

3. It was time to start and days would mean that the opportunity to repent was over.
The Baptism Of Jesus

Matthew 3:11-17

Intro:

- A. **John preached God's message.**
 1. "Repent ye!"
 2. "For the kingdom of God is at hand."
 - B. **People came to hear John preach.**
 1. Sinners and publicans received his message.
 2. Pharisees and Sadducees came to see him.
 3. **"Then cometh Jesus from Galilee..." v.13**
- I. John Preached Of, "He That Cometh After Me...".
- A. **"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance."**
 1. "I indeed am immersing you in water" - Rhm
 2. "as a sign of your repentance." - Phi
 - B. **"but he that cometh after me is..."**
 1. mightier = ισχυροτερος = comparative of ισχυρος = physically strong, naturally powerful.
 2. "He" is more worthy"
 3. bear = βοσταζω = "to pick up and to carry"
This was the lowly task of the body-slave.
 - C. **"he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire."**
 1. baptize = immerse
 2. with = εν = "in"
 3. "he will immerse you in Holy Spirit and fire" - Rhm
 4. This probably has reference to the day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-4. It could also refer to the suffering of all those who would become His disciples.
 - D. **"whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor,"**

1. fan = πτουον = winnowing shovel, used to throw the threshed grain into the air.
2. purge = διακαθαριζω = "to totally cleanse"
3. "to completely winnow the entire area."

E. **"and gather his wheat into the garner;**

1. "and store his grain in the barn." - TCNT
2. This has reference to those who trust in him.

F. **"but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."**

1. burn up = κατακαιω = "to burn down, as in a sacrifice"
2. unquenchable = ασβεστος = "that which cannot be put out until it has consumed all that upon which it feeds." If this has reference to the eternal soul then it will indeed be forever.

II. Then Cometh Jesus... Unto John. Vs.13-17

A. **Jesus came from Galilee to Jordan. V.13**

1. Most teachers say it was 60 miles.
2. Jesus did not send for John
3. John did not go in search of Jesus.

B. **John knew the superiority of Jesus. v.14**

1. forbad = διακωλυω = "to prevent"
2. John believed himself unworthy to perform the ritual on Jesus.
3. "I need what you have more than you need what I have."

C. **"And Jesus answering said unto him, suffer it to be so now:" v.15a**

1. answering = αποκρινομαι = "to answer"
2. suffer = αφιημι = "to let go from one's self, dismiss, let pass, permit"
3. "Let it be so for the present..." - TCNT

D. **"...for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." V.15b**

1. becometh = πρεπω = "it is fitting," "it suits"
2. fulfill = πληρωω = "to fill up"

3. righteousness = δικαιοσυνη = the life one lives in faith and obedience to almighty God. Right standing in God's sight because of obedience. It was as important for Jesus to be baptized as it was for Him to be crucified because it was God's will. It is so with people today. There are no unimportant parts to God's will.

III. The Divine Confirmation. Vs.16-17

- A. **"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water..." v.16a**
 1. went up = αναβαινω = "to go up"
 2. straightway = ευθως = "at once," "immediately"
 3. "and just as he came up from the water..." - TCNT

- B. **"and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:" v.16b**
 1. "and at that very moment"
 2. "the heavens were laid open"
 3. lighting = ερχομενος = "coming"
 4. descending = καταβαινω = "to come down"

- C. **"And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." V.17**
 1. beloved = αγαπητος = "beloved"
 2. pleased = ευδοκεω = "to be please with"
 3. "This is My Son, whom I love and delight in" - Beck

- D. **This is what John had, by faith, looked for.**
 1. John 1:26-34
 2. he knew much from his parents, his kinfolk, from Jesus, from Scripture, from his heart, but this was the confirmation that God gave to him.

The Temptation Of Jesus - Part 1

Matthew 4:1-11

Intro:

- A. **Jesus came to John for baptism.**
 - 1. He came from Galilee to Jordan.
 - 2. He received baptism to signify His obedience to God.

- B. **The immersion of Jesus was essential.**
 - 1. It pleased God the Father.
 - 2. It confirmed God's word to John.
 - 3. It publicly identified Jesus as Messiah.

I. Jesus Was Led By The Spirit.

- A. **"Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil."**
 - 1. led = αναγω = "to lead up"
 - 2. wilderness = ερημος = "desert", we do not know the exact location to which Jesus traveled. It was, however, the leading of the Spirit of God.
 - 3. tempted = πειραζω = "to try", "to put to the test." The first Adam was put to the test and failed. The second Adam must also be tested.
 - 4. devil = διαβολος = the slanderer

- B. **"And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered."**
 - 1. fasted = νηστεω = "to abstain from eating."
 - 2. afterward = υστερον = "after", "at length."
 - 3. hungered = "to be hungry", "suffer hunger"
 - 4. "He didn't eat anything for forty days" - Beck
 - 5. "and so was starving." - Rieu

II. The Temptation Of Priorities.

- A. **"And when the tempter came to him, he said if thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." V.3**

1. command = ειπον = "to say", "to speak," "to utter definite words", "to tell."
2. bread = αψτος = "a loaf."
3. "tell these stones to become loaves of bread" - TCNT
4. The slanderer states, if...this is a challenge for Jesus to prove what John declared. The devil always wants more than words. Words are what God gives. Do you want more than words?

B. "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." V.4

1. answered = αποκρiνομαι = "to reply to changes"
2. live = ζω = "to have life."
3. word = ρημα = "that which is spoken, a sentence, speech discourse, a declaration, command, a promise"
4. proceedeth = εκπορευομαι = "to pass out of"
5. out = δια = "through" or "by means of"
6. "Man doesn't live only because he eats bread but by living according to every command that passes through God's mouth."

C. The scripture Jesus referred to.

1. Deuteronomy 8:1-7
2. They must do His commandments, to live, verse one. Life could be taken by breaking His commandments. We must eat bread and obey His word, thus they would live.

