

Answer:

According to Luke 3:23, “Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry...”—which includes His baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. Therefore, Jesus was about 30 years old when He was baptized.

Luke 3:21-22 (NIV) gives us a fuller picture:

“When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 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.’”

This moment marked the beginning of His public ministry and affirmed His identity as the Son of God.

Why Was Jesus Baptized as an Adult?

Jesus’ baptism wasn’t because He needed cleansing from sin—He was

sinless (Hebrews 4:15). Instead, He was baptized to fulfill all righteousness (Matthew 3:15) and to set a clear example for those who would follow Him.

Matthew 3:15 (NIV):

“Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.”

By being baptized as an adult, Jesus demonstrated that baptism should be a conscious decision made by someone who understands its meaning and significance. It symbolizes repentance (Acts 2:38), a personal commitment to Christ, and identification with His death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:3-4).

What About Infant Baptism?

While infant baptism is practiced in many Christian traditions, the Bible does not record any instance of babies being baptized. In every example in the New Testament, baptism follows personal belief and repentance.

Acts 2:38 (NIV):

“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.’”

You’ll also notice that baptism was performed where plenty of water was available, suggesting full immersion rather than sprinkling:

John 3:23 (NIV):

“Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized.”

Therefore, baptism should follow a conscious decision of faith, not be imposed during infancy. While those who practice infant baptism may have sincere intentions, we are called to prioritize the Word of God over tradition (Mark 7:8).

In Summary:

Jesus was baptized at about 30 years old (Luke 3:23).

He set an example for believers to be baptized after personally choosing to follow God (Matthew 3:15).

The New Testament supports believer's baptism—a choice made by someone who understands repentance and faith in Christ (Acts 2:38).

- There is no biblical record of infant baptism or sprinkling with minimal water.

May the Lord bless you as you seek to walk in truth.

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