

Sermon Notes – “You Are My Beloved Sons and Daughters!”
(January 9, 2022)

Sermon Texts: Isaiah 42:1, Romans 6:1-5, Luke 3:15-18 & 21-22

Memory Verse: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” **Luke 3:22**

Introduction: *God the Father, by having Jesus undergo baptism, and then, linking our baptism to his, has bestowed on us the title of “beloved.”*

I. One Important Aspect of Jesus’ Baptism (Luke 3:22)

- Often, preachers, teachers, etc. emphasize the giving of Holy Spirit.
- Rightly so ... a very important aspect of Jesus’ Baptism
- But so is another aspect – The Father calls Jesus **“my Beloved Son”**.

II. The Meaning of Beloved

- Dictionary: dearly loved, much loved
- Synonyms: adored, precious, cherished, favored, special
- Greek word translated here is **“agapatos”** which means **“unconditionally loved”**.
- Jesus is **loved** by the Father **unconditionally**; his baptism is a **sign** of that love.

III. The Link Between Our Baptism and Jesus’ Baptism

- **Mark 10:39** - *“You will ... be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with ...”*
- **Romans 6:3** – *“Do you not know that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?”*
- **Matthew 28:19** – *“Go and make disciples ... baptizing them ...”*
- Jesus made Baptism a **sign of the Kingdom** (LBW Baptismal liturgy)

IV. The Meaning of Our Baptisms

- The lense of the Prodigal Son story. (**Luke 15:11-31**)
- Son who left – **always loved** by the Father, in spite of his disobedience.
- Son who stayed – **always loved** by the Father, but NOT because of his obedience.

Summary: We who are baptized **are called “beloved”** by the Father, just like Jesus.

Faith Challenge: Read **John 13:34**. How does the knowledge that we are God’s beloved sons and daughters impact how we live out this command of Jesus?

“I have loved you with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.”

Jeremiah 31:3