

Luke 3:21 NIV

[21] When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened

We start with the first part. Although John has shown that Jesus is divine and from God, we see Jesus as one of many, receiving baptism, just as we all do. He accepts his humanity. It is natural for him to do this. Just as it is natural for us to accept our need to be baptised.

Now, you remember way way back in this talk, I said that Jesus claimed God as his father.

Here, heaven opens in response to Jesus obedience as a man and his willingness to suffer a sinners baptism.

Now, we have the appearing of God the Holy Spirit descending from heaven as a dove, visible to all. And so everyone can hear, we hear God the Father speak the truth of Jesus' divinity and belonging

Luke 3:22 NIV

[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."

Jesus is spoken by God as the unique son of God the Father.

Obedience to God always receives his blessing. And this is something we need to learn.

What follows in verse 23 onwards is the declaration that Jesus, in a long line of faithful witnesses, begins his ministry.

The list of Jesus' ancestors has plenty of names we recognise and as Jesus has been claimed by his Father, it takes the earthly father's line to trace his history

We recognise King David,  
Boaz

Noah and the old Methuselah.

Jesus has full, human lineage, all the way back to Adam. He is fully human, but wait a minute, the very last words of the chapter announce that

He is

the son of Adam, the son of God.

He is humanly the son of God

He belongs to God

He is divinely the son of God

He belongs to God

And we are inheritors of that line. Sons and daughters of God by our human birth and also by our baptism into his family.

We are challenged to live lives which show who our father is.

We are called to proclaim the truth of his word

We are challenged to repent and receive the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Risen saviour. amen