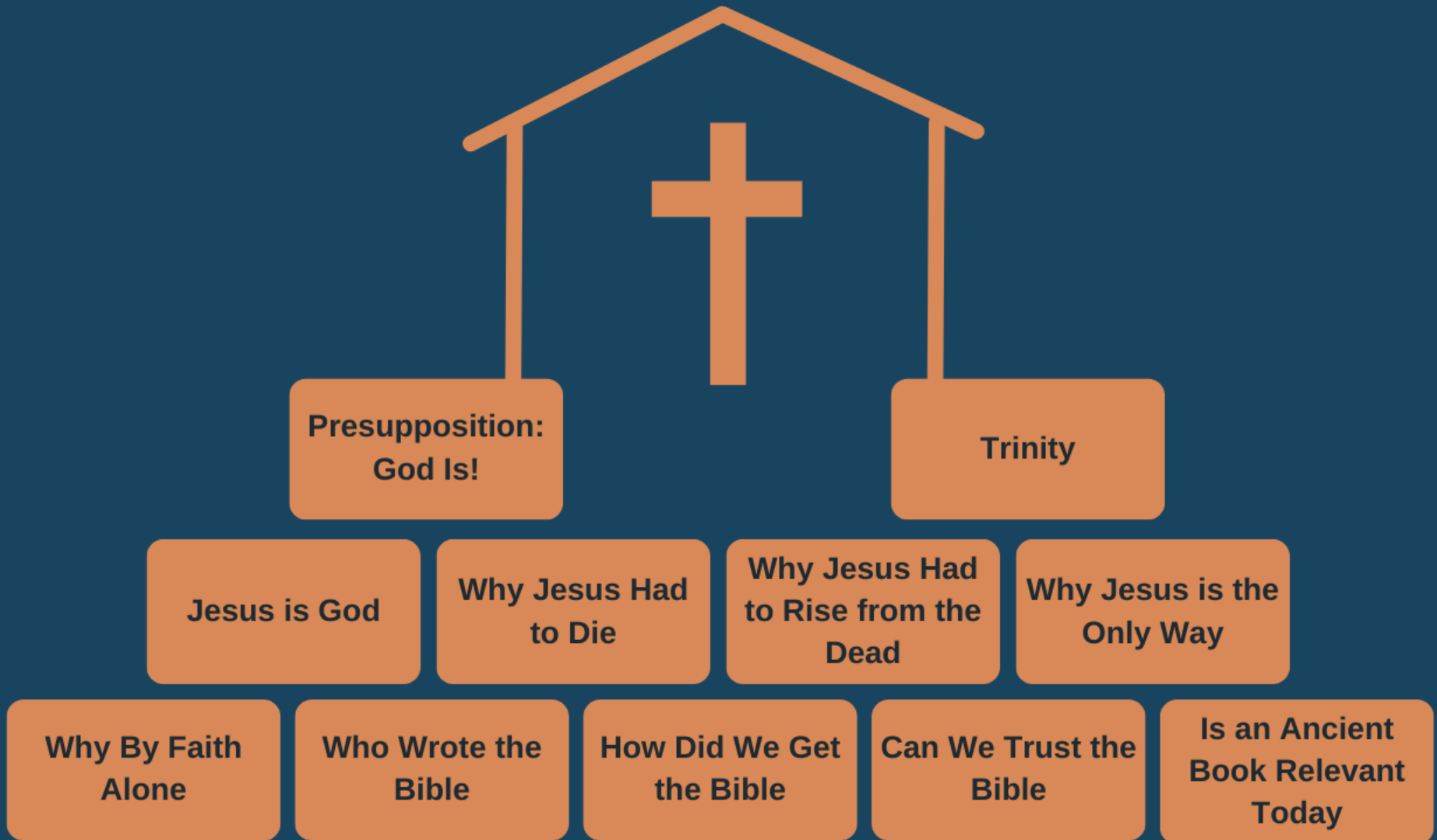


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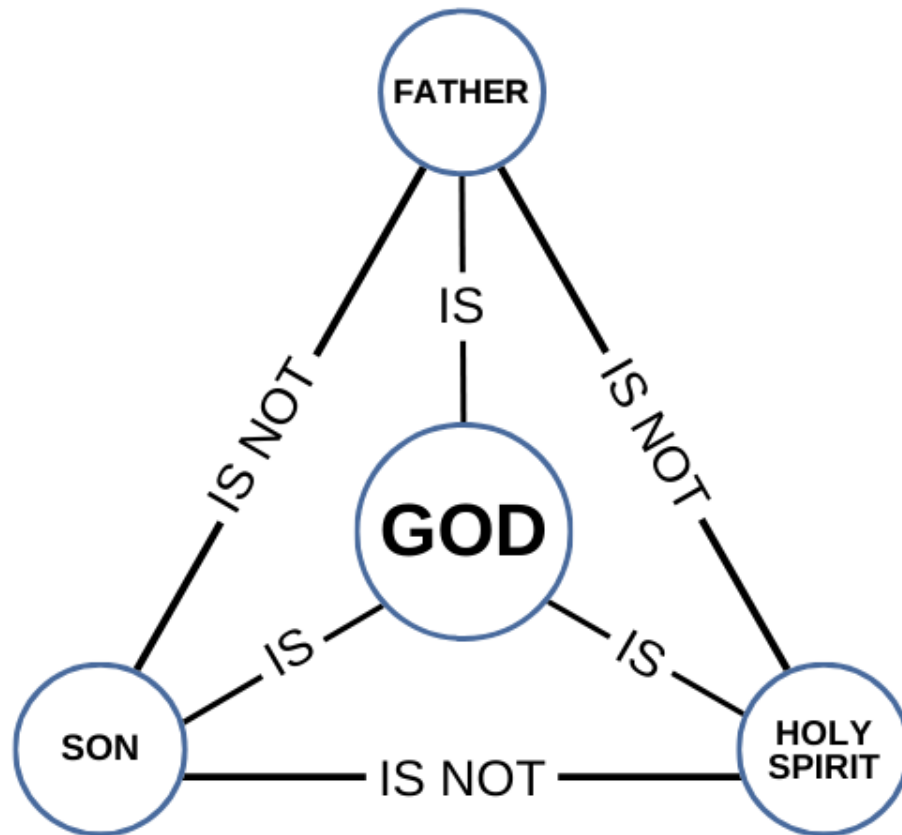


# The New Testament:

- Teaches there is only one God
- Recognizes all three Persons of the Trinity to be God
- Includes all three Persons of the Trinity in single statements



