

created, nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone; not made, nor created, but begotten. The Holy Spirit is of the Father and the Son; neither made, nor created, nor begotten, but proceeding. So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. And in this Trinity there is nothing before or after; nothing greater or lesser. But the whole three Persons are coeternal and coequal. So that in all things, as aforesaid, the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshiped.⁹

3. Some Historic Aberrant Views of the Doctrine

By aberrant views I mean those views that stray or deviate from Scripture or from historic orthodox formulations of the doctrine, or views that are heretical. It is not my intention to survey these views, but only to sample a few of them.

Dynamic Monarchianism arose in the second century. It attempted to safeguard the unity of the Monarch of the universe -- God -- by denying that the Logos (the Word of John 1:1) was a divine Person, and by asserting that Jesus was a mere man.

Modalistic Monarchianism or *Sabellianism* also arose in the second century. It tried to safeguard the unity of God by affirming that the Father, the Son, and the Spirit are simply one divine Person who manifests himself in different modes according to circumstances.

Arianism attempted to preserve the unity of God by holding that the Son of God was not divine, but was the highest of all created beings; and that he took the place of the human spirit in the body of Christ. This fourth century heresy influenced many professing Christians for a long period of time.

Socinianism arose in the sixteenth century. It held that Christ was a man who was baptized with the Holy Spirit (which was not a person, but the influence of God), lived an exemplary life, and was rewarded with a resurrection and an ascension to a kind of divinity, so that he is to be called God, prayed to, and worshiped. The view of Socinianism has come down to the present day, in a modified form, as Unitarianism.