

Luke 3:21-22 Communion with the Triune God

Because Jesus identified with His sinful people we can enjoy communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Him.

- 1) In His incarnation Jesus enjoyed communion with the Father and the Spirit (3:22).
 - a) Jesus is in prayer.
 - i) Prayers of Jesus are an important theme in Luke's Gospel.
 - ii) This prayer is at the outset of His public ministry.
 - b) The Holy Spirit descends upon Him.
 - i) The visible manifestation of the Spirit marks Jesus out as the Anointed of the Lord.
 - ii) The Holy Spirit's anointing of Jesus speaks of His empowerment of Jesus for His Messianic mission (Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:18).
 - c) The Father speaks to Him.
 - i) God's affirmation of Him as "My beloved Son" marks Jesus out as the Davidic King and the unique Son of God.
 - ii) God's expression of delight, "with You I am well pleased," marks Jesus out as the Suffering Servant of Yahweh (Isaiah 42:1-4; 53:10; cf. John 10:17).
- 2) In His incarnation Jesus identified with His sinful people (3:21).
 - a) "All were baptized" refers to the crowds who came out to John the Baptist. His work is spoken of as completed.
 - b) "Jesus also was baptized" sets His baptism apart from the crowd's. It raises the question of why Jesus, whom Luke and the whole New Testament says is sinless should undergo a "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." In His baptism, Jesus identified with His sinful people in their need of forgiveness.
 - i) "The choice that Jesus made at His baptism was the choice that ultimately led Him to the cross." (Philip Graham Ryken, *Luke 1-12*)
 - ii) Not only does Jesus identify with us by taking on our sin, He also identifies us with Him by bringing us into the fellowship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Are you enjoying the Triune God? Are you resting in the Father's acceptance of you as His beloved child in Christ? Are you at peace in the pleasure that God has in your obedience in Christ? Are you conscious of the Spirit's work to strengthen you by teaching you the Truth? Are you receiving the Truth by faith and working by the strength that He supplies? Are you praying with and to Christ? Are you rejoicing that Jesus endured His baptism for your salvation (Luke 12:50)?