

Luke 3:21-38 – 4:13 Empowered By the Holy Spirit

21 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 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. Jesus Set An Example: Jesus was baptized because he wanted to demonstrate that He was a faithful Jew following what God was doing in this new season for Israel. He set the example for others to follow.
2. Miracles None Existing in Jesus' Early Years: Up to Jesus' baptism there are no known miracles recorded, except that which we find in extra-biblical resources. These were written to fill in the missing years of Jesus' early life, but they are mythological in nature, so we do not accept them as canonical. For instance:
 - a. INFANCY GOSPEL OF THOMAS: The earliest writing depict Jesus as a child performing many miracles.
 - i. *Jesus creates 12 birds from clay.*
 - ii. *Jesus curses another child for accidentally bumping into him.*
 - iii. *A Neighbor complains and Jesus strikes him with blindness.*
 - b. Other INFANCY GOSPELS INCLUDE: Gospel of James; Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew; Syriac Infancy Gospel, also known as the Arabic Infancy Gospel; The History of Joseph the Carpenter.
3. Post-Baptism Miracles: When Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan the Holy Spirit came upon Him, which resulted in the manifestation of God's Power throughout His ministry (see Acts 10:38).
 - a. Jesus operated as a Prophet, anointed by the Holy Spirit. He did this to leave an example for the Church to follow. Beginning at Pentecost (Acts 2) when the Holy Spirit came upon the Church, we discover miracles from that time to the present day. Jesus lived his life for 33 ½ years as a prophet under the Abrahamic Covenant, who was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit, who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil (**See Acts 10:38**) **This does not mean he was not God or that he ceased being God on earth. No, he was fully God, but he REFRAINED from using his divine attributes to perform miracles, so as to leave us an example to follow. Jesus' miracles were possible because the Holy Spirit was upon Him (see Luke 4:18-19)** (*If Jesus functioned as God instead of a man while he was on earth, then, it would be impossible for the Church to follow His example in the earth. As normal, regular people we are not God and therefore cannot do miracles. However, we can do miracles when we are empowered by the Holy Spirit, just like the early church was in the Book of Acts*).

- b. **Kenosis** (Gk. *Emptying*): The doctrine of Kenosis explains that Jesus refrained from depending on His God-nature to assume human nature. Jesus was fully God and fully Human, but while on earth He operated under the power of the Holy Spirit in order to leave us an example to follow. He did not depend on His God-Qualities to do miracles, but rather upon the Holy Spirit.
- i. **Phil. 2:5** (AMP) *Have this same attitude in yourselves which was in Christ Jesus [look to Him as your example in selfless humility], 6 who, although He existed in the form and unchanging essence of God [as One with Him, possessing the fullness of all the divine attributes--the entire nature of deity], did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped or asserted [as if He did not already possess it, or was afraid of losing it]; 7 but emptied Himself [without renouncing or diminishing His deity, but only temporarily giving up the outward expression of divine equality and His rightful dignity] by assuming the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men [He became completely human but was without sin, being fully God and fully man]. 8 After He was found in [terms of His] outward appearance as a man [for a divinely-appointed time], He humbled Himself [still further] by becoming obedient [to the Father] to the point of death, even death on a cross.*
 - ii. **Heb. 2:17** (AMP) *For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.*
- c. Jesus operated in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit that we read about in 1 Corinthians 12 with the exception of speaking in different types of tongues and interpretation. *Although some have speculated that John 11:33 is a reference to speaking in tongues when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (v.33 He groaned in the spirit and was troubled).*
- i. **Rom. 8:26** (NLT) *And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.*
 - ii. Gifts of the Spirit: A study of the Gospels reveal that he did operate in the Gifts of the Spirit (see 1 Cor. 12 for a list of the gifts of the Spirit)
 1. **Power Gifts**: Working of Miracles, Gift of Faith, Gifts of Healing
 2. **Revelation Gifts**: Word of Knowledge, Word of Wisdom, Discerning of Spirits
 3. **Speaking Gifts**: Prophecy, Tongues, Interpretation.

