

We're going to take a look at the relationship between God and Jesus in this short article about the Bible book of 2 John. Is there any indication that Jesus is God, or is equal to God? What about the holy Spirit? Is it mentioned in this letter? Are God and Jesus the same person, or are they two separate and distinct individuals? Is the Trinity in the letter of **2 John**? Let's find out.



Is the Trinity doctrine in 2 John?

“Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father’s Son.” (2 John 1:3) Notice the conjunction “and” separates “God the Father” and “the Father’s Son”. Obviously, they are separate and distinct, with Jesus identified, not as “God the Son,” an expression that occurs nowhere in the Bible, but as “the Father’s Son.” We also notice that greetings do not come from the holy Spirit, which is very unusual if it is a person. Many other Scriptures indicate that **“the Spirit of God” (Matthew 12:28)** is a real force (**Luke 1:17; Acts 1:8**), but not a person (**Luke 12:12; Matthew 10:20**).

“For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist” (2 John 1:7 LSB; NASB). Only Jesus came in the flesh, not God the Father. Trinitarians claim that Jesus came as a “God-man”. However, **“God is a spirit” (John 4:24 GWT)**, and is **“invisible” (1 Timothy 1:17)**, so **“no one has ever seen God” (John 1:18)**, which eliminates the possibility of Jesus being God. The fact is that **“God is not a man” (Numbers 23:19 ESV; KJV; NKJV; NASB; HCSB)**, whereas Jesus referred to himself as **“me, a man” (John 8:40)**.

“Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son” (2 John 1:9 NIV). How can this be? **John 7:18** says: **“My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me . . .”** Jesus got his teaching from God the Father. The word **“both,”** clearly expresses the fact that God and Jesus are two distinct, and entirely separate, individuals. Jesus said, “I came from God. I came from the Father” (**John 16:27-28 NAB**). Jesus also said, **“the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me” (John 8:17-18 NIV).** Jesus made it very clear that he and his Father are two entirely separate individuals. Notice that the holy Spirit is conspicuously absent, not even mentioned here. If the holy Spirit was a person, or Trinity doctrine was true, the holy Spirit would be mentioned here, showing the believer not only has a relationship with God the Father **“through”** his Son, Jesus Christ (**John 14:6 NIV**), he would also have a relationship with the holy Spirit.

Is the Trinity found in the letter of **2 John**?

The holy Spirit is not mentioned in this letter, nor is the Trinity. If the holy Spirit was *“the third person of the Trinity,”* as is claimed, surely there would be some mention of one, or both, of these in the scriptures noted above. The short letter of **2 John** presents clear evidence against the Trinity doctrine.

All Bible verses quoted from the New International Version (NIV), unless otherwise indicated.