

## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

--MARK 1:9-11--

### INTRODUCTION:

Two weeks ago, we began the Gospel of Mark and from the very first verse Mark declares it to be the good news, or the glad tidings of the divine King; Jesus Christ, the Son of God. When we began, it was all about the anticipation of the arrival of the King, this morning we shift from the anticipation to that actual arrival. Jesus Christ appears on the scene to begin His public ministry. Mark sticking to his theme presents Jesus' baptism as a royal coronation ceremony, in which the authority of the messianic King is affirmed through two divine actions by God Himself.

### I. THE SETTING FOR THE KING'S ARRIVAL (Mark 1:9)

- a. John had been preaching repentance and \_\_\_\_\_ for some time before Jesus made His first public appearance.
- b. Jesus' baptism is recorded in all four gospels, and this is the only \_\_\_\_\_ between Jesus and John the Baptist recorded in the New Testament.
- c. Mark explains to his Gentile readers that Nazareth is in the region of \_\_\_\_\_ in northern Israel.
- d. Many found it unthinkable that the \_\_\_\_\_ would come out of Galilee, much less the obscure village of Nazareth. (John 7:40-41; Isaiah 9:1-2)
- e. Just as John the Baptist had appeared out of the wilderness away from society, the fact that the Messiah came from an insignificant village in a humble region on the fringes of Jewish society was a \_\_\_\_\_ to the corruption of the religious system that dominated Judaism in the first century.
- f. The \_\_\_\_\_ river was and is the primary river in Israel, it flows out of the north from the Sea of Galilee and dumps into the Dead Sea in the south.

### II. TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS (Mark 1:9)

- a. We have already met John the \_\_\_\_\_ whose name tells us what he does, he was actually doing something brand new, something that was radical for his day, he was baptizing Jews.
- b. John had learned when he was still \_\_\_\_\_ all about the Messiah.
- c. John responded to \_\_\_\_\_ in the way we might expect. (Matthew 3:14)
- d. John's \_\_\_\_\_ to baptize Jesus highlights for us a foundational theological truth about the character of Jesus Christ.
- e. Jesus responded to John's reluctance in Matthew 3:15 with these words, "*Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all \_\_\_\_\_.*" (Matthew 3:15b, NASB95)
- f. Jesus sought to show John that His baptism was necessary and \_\_\_\_\_, it was in this way that He would fulfill all the righteous requirements of God.
- g. Not only was Jesus doing this in obedience to the Father, but through His baptism by John Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ Himself with the sinners He had come to save. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:21)
- h. The baptism of Jesus looked \_\_\_\_\_ to the cross just as a Christian's baptism looks back to the cross. (Luke 12:50; Mark 10:38)

### III. THE CORONATION OF THE MESSIAH (Mark 1:10-11)

- a. Mark does not give us the \_\_\_\_\_ that took place between Jesus and John before John baptized Jesus.
- b. As Jesus Christ was coming up out of the \_\_\_\_\_ a supernatural event began to immediately unfold.
- c. We clearly see the \_\_\_\_\_ in this event described to us by Mark, but those who were there were eyewitnesses to this supernatural event.
- d. With beauty and gentleness, the \_\_\_\_\_ like a dove was descending on Jesus.
- e. Just as the Holy Spirit is fully \_\_\_\_\_, so Jesus is fully God.

- f. This visible descent of the Holy Spirit was accompanied with the \_\_\_\_\_ affirmation of the Father, “*You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased.*” (Mark 1:11b, NASB95)
- g. God called Jesus His \_\_\_\_\_ Son which speaks of the deep love that Father has for the Son and describes for us the infinitely deep and eternally profound relationship enjoyed by the Father with the Son.
- h. No higher testimony to the \_\_\_\_\_ perfection of Jesus Christ could ever be given.

### CONCLUSION:

The baptism of Jesus Christ was to fulfill all righteousness as Jesus in perfect obedience submitted to the will of the Father and identified with sinners who He would later save through His death and resurrection which His baptism foreshadowed for us. His baptism was also His divine inauguration and affirmation that He was the messianic King, the beloved Son of God. This coronation was seen in His anointing and empowering by the Holy Spirit and was heard through the voice of God the Father announcing that Jesus Christ was His beloved Son, in whom He was well-pleased.

What does this mean for us? This means that Jesus Christ was exactly who John the Baptist said He was, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Maybe you are here this morning and you just learned that Jesus Christ came to earth in human flesh to die for sinners and save them from God’s wrath against sin. The offer of God’s forgiveness is still available, He still wants to save sinners. You can come to God in repentance, acknowledging that you are a sinner, and you need His forgiveness. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, paid the penalty for your sin, and that He rose from the dead three days later triumphing over sin and death forever. If you believe this with a heart of repentance, then you will be forgiven.

What about those of us who have already put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? Our Lord left us with a job to do, we are supposed to be making disciples, witnessing to those that the Lord puts in our life and then teaching them to observe all that Jesus commanded us so they in turn can go and make disciples.