# Common Diagram of the Godhead

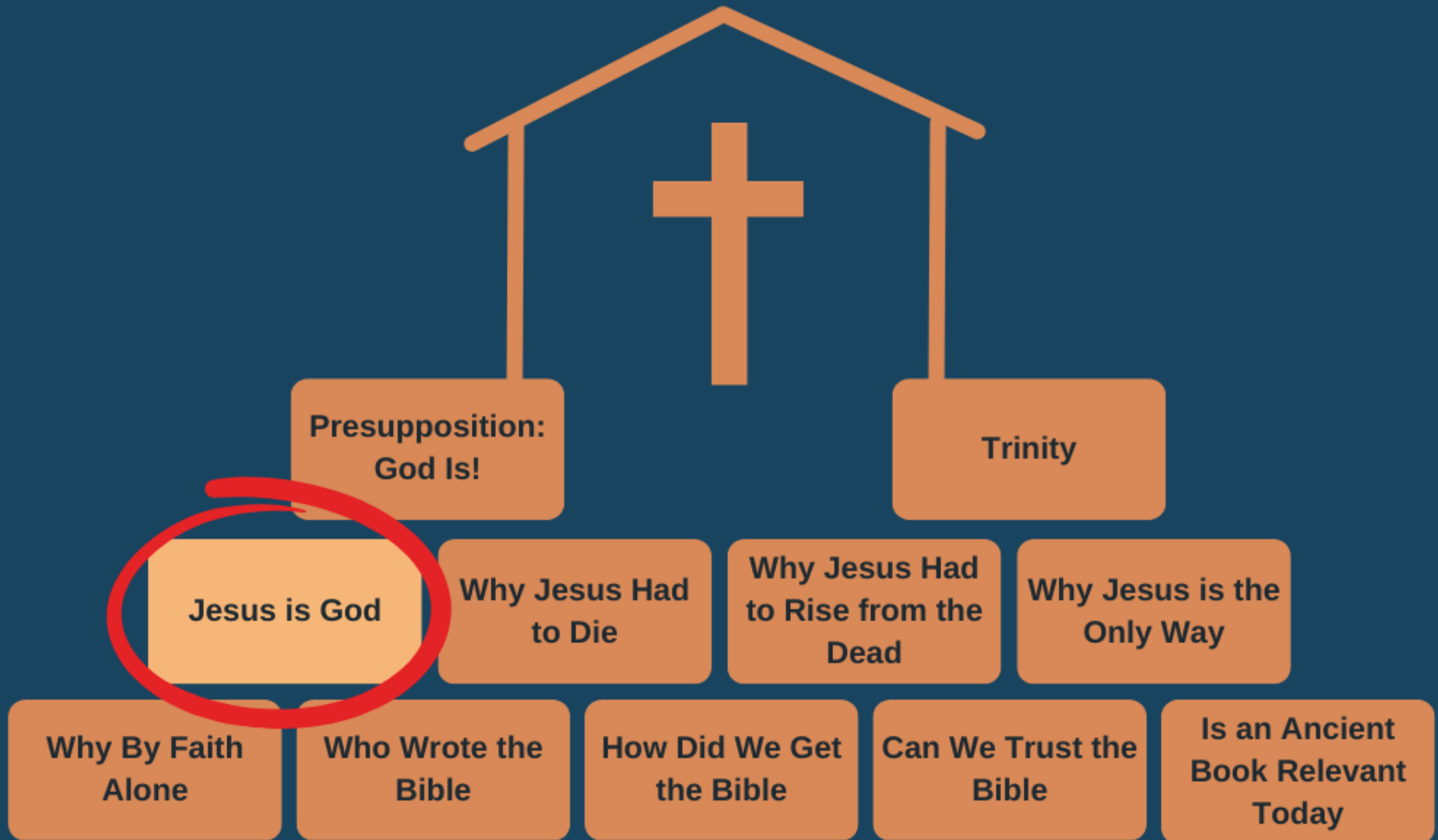


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**The Bible is our  
major source of  
knowledge about  
who Jesus is!**



**Question: How do  
we define who  
Jesus is as a result  
of His virgin birth?**





# Jesus Christ: the God-Man

*Fully God and fully  
man in one person*



Jesus Christ  
is Fully God



Jesus Christ  
is Fully **Man**



# How Do These Two Truths Fit Together?



# Jesus Christ: the God-Man

*Fully God and fully  
man in one person*



“The Chalcedonian Creed stated that the two ‘natures’ were united without mixture, without change, without division, and without separation. This means that the entire complex of the attributes of Deity and those of perfect humanity were maintained in Jesus Christ at all times since His Incarnation” (Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology, p. 250).



It is Reasonable to  
believe that Jesus is:  
**the God-Man**

*Fully God and fully  
man in one person*





## KEY CONCEPT

**If Jesus is not fully man,  
He would not have been  
able to die. If Jesus is not  
fully God, His death would  
not have been able to pay  
for our sin!**

