

III. The character of the followers of Jesus.

"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship, by which we cry 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if we are children, we are heirs, that we may share in his glory."
Romans 8:15-17

3 things that happened to Jesus at his baptism.

1. "**You are my Son ...**" There is incredible **honor**.
"You are all sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ, therefore, there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female. You are all heirs in Christ ..."
Galatians 3:27,28

2. "**You are my Son, whom I love;** - There is incredible **access**.
And by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father."
Romans 8:15

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus.
Hebrews 10:19

3. "**You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.**"
There is **ultimate safety**.

⁹ "You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? ¹⁰ Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! ¹¹ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. Matthew 7:9-11

God was pleased with Jesus' sacrifice for you.

As a human when did Jesus know He was God? Luke 2:41-52; 3:22,23

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.

⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Luke 3:21- One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens 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." ²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. vs.52

The question of when, the human Jesus knew that He was God is interesting, but it is not addressed in Scripture. We know that, as an adult, Jesus fully realized who He was. But if at this point in Jesus' human experience He knew everything, He would not need to "grow in wisdom." Jesus never ceased being God, but the Son of God voluntarily put Himself in the position of needing to assimilate knowledge as a man is the best way to understand verse 52. Because it seems that Jesus, as a 12-year-old boy in the temple, did know that His Father had foreordained the work He was about to do.

I. The characteristic of the BOY Jesus as God's Son.

"Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."
Luke 2:48b

"Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." 49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"

Luke 2:48c,49

When his parents saw him, they were astonished. ...50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.
Luke 48a,50

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. Luke 2:51a

You see in the 12 year old Jesus both majestic presumption and humble obedience. A characteristic that will follow him all of his life.

II. The characteristic of the MAN Jesus as God's Son

The very next thing that happens in Luke's gospel is the baptism of Jesus 18 years later at the age of 30.

One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened,²² and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove.
Luke 3:21,22

"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. Luke 3:22,23

"You are my Son ..." Every Jewish reader would immediately recognize this is a quote from Psalm 2. The context is that God someday will send a great messianic King who is going to put down all evil and right in the middle of the psalm, God says to him, *"You are my Son ..."* Which is a public declaration of his kingship.

The second piece of the baptism voice comes from Isaiah 42.

Isaiah 42:1, "This is my servant in whom my soul is well pleased,"

Isaiah 42 is speaking about a mysterious figure called the suffering servant and this is a completely different kind of figure than the messianic King of Psalm 2.

Isaiah goes on to say later in chapter 53, *He was despised, and we did not care.⁴ Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins!⁵ But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins.*

Isaiah 53:3-5

Again, we see an astonishing combination of traits that no one thought could possibly be combined in the same person. Nobody.