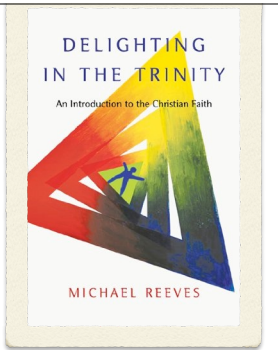
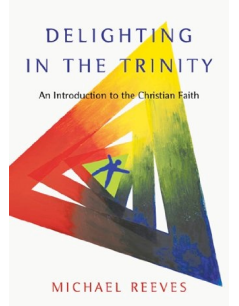
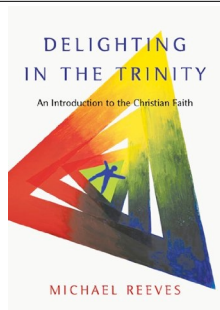


That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:3 ESV)



“God is love”: those three words could hardly be more bouncy. They seem lively, lovely and as warming as a crackling fire. But “God is a Trinity”?

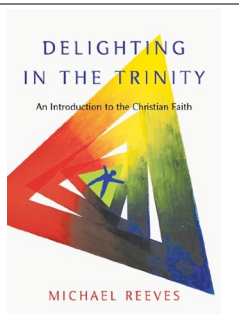


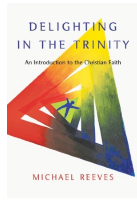


No, hardly the same effect: that just sounds cold and stodgy. All quite understandable, but the aim of this book is to stop the madness.



It is only when you grasp what it means for God to be a Trinity that you really sense the beauty, the over-flowing kindness, the heart-grabbing loveliness of God.



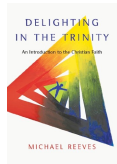
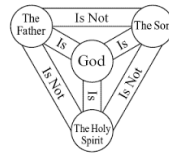


Why does the doctrine of the Trinity seem like an oddity and problem? Could it actually become a delight?

In what significant way has the doctrine of the Trinity affected your life?

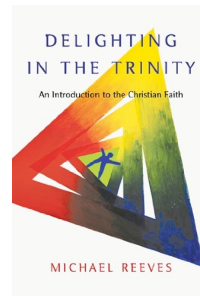


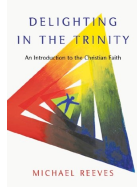
To say what the Trinity is not may be helpful in one way but it still leaves one with a hollow sense of who God really is.



Why is the Trinity not to be taken as a mystery- not in the alien abductions, things-that-go-bump-in-the-night sense?

To know the Trinity is to Know God, an eternal and personal God of infinite beauty, interest and fascination.



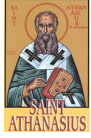


Is the "...legend of the Trinity..." some invention of a bored theologian who doesn't get out much???

They were trying to express the truth of who God is as revealed in Scripture to correct the growing distortion!

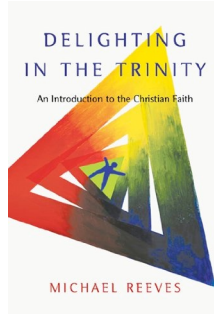


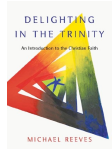
“Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic [that is, the church’s orthodox] faith; which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish everlastingly. And the catholic faith is this: that we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in unity.”



Do you agree with the Athanasian creed that belief in the Trinity is essential for salvation?.

The Identity of God:
Which God we worship:
that is the article of faith
that stands before all
others...the cockpit of
all Christian thinking.





The temptation is for us to sculpt a god according to our tastes and desires. Whatever god is produced is simply a human projection.

- A Warrior god?
- A Feudal lord?
- A Vindictive god?
- An Impersonal god?



Ludwig Feuerbach

Raw Monotheism



“Marduk”

Judaism



“Gnosticism”





The Qur'an clearly distinguishes Allah from the God described by Jesus.

Say not "Trinity!"

Desist; it will be better for you: for God is one God. Glory be to Him: (far exalted is He) above having a son.

Say: "He, Allah, is One. Allah is He on Whom all depend. He begets not, nor is He begotten. And none is like Him."

Allah is a single person God who has no relational context until he creates something to which he can relate.

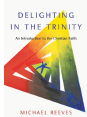


Can you imagine an ISIS terrorist singing,

Allah loves me this I know,
for the Qur'an tells me so.

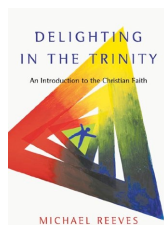


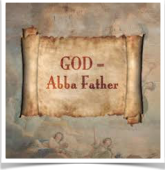
Richard of St Victor (12th century) argued that if God were just one person, he could not be intrinsically loving, since for all eternity (before creation) he would have had nobody to love.



If there were two persons, he went on, God might be loving, but in an excluding, ungenerous way.

Since God is, before all things, a Father, and not primarily Creator or Ruler, all his ways are beautifully fatherly. It is not that this God "does" being Father as a day job, only to kick back in the evenings as plain old "God." It is not that he has a nice blob of fatherly icing on top.





He is Father all the way down. Thus all that he does he does as Father. That is who he is. He creates as a Father and he rules as a Father;

and that means the way he rules over creation is most unlike the way any other God would rule.