

JESUS, GOD’S BELOVED SON

Luke 3:15-38

Key Verse: 3:22

“...and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: ‘You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.’”

1. Why did John clarify his identity (15-16)? How did John compare himself with Jesus (16a)? What do you think it means that Jesus baptizes “with the Holy Spirit and fire” (16b)?
2. In John’s farming imagery, what do you think “wheat” and “chaff” refer to (17)? How were John’s words good news to them (18)? Why did Herod put John in prison (19-20)? What does this say about John and the times?
3. Read 21-22. How was Jesus’ baptism similar to but different from that of others? What role did the Holy Spirit and God the Father have in Jesus’ baptism? What did the voice of God reveal about Jesus? What was the purpose of Jesus’ baptism and how old was he (23a)?
4. Why does Luke say that Jesus was the son “so it was thought, of Joseph” (1:34-35)? How does Luke’s genealogy begin and end and how is it different from Matthew’s in time flow and extent¹ (Mt 1:1,16)? Why do you think Luke takes his genealogy all the way back to Adam?
5. What has Luke told us about Jesus in this study? How does this help you personally to trust Jesus?

¹ Matthew and Luke’s genealogies diverge from David to Jesus. Most likely, Matthew traces Jesus’ royal descent, while Luke traces his physical descent (see ESV Study Bible).