

The Baptism of Jesus

Study of Matthew, Part 9

Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon Outline

I. The Acceptance of the Son

- A. He will take on sin to take away sin. (Jn 1:29)
- B. He will bear our sorrows and griefs. (Is. 53:4)
- C. He will bear our iniquities to justify. (Is. 53:11)
- D. He must be numbered with transgressors. (Is. 53:12)
- E. He will become sin to impute righteousness. (2 Cor. 5:21)

II. The Affirmation of the Father

- A. The Crowning of the Supreme Son.

But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”
You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession. —Ps. 2:6-8

- B. The Commissioning of the Suffering Servant.

Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. —Isaiah 42:1

III. The Anointing of the Spirit

- A. The Spirit inaugurates a new kingdom.
- B. The Spirit anoints the real king.
- C. The Spirit empowers the suffering servant.
- D. The Spirit is a sign of Jesus' divine Sonship.

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Rom. 8:15-17

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Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. What always followed the preparation of the Herald? (3:1-12) How then should we see verses 13-17 of Matthew 3?
2. Why does John try to refuse Jesus' desire to be baptized? Is John right in his assumptions? What's the significance of Jesus' response?
3. Why does Jesus submit to John's baptism? Does he have sins to confess and repent from?
(Spend some time reviewing point one of the outline and looking up all the Scriptures listed there.)
4. What's up with the voice from heaven? Whose voice is it? Why was it significant? What did the voice say? Where are these words from?
5. How do the words of the Father affirm both the identity (who?) and the role (what?) of the Son? How do they present the Son as a paradox of diverse excellencies?
6. What does the descent of the Spirit signify? How does it relate to the word of the Father? Doesn't Jesus already possess the Spirit?
7. Which persons of the Godhead are involved in the baptism of Jesus and the plan of salvation?
7. How does the baptism and sonship of Jesus relate to our sonship and the Spirit? Why did Jesus assume the role of the suffering servant?
8. Read Romans 8:15-17. How does God's Spirit function in our lives? What must be internalized about our identity in Christ? According to Matthew 4:3, what does Satan aim to challenge in our lives?