

I. The Father's declaration over us

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!...

A. John the beloved apostle, who potentially had the greatest revelation of the Love of God, describes the greatness of the Father's love with stunned exuberance. His own wonder at the love of God should greatly impact our own hearts.

B. His love for us is what motivated Him to bring us into sonship.

John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

C. The Father loves us His children in the same way He loves Jesus!

II. Jesus identity as a Son

Luke 3:22 And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." (Isa 42:1)

A. The Father's words to Jesus at His baptism were, "You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." (Mark 1:11, Mat 3:17, Luke 3:22)

Luke 4:3 And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

B. The devil's first words to Jesus were, "If you are the Son of God..." He was attacking Jesus' identity. The temptations were more than simply trying to get him to satisfy His hunger...It was against His identity as a Son. "If you are the son of God do something to prove it."

C. Jesus immediate answer was that man doesn't live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. This was the nexus of Jesus life. He only did what he saw His father do; He only said what he heard His father say. Jesus was only motivated by the Father's word and will.

D. The temptation to prove it to do something noteworthy, to prove His identity apart from His Father's leading was a strike at the core of His identity.

E. This is the basis of Satan's attacks on us as His children. I believe it all stems from challenging our identity as children of God.

F. The outcome of Jesus overcoming the temptations of the devil was that He emerged from the wilderness filled with the power of the Spirit and He immediately stepped into His ministry under the banner of Luke 4:18.

Identity in Sonship
April 14th, 2019 – Billy Humphrey

Luke 4:18-19 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, 19 TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."