES of Expression,
One ESSENCE, But NOT Three PERSONS**

ADOPTIONISM

The Son is Subordinate to the Father

ETERNITY
PAST

TIME

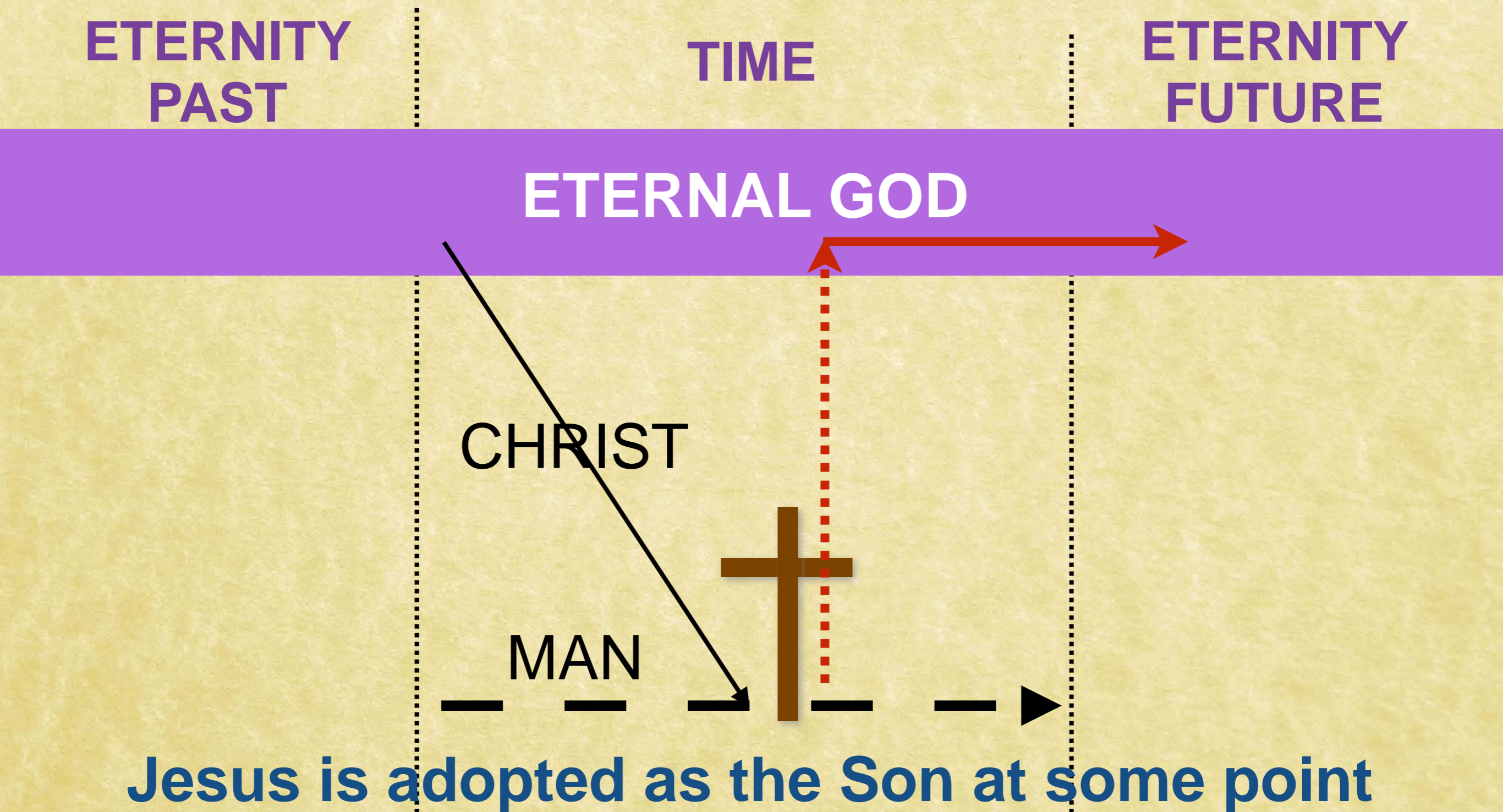
ETERNITY
FUTURE

ETERNAL GOD

CHRIST

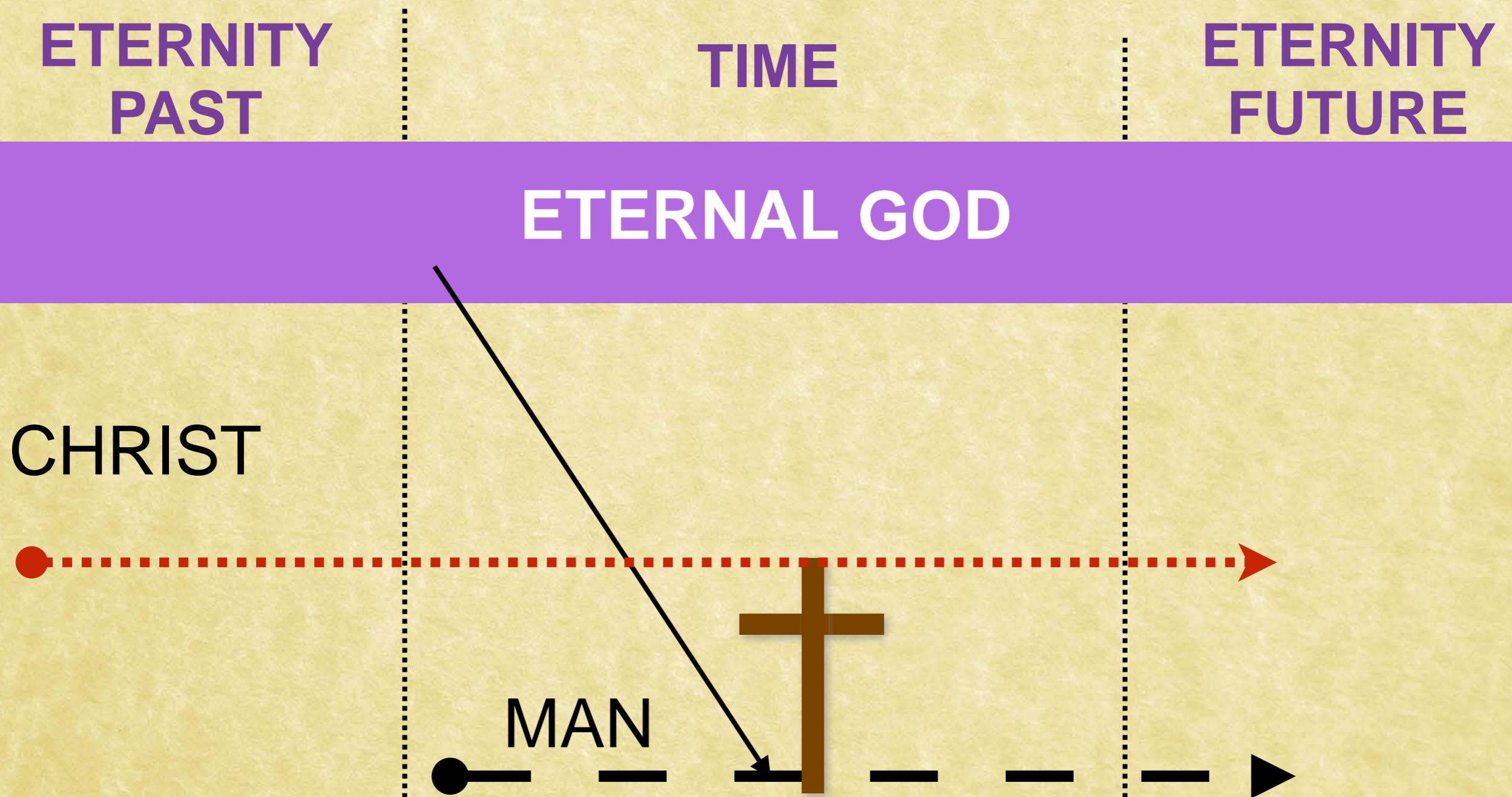
MAN

Jesus is adopted as the Son at some point
in his human life.



ARIANISM

“The Unbegun made the Son”



Jesus is created in eternity past.
He is not eternal, but a creature.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made, being of one essence (*ousias*) with the Father, by whom all things were made.

‘ ετερος, *heteros* “different”

‘ ομοουσιαj, *homousias*
“same, identical substance, being”

‘ ομοιουσιαj, *homoiousias*
“similar essence or being, not identical”

The Nicene Creed

Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

The Nicene Creed

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy universal and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism because of the forgiveness of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

FATHER

LOVES

SON

HOLY
SPIRIT

SON

LOVES

FATHER

HOLY
SPIRIT

HOLY
SPIRIT

LOVES

FATHER

SON