



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

**FOR THROUGH HIM WE BOTH HAVE ACCESS TO
THE FATHER BY ONE SPIRIT.**

- Ephesians 2:18

THE GODHEAD / TRINITY

Robin Liew | 9 February 2020



The TRINITY

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

In Context : WHY are DOCTRINES important ?



1. The **CHURCH STANDS OR FALLS**

Eph 2: 19 – 20 (the Church) ... built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ Himself as the chief cornerstone.



2. TRUTH CONTESTED

What is TRUTH ? John 18 : 38

- Pilate's sarcastic retort.
- Relativism vs Absolute
- Divisive, not inclusive, discriminate



2. TRUTH CONTESTED

False Teaching/Deception/Heresies

- **Jesus - false prophets (Mat 6:15)**
- **Paul - Keep watch against savage wolves (Acts 20 : 28 – 31)**
- **John – Letters**



2. TRUTH CONTESTED

False Teaching/Deception/Heresies

- **Peter - false teachers among you
(2 Pet 2:1)**
- **Jude – contend for the faith (Jude 3)**



Examples :

Early Church

- **Book of Galatians – In defence of the freedom in Jesus Christ**
- **Gnosticism – Docetism & Cerentism**



Examples :

Today

- **Christians worship 3 Gods**
- **Jehovah Witness - Arianism**
- **Mormon - Adoptionism**



Exhortation:

14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

15 Instead, speaking the truth in love,

Eph 4: 14-15

1 Pet 3:15



Summarise : Why are DOCTRINES important ?

1. The CHURCH STANDS or FALLS

2. Defend and Contend For The TRUTH



The TRINITY

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD



PROBLEM :

- 1. TRINITY, the word is not in the Bible. It is core doctrine of our faith.**
- 2. LIMITATION to explain God. God is indescribable, FULL of majesty and mystery.**
- 3. The doctrine of God took at least 300 years to evolve. I only have less than 20 minutes to explain.**



The Father, The Son and Holy Spirit

- **Matt 3 : 16**
- **Matt 28 : 18 -19**
- **2 Cor 13: 14**
- **Eph 4 : 4 -7**
- **1 Pet 1 : 2**
- **Jude 20-21**



Questions Early Church Grapple With

- 1. Christian faith is birth from Jewish faith –
MONOTHEISTIC (Deut 6:4).
Jesus and apostles spoke about the
Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**



Questions Early Church Grapple With

2. Who is JESUS ? How is He related to GOD, the Father ?

**3. Who is the HOLY SPIRIT ?
How is He related to GOD, the Father and JESUS ?**



Doctrine of the TRINITY

In response to Arianism

Nicene Creed (325 AD reaffirmed 381 AD)

Affirms – the Father and the Son are distinct, co-exist, co-eternal, equal, same in one nature, substance and essence.



Doctrine of the TRINITY

Nicene Creed (325 AD reaffirmed 381 AD)

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds (æons), Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father



Doctrine of the TRINITY

Athanasian Creed (Athanasius of Alexandria)