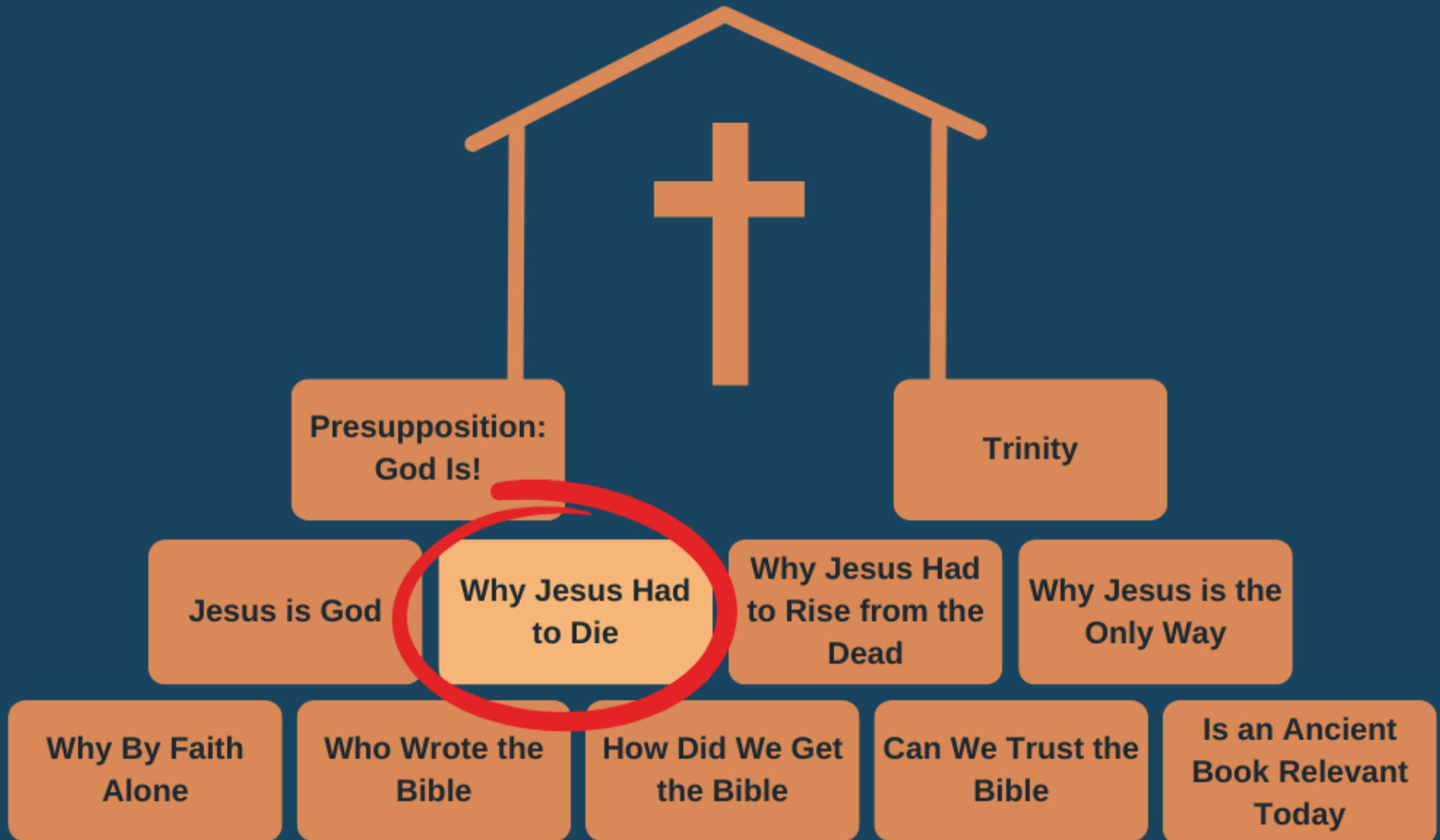


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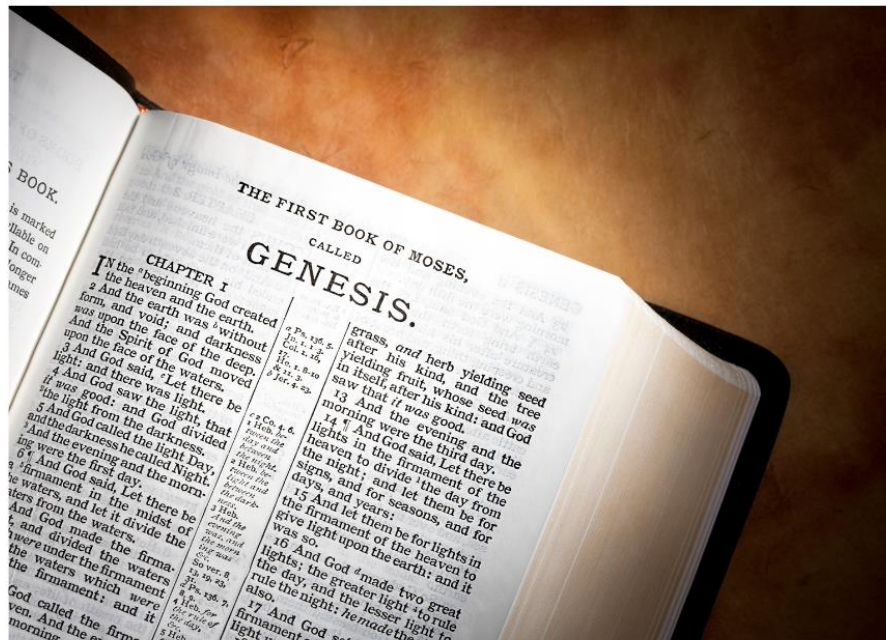
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# To Answer Our Question, We Begin in the Book of Genesis



## Genesis 2:7,

**“Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being”** (NASB).

- The inbreathing of God is never used in reference to animals.
- The inbreathing made humans spiritual beings.
- This inbreathing gave humans a capacity to serve God and to have fellowship with Him.



## Genesis 2:15,

“Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to **cultivate** it and **keep** it” (NASB).

- Two Hebrews words used in the first five books of the OT for spiritual service.
- These words described service to God, acts of worship.



## Genesis 2:16-17,

“The LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it **you will surely die**” (NASB).

- Strong language: “surely die”
- Genesis 5: “. . . and he died” multiple Xs
- Death = physical and spiritual separation



## Genesis 3:19,

**“By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return”** (NASB).

- God formed man of dust from the ground (Genesis 2:7).
- Humans created to be in relationship with God and to serve/worship God
- God told Adam that if he eats from tree “you will surely die.”
- Adam eats and “to dust you shall return.”



## Genesis 3:21,

**“The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them”** (NASB).

- This is the first example in the Bible of an animal being sacrificed to provide for Adam and Eve’s sense of guilt and shame.





## Genesis 3:22 and 24,

“Then the LORD God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever. . . . So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life” (NASB).

