

BAHRAIN REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17)

September 12, 2024

Review

Note: John was the greatest prophet and the person chosen by God to prepare the way for

Jesus' ministry... Mal 3:1; Mt 3:3

➤ He preached repentance... Mt 3:1, 6

➤ John is baptizing for repentance – Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness... v.15

Point: Jesus' baptism is a model of obedience to the will of God the Father

1. The Baptism to Fulfill All Righteousness

Context: When Jesus came to be baptized, John tried to prevent Him... v 14

Note: John wanted to be baptized by Jesus because:

➤ John may have known that Jesus was from on high and sinless... cf. Lk 1:41-43

➤ John knew he was a sinner, but not Jesus

Point: Jesus' baptism was necessary to fulfill the prophecy and reveal the righteousness of God... Mt 3:15 = "... to fulfill all righteousness"

(a) Fulfillment of Prophecy

Note: The seed promised from a woman at the beginning is Jesus, the only Savior... Gen 3:15; Isa 7:14; Mt 1:18

➤ In the Old Testament, the significance of animal sacrifices was to cover human sin... Heb 10:4

- Jesus is the *Lamb of God* as the final sacrifice who washed away the sin of humanity... Jn 1:29, 36

➤ John the Baptist was appointed to prepare the way for Jesus to start His mission... Isa 40:3; Mal 3:1; Mt 3:3

- John was the son of Zechariah (from the Levitical order) and Elizabeth (from the line of Aaron)... Lk 1:5
- Therefore, John was from a priestly lineage responsible for preparing offerings to God

Point: John prepared the *Lamb of God* to begin His saving mission.

(b) Fulfillment of Righteousness

Note: Baptizing Jesus was an aspect of fulfilling all righteousness that would occur in His mission.

➤ Jesus was sinless but counted Himself among sinners... 1 Jn 3:5; 2 Cor 5:21

➤ In His mission, He would stand as Prophet, Priest, King, and Sacrifice

As Prophet: He would be God's spokesperson to people – preaching about the kingdom of God... Mt 21:1; Lk 7:16; Jn 1:1

As Priest: He would be the Mediator for sinners and God the Father... 1 Tim 2:5; Heb 4:14-16; Jn 17

As King: He would be the Supreme and Savior of God's people... Mt 1:1; Lk 1:32-33; 1 Cor 15:54-57; Mt 28:18; Phil 2:9-11

As Sacrifice: He is the Lamb of God who will take away sin... He would go to death on the Cross

➤ Jesus' baptism is a representation of His impending death and resurrection – and also a symbol of the salvation of the elected people

Point: Christ's righteousness was fulfilled to be counted among the repentant and those who believe in Him

2. The Trinity in the Baptism of Jesus

Note: The baptism of Jesus is a sign and revelation that He is the begotten Son of God... v.17

(a) Confirmation from the Spirit of God

Note: The Holy Spirit descended from heaven in the form of a dove (*theophany*)... v. 16

➤ The Holy Spirit dwelt with Jesus in His humiliation... Phil 2:6-8

➤ The Holy Spirit remained with Jesus to partner in His ministry... Lk 4:18-19

Misconception: Jesus was just a man and not God... He was only endowed with the Spirit's power to perform miracles... cf. *INC and JW*

Point: Jesus was God and was with God from the beginning... Jn 1:1-2; Mt 1:18

(b) Confirmation from the Father

Note: Jesus' baptism confirmed that He is the promised Son of God who would come to save... Jn 3:16

Matthew 3:17b = ... *This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased*... cf. Jn 3:16

Isaiah 42:1 = *Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations*... cf. Ps 2:7

Point: The Baptism of Jesus is a model of obedience to the Father to accomplish His mission... Jn 17:1-8

Challenge: Jesus was baptized for righteousness; He is a model for all who acknowledge God!

The Baptism of Jesus is proof that He is who He said He is!