

Luke 3:21-22 – The Baptism of Jesus Christ, Part 2

Introduction: The Revelation of God

1. General Revelation: Creation (Proves God Exists)
2. Special Revelation: The Word of God
 - a. Reveals who God is, His character, purposes, decrees
 - b. Faithful preaching does not originate with man
 - c. Jesus made God known
3. The Message of Christ is God's Message: Faithful preachers proclaim Christ (**1 Thess 2:4, Gal 1:11**)
4. The Word of God has the Final Say: God's Word comes to us Miraculously (Prophets, Angels) and Provident Events
5. Popular Liberal Discreditation of Biblical Events – Jesus as a Legend, Made up Stories
6. Human Witnesses Professed Jesus as Messiah
7. God Himself Testified Jesus as Messiah

Main Truth: Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God – He was a Man of Prayer, a Man of the Spirit. God testifies to God and God delights in God (God the Father Delights in God the Son).

Jesus' Prayerful Ascent at His Baptism (v 21a)

1. Confronting, Convicting, and Teaching!
 - a. Jesus constantly communicated with God in Prayer
 - i. Before He chose the 12, miraculously fed the 5k, walked on water, on the Mt. of Transfiguration
 - ii. He would escape the crowds and pray alone
 - b. If the Son of God was engaged in Prayer, how much more should we be engaged in prayer?
2. Jesus' Prayer was Communication with the Father (Heaven's War Room)
 - a. If prayer is not part of your life, Begin Today!
 - b. At Jesus' Baptism, He Prayed!
3. The Baptism of Jesus
 - a. Validated the Role of John as the Voice and Jesus as the Word Made Flesh
 - b. Identified Jesus as the Servant of Yahweh (**Isaiah**)
 - c. Jesus identified Himself with Sinful Humanity, even though Jesus did not Sin (**Hebrews 2:17**)
 - d. Inaugurated the Messianic Age and Jesus' public ministry (**Luke 3:23**)
 - e. Prefigured Jesus' death and resurrection (**Mk 10:38**)
 - f. Assisted in Jesus fulfilling all righteousness
4. Jesus was identified to be the Messiah by the Holy Spirit

The Heavens Rent, the Spirit's Descent (vv 21b-22a)

1. Heaven's Rent
 - a. Mark 1:10 – Greek *Skidzo* – meaning to rip or tear; Only other place in Mark this word is used is when the veil in the Holy of Holies is ripped from top to bottom (**Mark 15:38**)
 - b. God pulls back the curtains providing a glimpse into Heaven; He reveals something about Himself
 - i. Ex: Ezekiel (**Ez 1:1**), John (**Rev 4:1**), Stephen (**Acts 7**)
 - c. God says to us: Do you want to know who I am? I will show you... I will come down to you... and Be with you
 - d. At Jesus' Baptism, God was revealed to Israel
2. The Spirit's Descent: God testifies to God
 - a. God the Spirit testifies to God the Son
 - b. The Spirit Filled and Strengthened Jesus for Ministry and to battle the Satan (**Luke 4**)
 - c. Jesus was a Man of the Spirit (**Isaiah 61:1-3**)
 - d. Jesus was equipped to fulfill the Father's command
 - e. Jesus was Fully Man
 - i. Jesus got tired, thirsty, and was tempted as we do
 - ii. Jesus was everything it means to be human
 - iii. Jesus needed to be Human in order to identify with us
 - f. The Spirit consecrated Jesus, Anointed Him to make war on the Kingdom of Darkness (**Luke 4:1-2a**)
 - g. Jesus was strengthened by the Spirit: The flesh availeth nothing (**Zechariah 4:6**)
 - h. Jesus was filled by the Spirit to fulfill the Father's will; we too are to be filled with the Spirit (**Eph 5:18; Gal 5:16**)
 - i. Jesus was filled with the Spirit to fulfill all righteousness (**Isaiah 11:1-2**)

The Father's Assent: God Delights in God (v 22b)

1. God speaks from Heaven declaring Jesus is His Son
2. The only other time we see this happen is at the Mt of Transfiguration (**Luke 9:35**)
3. The Sonship of Jesus – He is the Only Begotten Son of God
4. Our Sonship – We are Adopted into the family of God
 - a. By nature we are children of wrath
 - b. We are made Children of God by Grace through Faith
5. Jesus is the Son of God by nature; Eternal God, sharing the very essence of what it means to be God
 - a. He shares in glory, divinity, and honor
6. The Father Delights in the Son: God delights in God
 - a. The Son delights in the Father (**Isaiah 11:3**)
 - b. Jesus is the exact representation of God's own nature
 - c. God exalts Jesus – God exalts God, God delights in God