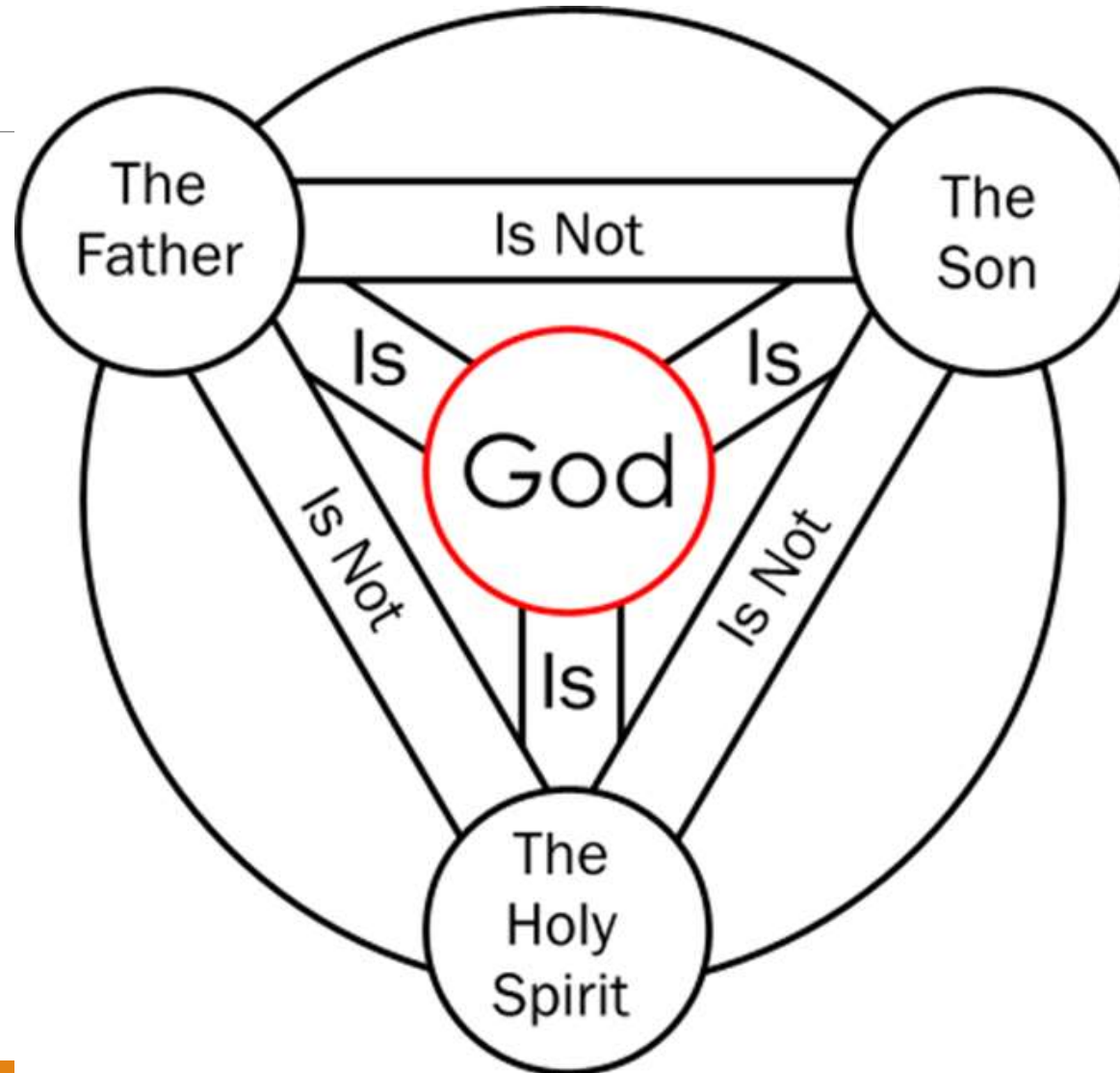
Affirms the EQUALITY of the 3 PERSONS in the TRINITY

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

History of Trinitarian Doctrines

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/trinity/trinity-history.html>