- Act of grace to keep humanity from living forever in a sinful state



**“ . . . The church throughout its history has understood that Adam’s sin plunged all humanity into sin, death, and condemnation. Only the person and work of Jesus Christ can rescue us from its effects”**

(Nathan Holsteen and Michael Svigel, General Editors, Exploring Christian Theology, Vol 2, p. 49).



# The New Testament:

- Teaches that all humanity shared in Adam's sin (Romans 5:12)
- All people sin (Romans 3:23)
- The penalty for sin is death (Romans 6:23)



**Romans 5:12,**

**“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned”** (NASB).



“To **impute** means to attribute or reckon or ascribe something to someone. It is not mere influence but involvement that is at the heart of the concept. . . . Thus Adam’s sin was imputed to each member of the human race because each member of the human race actually sinned in Adam when Adam sinned”

(Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology, pp. 222 and 224).



**Every person is born a sinner (each have a bent toward sin – i.e., a sin nature), but every person also commits acts of sin.**



**Romans 3:23,**

**“for all have sinned and  
fall short of the glory of  
God”** (NASB).



**Romans 6:23a,**

**“For the wages of sin is death. . . .”** (NASB).

**Romans 6:23a,**

**“For the payoff of sin is death. . . .”** (NLT).





**“Payoff” translates *opsonion***

***“... Refers to a soldier’s pay or wages. Here it refers to the end result of an activity, seen as something one receives back in return. In this case the activity is sin, and the translation ‘payoff’ captures this thought”*** (NET Bible Notes).

