

DIVINE DIFFERENCES

Jason P. Hilburn

	DIFFERENT LEVELS OF AUTHORITY	DIFFERENT ROLES IN CREATION	DIFFERENT ROLES IN SALVATION	DIFFERENT ROLES IN PRAYER	DIFFERENT ACTS OF WORSHIP DIRECTED TOWARD EACH
GOD THE FATHER	God of All, Above All, The Head, (Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 11:3; 15:27-28)	Architect, Designer, (1 Cor. 8:6; Eph. 3:9)	Architect, Designer (Eph. 3:10-11); Gave His only begotten Son; Sent Jesus and the Holy Spirit (Jn. 3:16-17; 14:26)	Neither Mediator nor Intercessor because the prayers of all saints are directed to Him (Rev. 8:3-4)	Prayer (Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6-7); Prayer to Him during Communion (Mt. 26:26-27; 1 Cor. 11:23-25); Singing (Acts 16:25; Rom. 15:9); Giving (2 Cor. 9:7-15; Mt. 6:9ff; 7:11; Jas. 1:17)
JESUS CHRIST	Below God the Father in Authority (Jn. 13:16; 14:28; 20:17; 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 4:5-6)	Builder, Executor (Jn. 1:1-3, 14; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:1-2)	Builder, Executor; Sent to earth to die for man's sins; Taught; Left a perfect example; Arose and ascended; Now High Priest (Heb. 7:25); Sent Holy Spirit by Father's authority (Jn. 15:26)	The Only Mediator (1 Tim. 2:1-6; Heb. 9:15); Also an Intercessor (Rom. 8:34)	Partaking of the bread and fruit of the vine (1 Cor. 11:23ff); Singing (Eph. 5:19-20; cf. Rev. 5:9); Jesus taught men to pray to the Father (Mt. 6:9ff; Lk. 11:1-2; Jn. 16:23)
THE HOLY SPIRIT	Sent by the Father and Son (Jn. 13:16; 15:26; 16:7, 13-14; Ps. 104:30 Eph. 4:4-6)	Finisher, Decorator, Beautifier (Gen. 1:2; Job 26:13; Ps. 104:30)	Finisher, Organizer; Sent to reveal/confirm God's Word, sanctify and edify God's people (Jn. 16:13; Acts 2:17-18; 1 Cor. 12:7; 14:5; 1 Pet. 1:2)	Was said to be an Intercessor (Rom. 8:26-27); but not the Mediator	No singing or prayer directed to Him in the Scriptures; No focus on Him during the Lord's Supper. Perhaps preaching the Word He revealed can be considered worship that honors the Spirit, and without Him we would have no instructions today for worship.

There is a great deal of misunderstanding about the Members of the Godhead, and some of those misunderstandings can lead to

false doctrines and perversions of Scriptural worship. Although we cannot claim to know everything about the Godhead, we can know what God has revealed in His Word.

Some believe that simply because all Three Godhead Members are divine, They are equal in all aspects, and anything which can be attributed to One can be always be attributed to All Three. This table based on the Scriptures shows that such a view is false! Some use Matthew 28:19 to teach that All Three are on the same level of authority and equal in every way (That is not true!). Note that a father and mother are both equally parents, but the father is the head of his wife, having God-given authority over her (1 Cor. 11:3). In a similar way, Members of the Godhead are all equally divine (Mt. 28:19), but the Father is the Head, above All (1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 4:4-6). Some say They are all “one,” so an act of worship which applies to One applies to All Three (That is not true!). They are not All the same Person, and They are different in many ways (cf. Jn. 17:22). Also, every act of worship must be offered according to God’s instructions for that particular act of worship, and man must not presume to do things in worship that he has not been taught to do by the Word of God (Lev. 10:1-3; Jn. 4:23-24; Col. 3:17; Heb. 11:4; 1 Jn. 3:12). Hopefully the reader will acknowledge that although the Godhead Members are the same in some ways, they are also different in many ways!

<http://www.TheBibleDomain.com>

Last modified August 11, 2015