

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Heaven's Endorsement

Passage: Luke 3:15-22 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: God's salvation is anchored in and mediated to us through Jesus, the mighty One and the approved Son.

I. Jesus, the Mighty One (3:15-18)

- John's message was "Messianic" but he was not Messiah.
- Messiah, John says:
 1. Is Mightier - not necessarily physically stronger but of an infinitely higher order and authority.
 2. Baptizes Better - bringer of the Holy Spirit that links us to Him (and each other) and purges us from our sin (forgiveness). (Ezek. 36:25-27; Joel 2:28)
 3. Judges Righteously - has the authority and ability to determine what is wheat and what is chaff.
- Unlike the crowd who embraced John's baptism and call to fruitful repentance, Herod rejected John & his message.

II. Jesus, the Approved Son (3:21-22)

- Jesus comes to be baptized by John, not because he needed to repent, but to be aligned with the will and word of God and to identify with sinful man who needed heart transformation.
- At the baptism of Jesus, all members of the Godhead are seen (trinity).
- The endorsement message from heaven:
 1. Jesus is "My Son," the anticipated One. (Psalm 2:7)
 2. Jesus is uniquely "beloved," qualified and chosen for this purpose.
 3. Jesus is "well pleasing" as the second Adam who will fulfill God's purpose for humanity.

III. Take Aways

- Jesus is mightier than all your brokenness. Turn your heart to Him to be made new.
- Our responsibility is announce Jesus boldly knowing some will accept and others will reject.
- Announcing this Jesus to this world will be costly.