Trinities in the Bible

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Mention the word Trinity and immediately most of us think of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. While these three make up the greatest of all trinities, believe it or not, the Bible does mention some others. For example, consider the trinity Paul lists at the close of his great chapter on love:

But now **faith**, **hope**, **love**, abide **these three**; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13 (Emphasis Mine)

The children of Israel were often reminded of their ancestral trinity:

So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with **Abraham**, **Isaac**, and **Iacob**.

Exodus 2:24 (Emphasis Mine)

The devil tempts us with a trinity he has used with great success since man dwelt in the Garden of Eden:

For all that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh** and the **lust of the eyes** and the boastful **pride of life**, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

1 John 2:16 (Emphasis Mine)

The foundation of the Gospel and our faith as Christians rests upon an important trinity:

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died** for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that **He was buried**, and that **He was raised** on the third day according to the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (Emphasis Mine)

While there are other such trinities we might illustrate, there is one specific trinity I want to bring to our attention in this writing. Following this trinity will help us develop a strong character for properly responding to the highs and lows of life. Here it is:

Rejoice always; **pray** without ceasing; in everything **give thanks**; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (Emphasis Mine)

Here is a trinity of three important essentials for us as Christians. If we can consistently practice these three essentials, we will be rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks no matter what may come, all our lives. In fact, notice the trinity of words the apostle uses to accompany this trinity of essentials: "Always," "Without Ceasing," and "In Everything." We can move them around to any of the three essentials and not lose the thought of the apostle: Rejoice *in everything*, *Always* pray, and Give thanks *without ceasing*. Or, Rejoice *without ceasing*, *in everything pray*, and give thanks *always*.

This trinity of essentials is to be a constant and continual part of who we are in Christ. To emphasize this point, Paul adds, "For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." In other words, this is the type of people we are to be as Christians, joyful, prayerful, and thankful.

So, how do we maintain this essential trinity? We maintain them with the support of so many other trinities mentioned in the Bible! We have the help of the *Father*, *Son*, and *Holy Spirit*. We have the example of God's faithfulness to His promises as seen in *Abraham*, *Isaac*, and *Jacob*. We have the good news of the *Death*, *burial*, and *resurrection* of Jesus Christ. We have the strength that comes from *faith*, *hope*, and *love*. We have a promise of escape from the *lust of the flesh*, *the lust of the eyes*, *and the pride of life* (cf. 1 Cor. 10:13). Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing! In everything give thanks!