Doctrine of the TRINITY

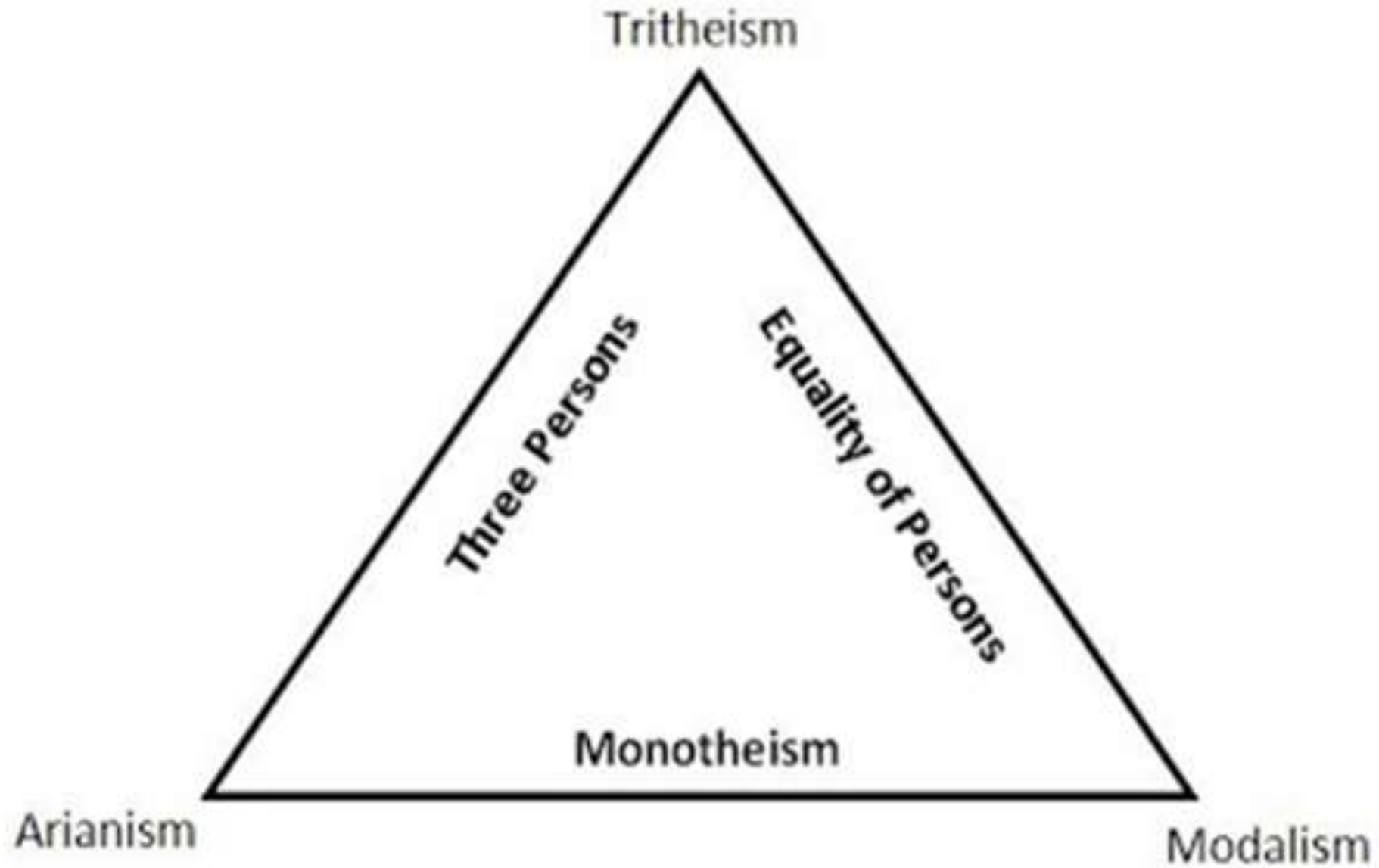




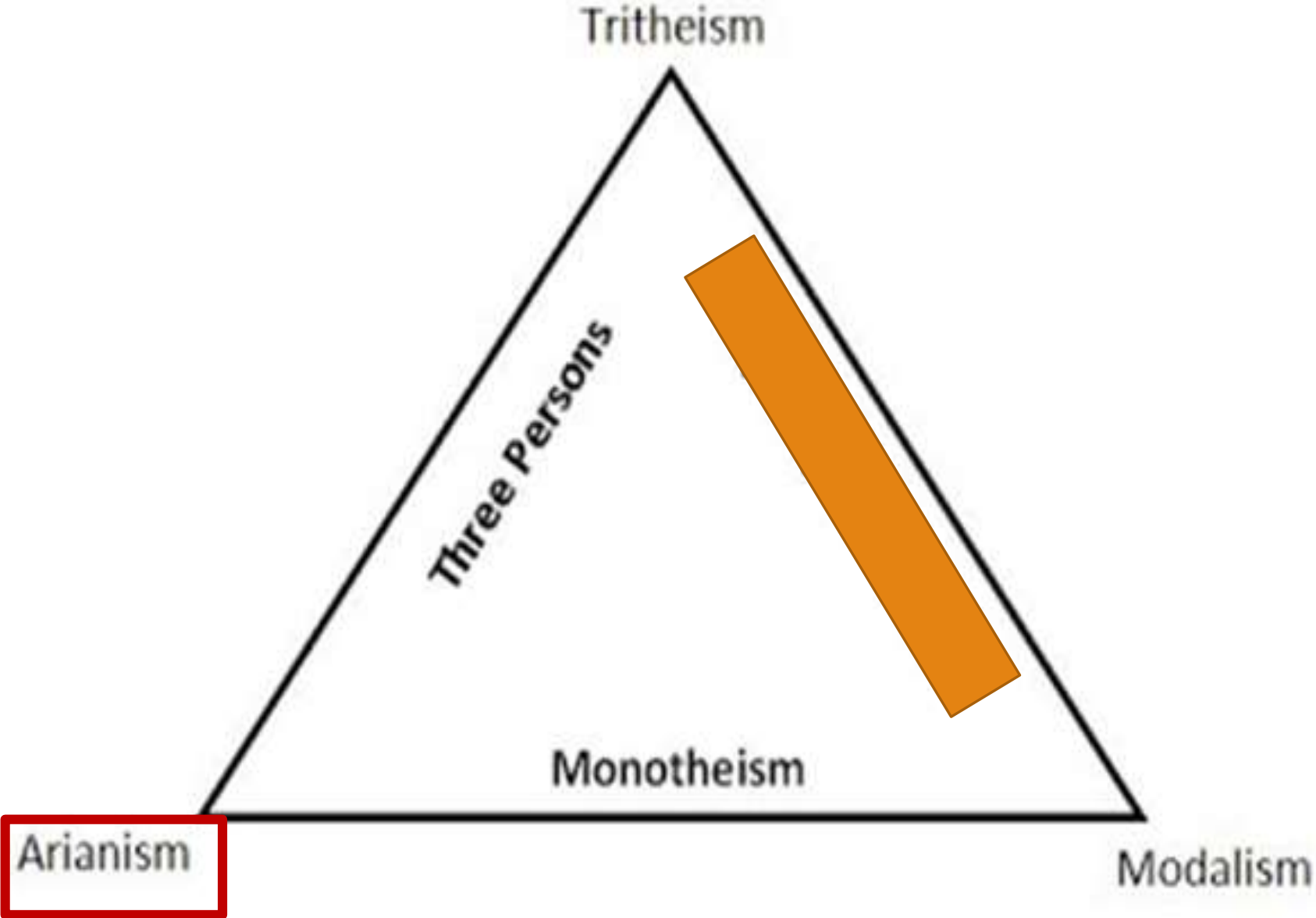
APPLICATIONS

- 1. The Church STANDS or FALLS**
- 2. Contend for the TRUTH**
- 3. Feed and take care of my flock**
- 4. BE in AWE of GOD, the majesty and mystery**
