

JOHN'S BAPTISM OF JESUS (#2)

We are currently studying the four baptisms associated with Jesus Christ. In our last study we introduced John, the Baptist's (JB's) water baptism of Jesus from the Book of John, Ch.1.

All four gospels record John's water baptism of Jesus (Matt.3; Mark 1; Luke 3; and John 1).

This lesson will study <u>five aspects</u> of John's Baptism of Jesus. (Part #2)

Notice that part two is taken from Matthew's account.

1. All four gospels seem to have the following six main points of emphasis of John's water baptism of Jesus.

John, the Baptist (JB) was recognized by Israel as a prophet to their nation. Jesus' tribute to JB is recorded in (Matt.11:7-15/ 9-11)

JB's ministry fulfilled the messianic prophecy of (Mal.3:1) and (Isa.40:3-5) as the one announcing the coming and the person of Messiah.

(Jn.1:29) "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (Jesus' baptism of death)."

All four gospels describe JB's desert ministry.

(Matt.3:3) (Mk.1:3) (Lk.3:4) "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, make ready the way of the Lord, make His paths straight."

JB's central message behind "making ready the way of the Lord" was repentance for forgiveness of sin "for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

They describe the uniqueness of the JB's identification of the person of the Messiah by the Holy Spirit, descending and remaining of Jesus like a dove.

All but John record a voice out of heaven declaring – "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

They all mention that Jesus Christ would baptize **with** the Holy Spirit. But only Matthew and Luke mention both Jesus' baptism of the Holy Spirit and the **baptism of fire**.

- This six-point outline will be important to our study of the four baptisms associated with Jesus Christ.

2. Each of the four gospels gives us something uniquely important that the others do not mention.

EXAMPLES:

- (Matt 3:13-17) Matthew records a personal conversation between JB and Jesus regarding water baptism.
- (Mark 1:2) Mark included the messianic prophecy of Mal.3:1 (Matt.11:10).

- (Luke 3:1-2, 23) Luke gives historical dating clues of JB's baptism of Jesus.
- (Luke 3:10-14) Luke records JB's message of qualification for VIP passes to the Coming of Christ.
- (John 1:29-34) John records JB's testimony that he did not know who the messiah was until the actual baptism of Jesus. Then he knew that Jesus was the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29, 36)

3. The conversation between JB and Jesus regarding water baptism (Matt.3:13-17).

- Purpose (Jn.3:13) Jesus travel from Galilee to wilderness – JB's baptism.
- Prevent (Jn.3:14) JB's big question
- Permit (Jn.3:15) Perfect timing
- Plan of God (Jn.3:16-17) Picturesque moment for memory (Matt.11:7, 8, 9/ 10 and 11)

4. Did you notice three conversations? Note that all members of Godhead are in involved.

- **First conversation** was between JB and Jesus about water baptism (Jn.3:14).
- **Second conversation** was between Jesus and JB about the perfect timing for water baptism (Jn.3:15).
- **Third conversation** was between God, JB, and Jesus as the heavens were opened and The **Spirit of God** descended and lighting on Him, and a voice out of heaven said, "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

NOTE: This baptism was not about literal water anymore than the foot washing of (Jn.13:1-12) was about literally washing feet. It was spiritual lesson about JB identifying the Messiah (Jn.1:29-34).

5. Jesus' water baptism was a fore-glimpse of the other three baptisms of Jesus (Death, Holy Spirit, and Fire).

We understand this by JB's statement to the Pharisees in (Matt.3:11-12).

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| (Jn.3:11a) | "As for me (my ministry)" | [water baptism] |
| (Jn.3:3) | "Make ready the way of the Lord." | |
| (Jn.3:11b-12) | "But He who is coming after me | [Jesus' ministry] |
| (Jn.3:12) | <u>"He will</u> | |
- baptize with the Holy Spirit and
 - will baptize with Fire