

THE MESSIAH'S CREDENTIALS

(Luke 3:21-38)

I. THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST (3:1-20)

* Luke 3:18-20

II. THE BAPTISM AND GENEALOGY OF JESUS CHRIST (Luke 3:21-38)

A. The BAPTISM of Jesus Christ (Luke 3:21-22; Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; John 1:29-34)

1. After baptizing other people on this particular day, John publically baptized Jesus to identify Him as the _____ of Israel, and for the _____ of His public ministry. (v. 21a, cf. Matt. 3:15)
2. Only Luke recorded that at Jesus' baptism He was _____; Luke presented Jesus as _____ in or before many occasions in His life. (v. 21b; 5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28-29; 11:1; 22:32, 40-44; 23:46)

* What can we learn from our Lord's practice regarding this?
3. Unique to Luke, the "opening of the heavens" declared direct _____ from God which had not taken place for centuries. (21c)
4. Luke's Gospel is distinctive in that he alone records the Holy Spirit coming down in _____; we call this a Theophany. (v. 22 cf. Isaiah 11:1-2; 42:1; 61:1-2)
5. Each member of the _____ was represented at this public baptism, which is only fitting because the _____ would be involved in all aspects of Christ's ministry. (v. 22)

B. The GENEALOGY of Jesus Christ (Luke 3:23-38; Matt. 1:1-17)

1. We are told Jesus began His public ministry approximately at the age of _____; not by coincidence, this is when the Levite _____ and most O.T. _____ began their ministry. (v. 23a cf. Gen. 41:46; Num. 4:3, 23; 2 Sam. 5:4; Ezek. 1:1)

2. By putting the genealogy here, Luke reminded his readers that the Son of God was also the Son of _____; and that He had a legitimate right by birth to occupy the _____ throne.

3. While Matthew records _____ genealogy, it seems best to conclude that Luke was tracing _____ lineage in verses 23-38.

4. Matthew and Luke's genealogies differ in a number of fascinating ways...
 - a. Matthew begins with _____ and ends with Jesus.
Luke begins with Jesus and ends with _____ and God.
 - b. Matthew stressed Jesus' _____ heritage.
Luke's emphasis was much broader, depicting Jesus as a member of the _____.
 - c. Matthew grouped his names into _____ groups of _____ names each.
Luke simply listed _____ ancestors of Jesus.

C. What does the VALIDATION of Jesus as the MESSIAH indicate?

1. He is to be identified as the Messiah of Israel, the rightful heir to the _____ of _____ in fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant.

2. He is to be recognized as fully _____, as part of the holy Trinity who became fully _____, yet without sin.