Scriptural References to the Trinity

Citations with the concept expressed in each

**The Gospels**

**Mt 3:16-17, Lk. 3:21-22**
The Spirit descends on Christ at baptism, & the Father identifies Him as Son.

**Mt 28:19**
Christ says to baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Lk 1:35**
At the Annunciation to Mary, Gabriel identifies the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Jn 1:14**
Explains that the Word became flesh, with the glory of a Son

**Jn 10:30-36 and 14:9-11:**
Christ asks why they say, “Show us the Father”, as He and the Father are one.

**Jn 14:16-17**
Our Lord will ask the Father and He will give his disciples the Spirit of truth.

**St. Peter and St. Paul**

**1 Pet 1:1-2:**
Explains God as Father, sanctifying work of the Spirit, obedience to Christ.

**1 Cor 2:21-22**
God establishes us in Christ & seals us with the Spirit.

**1 Cor 12:4-6**
Many gifts but one Spirit, one Lord, one God.

**2 Cor 13:14**
Grace of Christ, love of God, fellowship of the Spirit.

**Eph 4:4-6**
One Spirit, one Lord, one God and Father of all.

**Phil 2:5-8**
Christ as God emptied himself to become man.

**Col 1:15-17**
Christ, as image of God, created & sustains all things.
Scriptural References to the Trinity

Old Testament Hints

**Gen 1:26; 3:22; 11:7; Is 54:5**
God as plural: During Creation and at the Tower of Babel, God speaks of “we” and “us” with a singular verb. In Isaiah, Your maker (pl) is your husband.

**Is 54:5**
Word “Maker” is used for God: It is plural.

**Is 6:8**
Similarly, God says, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”

**Is 48:16-17**
More explicitly, the prophet refers to the Lord Redeemer being sent by the “Lord God” with “the Spirit”.

**Gen 6:3, Prov 30:4, 1 Sam 16:13, Ps 110:1, Dan 7:13-14**
These passages speak either of the Father and Son or the Lord and Spirit.

**Is 63:16, Mal 2:10**
Passages which refer to God the Father

**Ps 2:6-7, Ps 45, Is 9:6**
Passages which refer to God the Son.

**Gen 1:2, Is 48:16, Is 63:10, Zech 4:6**
Passages which refer to the Spirit.

**Gen 48:15-16, Num 6:22-27, Is 6:3, 1 Sam 3**
These passages take the form of triple blessings, calls, doxologies, or prayers.

**Gen 18**
God appears to Abraham in the form of three men or three angels.

**Dan 3:25**
Viewing the fiery furnace, the King exclaims that he sees three men plus one more who appears to be a son of the gods (or the Son of God).

**Job 19:23-29**
In a dramatic statement of his vindication when seemingly condemned by all, Job exclaims, “I know that my redeemer lives and will stand upon the earth.”
Creeds
   Apostles Creed (tradition of apostolic origin)
   Nicene Creed, 325 AD
   Creed of the First Council of Constantinople, 381 AD

Miscellaneous (beginning in the 2nd century)
   Numerous Patristic references in catecheses, general works, and letters.

Hilary of Poitiers
   On the Trinity, Books I – XII, 360 AD

Basil the Great
   Letter CCCLX: On Holy Trinity, Incarnation, Invocation of the Saints, ca. 360 AD

Gregory of Nyssa ca. 380 AD

Augustine 420 AD
   On the Trinity, 420 AD