23 Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli, 24 the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melki, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, 25 the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, 26 the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josek, the son of Joda, 27 the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, 28 the son of Melki, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, 29 the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, 30 the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, 31 the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, 32 the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon, 33 the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, 34 the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, 35 the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, 36 the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, 37 the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the son of Kenan, 38 the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the **son of Adam, the son of God.**

1. The Genealogy of Jesus (Shows that He is Human; a descendant of Adam)!

a. Matthew's Genealogy:

i. Follows Jesus' earthly father's lineage, Joseph:

ii. Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham to → Jesus.

1. Matthew starts with Jesus as Son of David, then skips to Abraham in order to demonstrate that Jesus' descent is from the Jews.

iii. 41 Generations: Matthew presents three groups of 14 at three different periods of time:

1. Patriarchs
2. Kings
3. Private Citizens

b. Luke's Genealogy

i. Follow's Jesus' mother's lineage, Mary.

ii. 76 Generations:

iii. Jesus to → Adam (demonstrates that Jesus came from the Father of us all: Adam). Shows Jesus' Humanity! Adam's genealogy is inclusive, representing all of humanity. (The Gospel is to and for EVERYONE!).

4:1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and **was led by the Spirit into the wilderness**, 2 where for forty days **he** was tempted by the devil. **He** ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them **he** was hungry. 3 The devil said to **him**, “If you are the **Son** of God, tell this stone to become bread.” 4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘**Man** shall not live on bread alone.’” 5 The devil led **him** up to a high place and showed **him** in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And he said to **him**, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7 If you worship me, it will all be yours.” 8 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” 9 The devil led **him** to Jerusalem and had **him** stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the **Son** of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. 10 For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; 11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” 12 Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left **him** until an opportune time.

1. 4:1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and **was led by the Spirit into the wilderness**, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.

13verses

13x:
masculine
pronoun &
noun (he,
him, son)

13 means
depravity.
Jesus became
a man and
entered a
world
depraved of
God.

13 Titles of
Jesus in
John’s Gospel
emphasize
His divinity
(see
appendix) vs.
Humanity in
Luke.

a. Jesus’ temptation was a sign he was sharing in our humanity (Jesus was passing the test that Adam failed).

i. Heb. 2:14-18 Needed to share in our humanity:

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, **he too shared in their humanity** so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. 16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. 17 **For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.** 18 Because he himself suffered when **he was tempted**, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

1. V.17-18 It was necessary for him to be tempted as a man so that he could be a merciful and faithful high priest, who walked where we walked and understood what it means to be tempted.

b. Jesus Needed to Pass Adam’s Test → Jesus = LAST Adam 1 Cor. 15:45-47.

i. ****God had every bit of confidence that Jesus would pass the test of faithfulness!**

ii. ****God too has confidence that you will pass the test of faithfulness! Jesus beat the devil as a man, and we, too, can do the same with the authority and help of the Holy Spirit; and the Word of God!**

APPENDIX:

In contrast to Luke's Gospel, In the Gospel of Saint John, Jesus uses on the whole 13 comparisons or titles to designate who he is really:

1. I am the Bread (Jn 6,35 and 6,48 and 6,51)
2. I am the Light (Jn 8,12 and 9,5)
3. I am the Gate (Jn 10,7 and 10,9)
4. I am the Good Shepherd (Jn 10,11 and 10,14)
5. I am the Resurrection (Jn 11,25)
6. I am the Way (Jn 14,6)
7. I am the Truth (Jn 14,6)
8. I am the Life (Jn 14,6)
9. I am the Vine (Jn 15,5)
10. I am the King (Jn 18,37 and 19,21)
11. I am Son of God (Jn 10,36)
12. I am in the Father (Jn 14,10 and 14,11 and 14,20 and 17,8)
13. I am (Jn 8,24 and 8,28 and 8,58 and 13,19)