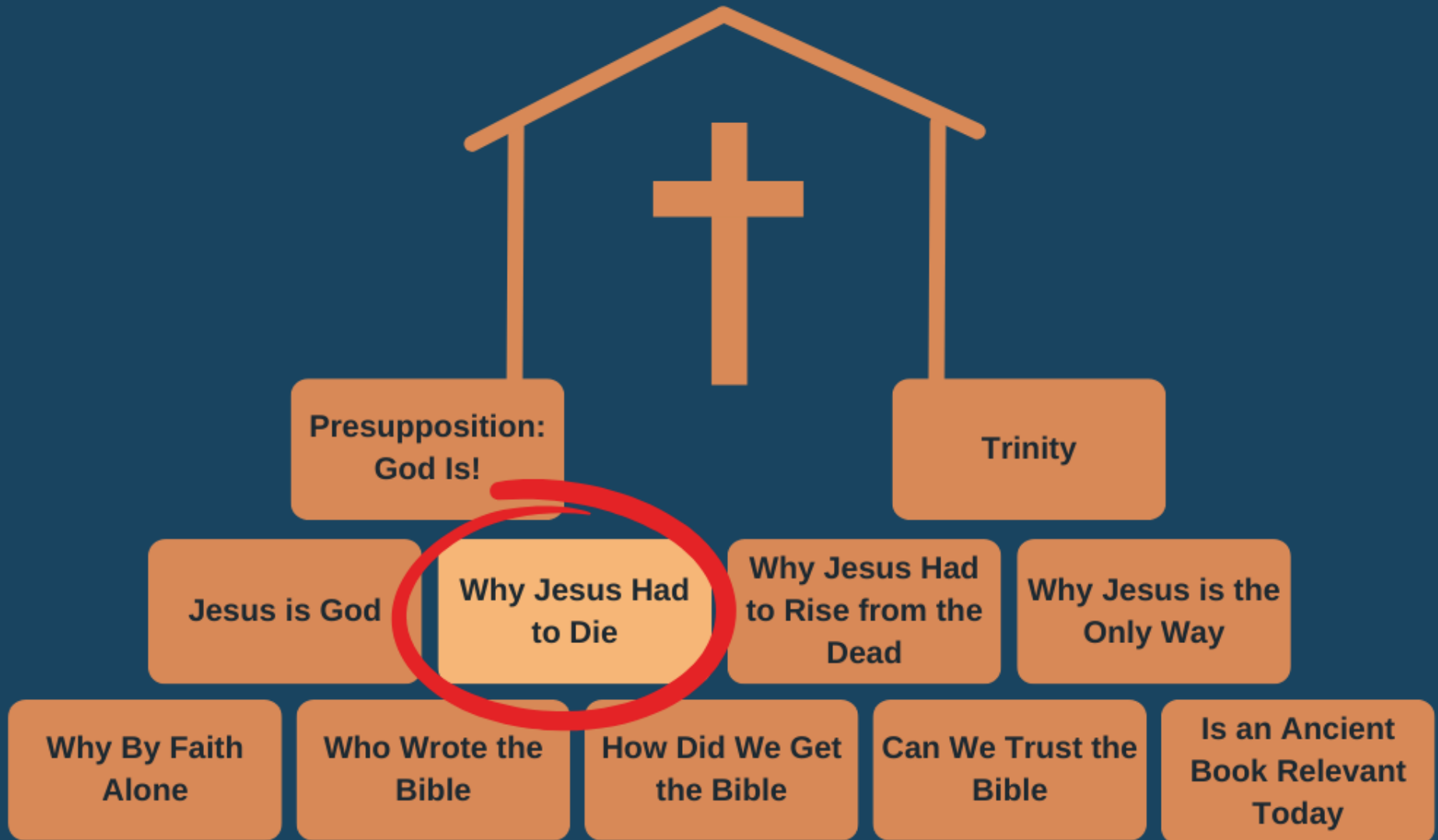




## KEY CONCEPT

**People are born sinners and people commit acts of sin. God declares that the penalty for sin is death, physical and spiritual.**

