

Luke 3:21–22

Starting To See Who Jesus Is

1. Christ's Personal Identity

The Triune God reveals Himself at the River Jordan – Jesus is God's Son.

The Nicene Creed of the 4th Century

*I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible
and invisible.*

*And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten
Son of God, begotten of the Father before all
worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very
God; begotten, not made, being of one substance
with the Father, by whom all things were made....*

*And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver
of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the
prophets.*

London Baptist Confession, 1689

The Lord our God is but one only living and true God; whose subsistence is in and of Himself, infinite in being and perfection; whose essence cannot be comprehended by any but Himself; a most pure spirit, invisible, without body, parts, or passions, who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto...

This is the substance of God...
this is true of Father, Son and Spirit.

The 1689 Baptist Confession then provides some of God's attributes, which are not the same as His substance.

His 'substance' describes what type of being God is.

His 'attributes' explain how and why God does what He does... His 'character'.

immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, infinite, holy, wise, free; working all things according to the counsel of His own immutable and most righteous will, for His own glory; loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him...

The Baptist Confession defines the Persons of the Trinity like this...

In this divine and infinite Being there are three subsistences, the Father, the Word or Son, and Holy Spirit, of one substance, power, and eternity, each having the whole divine essence, yet the essence undivided: the Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Spirit proceeding from the Father and the Son; all infinite, without beginning, therefore but one God, who is not to be divided in nature and being, but distinguished by several peculiar relative properties and personal relations; which doctrine of the Trinity is the foundation of all our communion with God, and comfortable dependence on Him.

If Jesus is God, why does He need a baptism of repentance?

John asked the same question...
see Matthew 3:14–15.

Here is the wonder of the gospel – God has come down to us in the person of Jesus Christ and He identifies Himself with us.

2. Dedication

Jesus has come to seek and to save the lost...
and He'll fulfil everything necessary to do it.

Jesus knows precisely why He's come and what
must be done to accomplish it.

He would lose none of those whom His Father
had given Him and He will do everything
necessary to secure their salvation.



3. Confirmation

All of heaven rings out its endorsement of Christ as heaven opens.

The Father speaks His approval of His Son and the Spirit descends and rests upon Him.

Isaiah 42:1 ff... Hebrews 9:14.

1 John 5:10–13.

