

## Communion with God (3)

In 1657, John Owen published *Of Communion with God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Each Person Distinctly; in Love, Grace and Consolation or The Saints Fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Ghost unfolded.*

### Questions

We have communion with God both through *natural* worship and through *instituted* worship. Natural worship includes faith, love and joy; instituted worship includes prayer and praise.

- In what ways, do we have communion with God the Father?
- In what ways, do we have communion with God the Son?
- In what ways, do we have communion with God the Holy Spirit?

Owen explains that all we receive from God comes from each person of the Trinity distinctly, yet jointly. So, for example, we are taught by God (Isa 54:13). Yet we are also taught by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (John 6:45; 13:13; 14:26). This necessarily leads to a distinct, yet joint, communion, as we respond to each person of the Trinity.

- How should this affect our prayers and praise?

The ordinary pattern established in the Scriptures is that we pray to the Father, in the name of the Son, with the help of the Holy Spirit. However, this should not prevent us from including the Son and the Spirit in our prayers. See, for example, 1 Thess 3:11 and 2 Cor 13:14.

### Application

We do not worship an unknown God. We have communion with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### Matthew 28:18-19

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

### 1 Corinthians 1:9

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

### 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

### Ephesians 2:18

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

### 1 John 1:3

...that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

### Revelation 5:13-14

And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honour and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!" Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshipped Him who lives forever and ever.