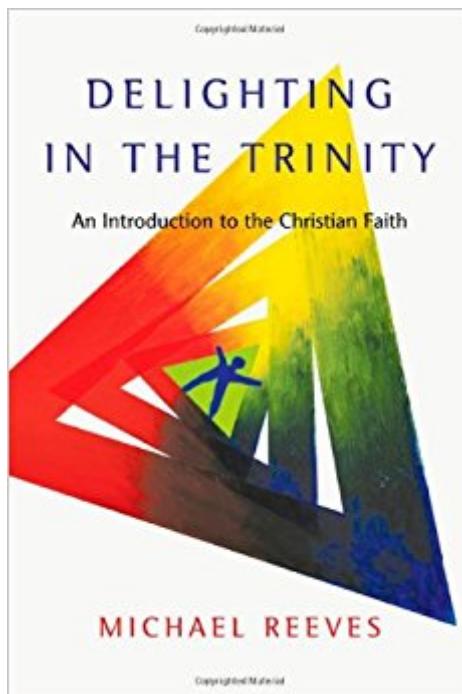


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# Delighting In The Trinity: An Introduction To The Christian Faith



## **Synopsis**

2012 Preaching Survey of the Year's Best Books for Preachers Why is God love? Because God is a Trinity. Why can we be saved? Because God is a Trinity. How are we able to live the Christian life? Through the Trinity. In this lively book, we find an introduction to Christianity and the Christian life that is from start to finish rooted in our triune God—Father, Son and Spirit. Not only do we understand the person and work of Christ through the Trinity, but also prayer, the church and every aspect of our faith. With wit and clarity, Reeves draws from church history down to the present referencing a wide range of notable teachers and preachers. Here is a rich and enjoyable portrayal of the basic beliefs of Christianity that opens up the profound and life-changing truths of our faith.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"[T]he book is an easy and pleasurable read with a down-to-earth articulation of the three-in-one God who loves and invites us into the deepest parts of his eternal love. Charming in its wit and winsome in its emotional appeal, it will motivate readers to love God more deeply and fully. I wish I had this book when I began my seminary studies. If only there were more theological treatments of the Trinity (or other Christian doctrines) written like this book, learning theology, and in a deeper sense, knowing and loving God, would be a delight." (John Cheong, Trinity Journal, Spring 2014)"Even many Christians find the Trinity confusing, but Delighting in the Trinity is the clearest and best written explanation I've ever read." (Marvin Olasky, World Magazine, June 29, 2013)"Michael Reeves's Delighting in the Trinity is an enjoyable introduction to the doctrine of the Trinity. . . . [It's] a great read. . . . This book would be useful for working with non-Christians seeking

to understand Christianity. It would also serve the Christian who wants a better understanding of why the Trinity was not the invention of 'bored monks on rainy afternoons.'" (New Horizons, April 2013)"Michael Reeves . . . has produced a powerful and concise treatment of the trinity in Delighting in the Trinity. One of the strengths of this volume is its practicality and accessibility. One of the most exciting aspects of this book is Reeves' skill in helping readers understand what it means to enjoy God and understand the doctrine of the trinity to be a demonstration of 'the beauty, the overflowing kindness, the heart-grabbing loveliness of God.'" (R. Albert Mohler Jr., Preaching, March/April 2013)" . . . summary doesn't do justice to the tight and witty writing that Reeves provides . . . his style reminds me of C.S. Lewis." (Marvin Olasky, World Magazine, December 1, 2012)"Have you ever been mystified by the Trinity? If so, then this book is for you. . . . This book is an ideal introduction for young people, for those who want to know more about God . . . and for pastors who are looking for ways to communicate the faith to non-specialists. It's basic approach is sound, and it will refresh the souls of all who read it. Could we ask for more?" (Gerald Bray, Themelios, November 2012)"It's not often one reads a book on trinitarian theology that is deeply insightful and wonderfully witty at the same time, but this is such a volume. Filled with careful thought and wise application, Reeves provides a most accessible book for those who are trying to understand what difference it makes that we are trinitarian." (Kelly M. Kapic, Covenant College)"If you have ever felt that the doctrine of the Trinity was a liability, a burden to be borne patiently, this is the book that will change your perspective. Michael Reeves's Delighting in the Trinity presents the triune God as the best thing about the Christian faith. Convinced that 'the triunity of God is the secret of his beauty,' Reeves writes from a full heart, with contagious enthusiasm for the Trinity. Delighting in the Trinity is more stimulating, quotable and engaging than we usually expect a theology book to be. Page after page, Reeves finds new ways of talking, draws surprising connections and reminds us that the God of the gospel is good news in three persons." (Fred Sanders, Biola University)"Delighting in the Trinity overflows with the heart-winning news of the triune God who is love. Clear, accessible and compelling, Michael Reeves's new book provides stunning vistas of how the Father's eternal love for his Son has become unimaginably good news for us. If your life as a Christian has become at all routine or you simply wish to be freshly amazed at the transformative love of the Trinity for you, read Delighting in the Trinity. If you are like me, you will want to read it more than once. It's that spiritually satisfying." (Dan Cruver, national director of Together for Adoption and author of *A Reclaiming Adoption*)"The Trinity is often regarded as an esoteric and intimidating doctrine, over the heads of rank-and-file Christians. What are laypeople and students to make of the theologians' unfathomable utterances about how the Father, Son and Spirit constitute one God? The answer: Start by reading