# FOUNDATIONAL BLOCKS



# Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

*God is Holy and  
Righteous!*



**God's Holiness =**  
**God is completely**  
**separate from sin.**

**He cannot be in relationship**  
**with sinful people.**



**Isaiah 59:2,**

**“But your iniquities have  
made a separation  
between you and your God,  
and your sins have hidden  
His face from you so that  
He does not hear”** (NASB).



**God's Righteousness =  
God is right and just.  
He is the standard of  
rightness!**



“Although God’s punishment of sin does serve as a *deterrent* against further sinning and as a *warning* to those who observe it, this is not the primary reason why God punishes sin. The primary reason is that *God’s righteousness demands it*, so that he might be glorified in the universe that he has created. He is the Lord who practices ‘steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I delight says the LORD’ (Jer. 9:24)” (Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, p. 509).





## Romans 3:24-25,

“being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed” (NASB).



“Paul realizes that if Christ had not come to pay the penalty for sins, God could not be shown to be righteous. Because he had passed over sins and not punished them in the past, people could rightly accuse God of unrighteousness, the assumption being that a God who does not punish sins is not a righteous God. . . .”

(Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, p. 510).



“Therefore, when God sent Christ to die and pay the penalty for our sins, he showed how he could still be righteous—he had stored up the punishment due to previous sins (those of Old Testament saints) and then, in perfect righteousness, he gave that penalty to Jesus on the **CROSS**” (Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, p. 510).



“Therefore in the cross we have a clear demonstration of the reason God punishes sin: if he did not punish sin he would not be a righteous God, and there would be no ultimate justice in the universe. But when sin is punished, God is showing himself to be a righteous judge over all, and justice is being done in his universe”

(Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, p. 510).



**Hebrews 10:4,**

**“For it is impossible for  
the blood of bulls and  
goats to take away sins”**

(NASB).



**Animal sacrifices  
cannot pay the price  
for sin, but . . .  
The price for sin, i.e.,  
death, must be paid!**



**Hebrews 9:22,**  
**“... without shedding  
of blood there is no  
forgiveness”** (NASB).



**Hebrews 10:11-12,**

**“Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD” (NASB).**







## KEY CONCEPT

**God's holiness and righteousness demands that sin be punished if people are to ever be in right relationship with Him.**

# Why Jesus?



# Substitutionary Atonement

“Substitutionary or vicarious atonement simply means that **Christ suffered as a substitute for us**, that is, instead of us, resulting in the advantage to us of paying for our sins. . . . Man could atone for his sins personally only if he could suffer eternally the penalty that sin incurred. Man, of course, could never do this, so in His love and compassion, God stepped into a hopeless situation and provided a Vicar in Jesus Christ who did provide an eternal satisfaction for sin” (Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology, p. 286).



## Personal Atonement

- Provided by the offending party
- A matter of strict justice
- Never finished

## Vicarious Atonement

- Provided by the offended party
- A combination of justice and love
- A completed sacrifice

(Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology, p. 286)

“Christ the sinless One  
took on Himself the  
penalty that should  
have been borne by  
man. . . .”

(Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology, p. 309).



## Romans 5:6-8,

“For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (NASB).



## Romans 5:9-10,

“Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life” (NASB).



**1 Peter 3:18,**

**“For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit”** (NASB).





## 2 Corinthians 5:21,

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (NASB).