- 5. GOD, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit was, is and continues to work in our lives.**

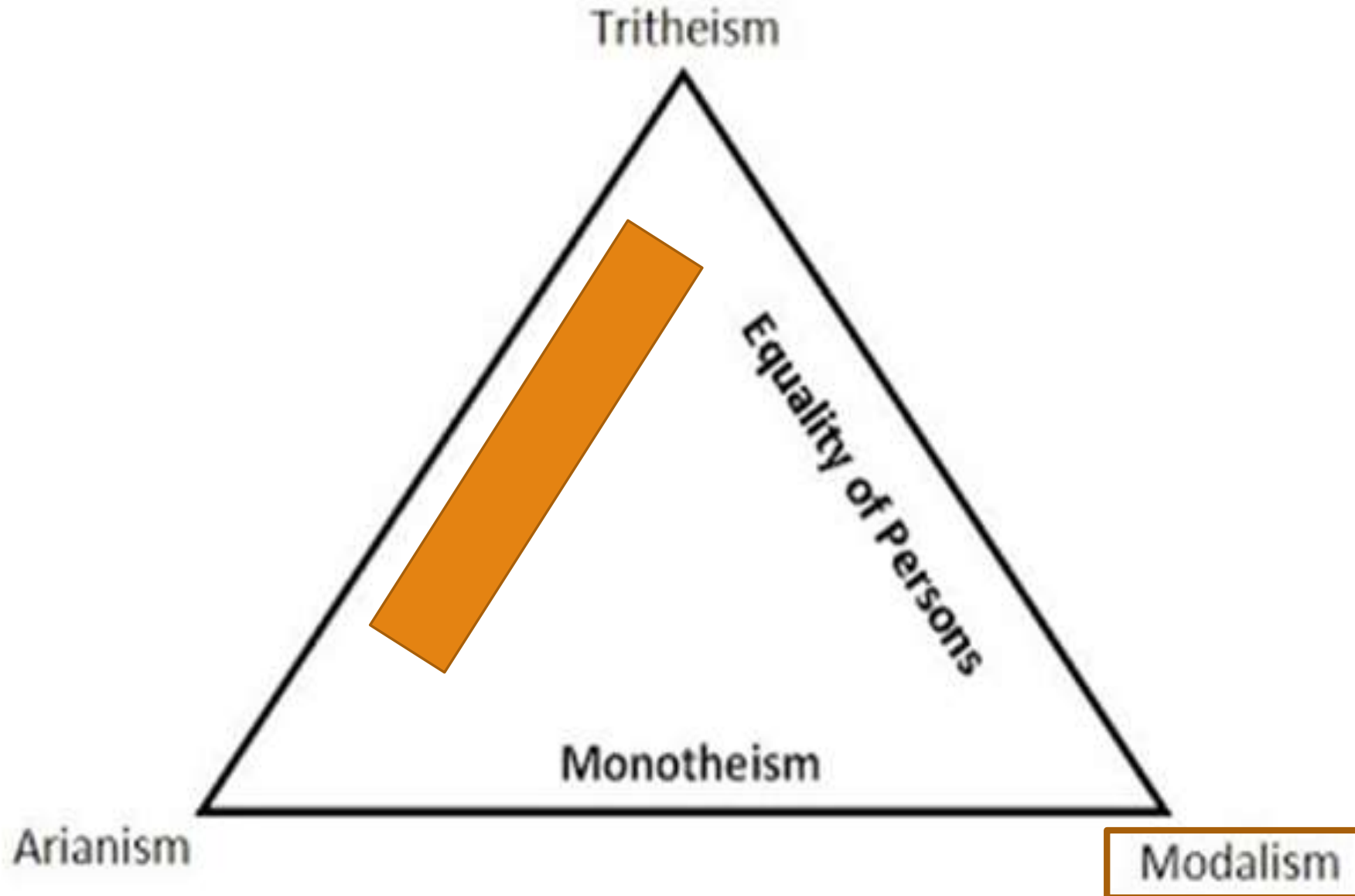
TRINITY HERESY CHECKER



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