

Luke 3:21-22 *Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."*

I just want to point out a few things looking at these few verses. First, Luke does not spend much time at all discussing Jesus' baptism. However, what it does is bring to mind verses from **Ezekiel 1:1... The heavens were opened**. This is what those listening would have thought of. The heavens are opening, there is a vision of God. This is amazing! Jesus doesn't need to be baptized. Jesus does not need to know He is God's Son; this is all for us! The Lord has been working, He had been lining things up for this moment. God is always working!

Jeremiah 1:5 God had always been working in Jeremiah's life. He is always working in ours. **HE KNEW US BEFORE WE WERE BORN** and was already working! Grace upon grace upon grace. He knows we are going to make mistakes, **His grace covers us**. He knows that we might even fall away, **His grace covers us**. Does Jesus need the Holy Spirit? Isn't He THE Holy Spirit? The Trinity? So.... **the Holy Spirit is FOR US!** There is something extremely special about baptism and that is why this is significant. Remember how Paul talks about our new life? Remember how Jesus tells Nicodemus we need to be born again? Here you go. This heavens opening up for us is signifying our new life starting. We are now disciples, we are witnesses here on earth. Then, looking at that last verse... did Jesus not know until then that He was the Son of God? Isn't that interesting? Was this statement for Jesus or for us?

When 'the voice from heaven' spoke, it wasn't for Jesus...it was for us. **WE ARE HIS BELOVED! YOU ARE HIS BELOVED!**