

Series: The Gospel of Mark
"The Baptism of Jesus" # 3
Mark 1:9-11
1-8-17 Sun AM

Why was Jesus baptized? He was not a sinner and did not need to make identification with Jesus, he was Jesus! He did not need to join a church, He formed the church!

TT- Why was Jesus baptized? The four gospels tell us that Jesus came to be baptized for two reasons: To fulfill all righteousness and to authenticate his ministry.

I. To Fulfill All Righteousness [v. 9].

Matt. 3:13-15, Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. (14) John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" (15) But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

John knew Jesus was holy, spotless, undefiled, and without sin. Jesus answered John's objections. How did Jesus fulfill all righteousness?

1. Jesus lived in perfect obedience to the will of the Father and thus submitted to John's baptism that God authorized.
2. Jesus identified Himself with the sinners He came to save. Part of that perfect obedience was His substitutionary death on the cross.

God Made him would knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God (2 Cor. 5:21).
God law required death as payment for sin. Jesus paid the debt in full.

Isa 53:12 "...He poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors."

Jesus hung on a cross with sinners but was not a sinner. In the same way, Judas was numbered with the apostles but not a true apostle.

Think about this, Jesus publicly identified Himself with those who had no righteousness. The sinless Lamb submitted to a baptism designed for sinners.

3. Christian baptism looks back to the cross, while Christ's baptism looked to the cross. His baptism spoke of his coming death, burial and resurrection which our baptism speaks and our death to sin and resurrection in life.

Q- How did Jesus fulfill all righteousness?

1. Perfect obedience.

2. Identity with sinners.
3. Pictures the cross.

I. To Fulfill All Righteousness [v. 9].

II. To Authenticate His Ministry (vs. 10-11).

Mark focuses on the spectacular event after Jesus' baptism. As Jesus was coming out of the water we see three miraculous events:

1. The heavens opened. This was just not seen by Jesus but John and others (John 1:32). The word open in the Greek means to rip like the tearing of the veil.

2. Spirit like a dove descended on him.

Like a dove- gentleness of a dove landing softly on his perch.

The Son was anointed by the Holy Spirit. He was God but he was commissioned publicly for his ministry. This was a visible symbol of divine blessing, authentication, and empowerment.

Isa. 11:2, And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

3. Voice from heaven. God the father affirmed his Son. This same voice came at the Mt. of Transfiguration and on Passion Week.

Note the phrase, "Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

1. God the Father testified personally that Jesus was his Son. This is the central theme of the gospel message, Jesus is the Son of God (John 3:16).

2. One God in three persons. All God yet one God.

3. Jesus is beloved by the Father in a deep and eternal relationship.

4. Well pleased testifies to his sinlessness.

Why was Jesus baptized? To fulfill all righteousness and to authenticate his ministry.