this book. Michael Reeves unpacks the significance of the Trinity for Christian life with a straight-shooting, conversational style honed by years of student ministry. But don't let the panache fool you. There is substance here that outweighs that of books much harder to understand. Read this book. Look up all the Bible passages it quotes. Let the Spirit use it to help you to see the Scriptures—and most of all, to see God the Trinity—in a new way. I cannot recommend it highly enough." (Donald Fairbairn, Robert E. Cooley Professor of Early Christianity, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and author of *Life in the Trinity*)

Michael Reeves (PhD, King's College) is an author, theologian, historian and professor who teaches at Wales Evangelical School of Theology (WEST) and is the director of Union, a WEST initiative that puts the theological academy back in the local church context. He previously served as theological adviser for the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship in the United Kingdom where he oversaw the Theology Network, a theological resources website. He was also associate minister at All Souls Church, Langham Place. Reeves is the author of books such as *Delighting in the Trinity*, *The Unquenchable Flame*, *Discovering the Heart of the Reformation*, *The Breeze of the Centuries*, *On Giants' Shoulders* and *The Good God*. He has also written numerous articles for publications including *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, *Themelios*, *Desiring God*, *Credo* and *Reformation 21*. He and his wife Bethan have two daughters.

One review said this is devotional reading on the Trinity. I took this to be a negative remark. However, I still ordered the book and found it to be amazing. Unlike other books on the Trinity the author's goal is not just to teach the theology of the Trinity but to bring the reader to a place where they desire to worship God because he is triune. In this sense it inspires devotion to God through the study of his triune-ness. This book is simply about how the Trinity relates to our everyday life and why understanding the Triune God is vital to our relationship with him.

A helpful attempt to explain the inexplicable, the mystery of Christianity's Triune divinity. Buy it. Read it. Debate it. Think on it. As all theologians are apt to do, Mr Reeves loses his readers from time to time; using the biblical term "beget" without definition. Still, his clear and engaging writing carries readers along, even when we occasionally can't figure out how we got to where he's taken us. He explains why material symbols for the Trinity fall short--they are physical representation of a non-physical reality. He expertly explains why the Trinity is crucial to Christianity. He beautifully lays out why a God who is totally complete in and of Himself--needing nothing, would create and then

seek to redeem a world that gave Him so much trouble...costing Him much. For those wishing to go beyond consumer-Christianity, this book fits along side C.S. Lewis and N.T. Wright. ~Star Readers: from out of the east

Having read numerous systematic theologies and various apologetic books on the subject of the Trinity I hesitated to delve into this volume. my hesitancy stemmed from the feeling that this would merely be a rehash of what I had read previously. I was pleasantly surprised by the fresh approach and practical manner in which the author approached the subject. What he writes is not novel or unique which is obvious by the extensive references and footnotes. Of course if it were something no one had ever thought of before it would be cause for concern and caution. Still the way the author communicates is fresh and interesting. Well worth reading.

Only the fact that God is a trinity allows Him to Love. After all, there must be one to love, the one loved, and love. Absolute oneness can't love or be loved. Or create anything but robot slaves. If it can even get the idea of creating. Or do salvation. This book starts by getting rid of the insufficient illustrations of Tri-Unity, and instead of going on to explain illustrations that might work, goes on to show what the Trinity actually is and does. In very understandable fashion needing no theology degrees or even dictionaries to look up definitions. Truly a reader friendly book, even the pictures are nice.

This book clearly sets apart the Triune God of the Bible from any other god or understanding of God people misunderstand. God is love because God is community (triune) therefore his love predates creation, and He neither is defined as love AFTER creation (challenging his immutability) nor is He merely self-loving, as a solo god would be if he were 'loving' before creation. Reeves reminds us what we've largely forgotten, and reminds us why it is a delight to be the child of a loving Father, Redeemed by a loving Son, and empowered by a loving Spirit.

The absolute BEST book I have ever encountered regarding the trinity. Reeves skillfully weaves historical thought with modern English to make an enjoyable, understandable read on one of the most difficult topics of theology today. READ THIS NOW!

I think Reeves though this book has done more for me in opening my eyes to the necessity of God being Triune; how the rest of life makes sense; how creation makes sense and what a wonderful

privledge it is to participate in the divine love of the Trinity. This book would make a great primer for Packer's "Knowing God" but it is also stands well by itself. I would highly reccommend it to anyone who wants to know God in truth.

This book is written with a clarity and pastoral concern that the trinity be cherished as an indispensable doctrine of the church for everyday believers. It gives forth a very lucid presentation of why the trinity is important, as well as what Christianity would be like without it. Powerful and worth reading!

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