# Why Did Jesus Have to Die?





## KEY CONCEPT

**God's holiness and righteousness demands that sin be punished if people are to ever be in right relationship with Him.**



## KEY CONCEPT

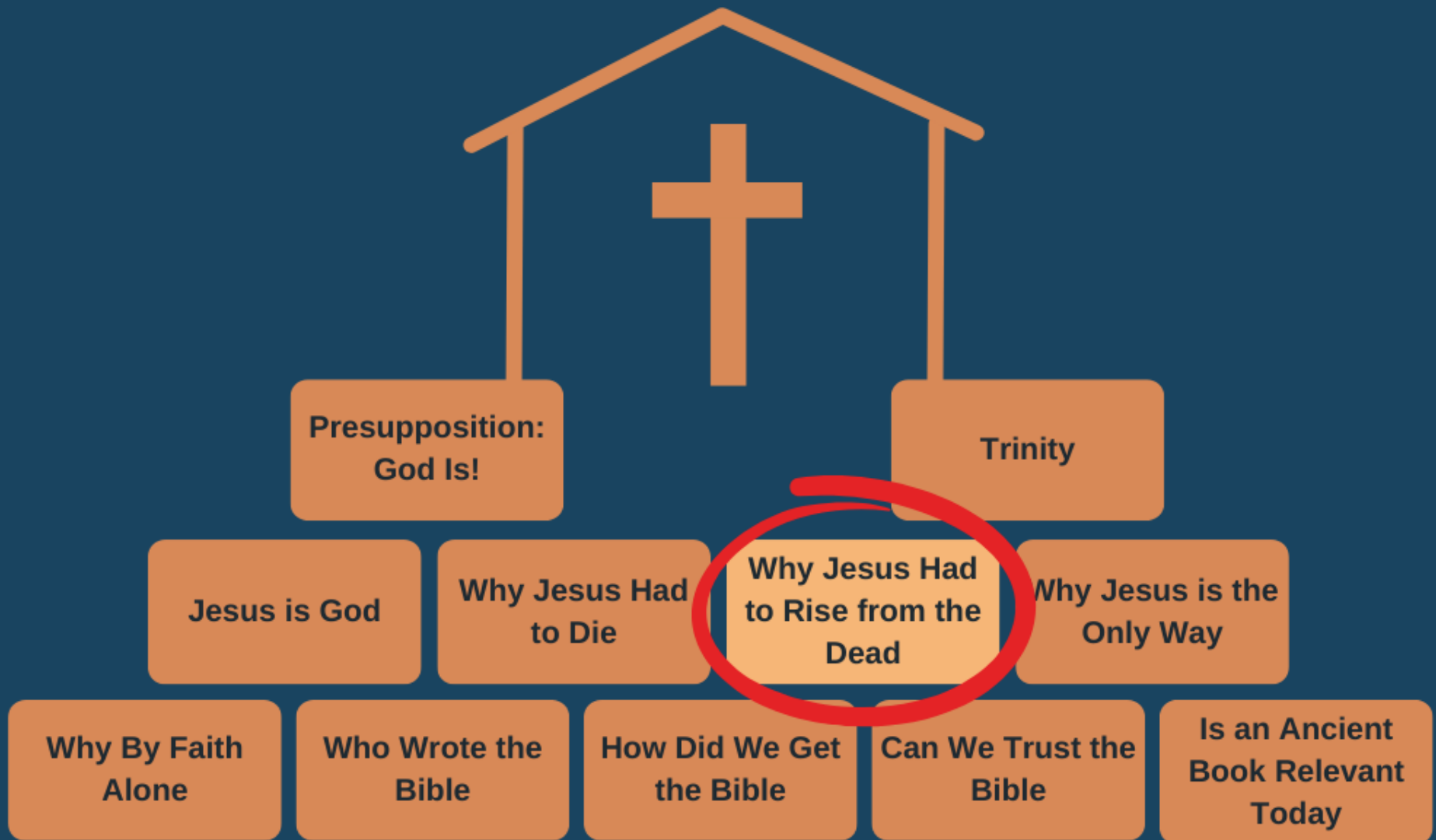
**Jesus, the God-Man is the only suitable substitute that could die for the sin of humanity because there is no sin in Him! Jesus never sinned!**

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