

Heaven Torn Open

Mark 1:9-11

I. What is the nature of John's baptism?

Sin is our greatest problem – our greatest dilemma

Baptism was (and is) a sign/picture of repentance

John's baptism was foreword looking

II. Why was Jesus baptized?

Scripture makes it clear that Jesus was without sin [Hebrews 4:15]

Jesus sinlessness did not _____ John: *"I need to be baptized by you"* [Matthew 3:14]

A. Jesus' baptism is the _____ event in His ministry

B. Jesus baptism is an _____ of John's ministry

C. We are saved by Jesus' _____ as well as His death

"It is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." [Matthew 3:15]

D. To be in solidarity with His people – He _____ with us in our plight

III. What does Jesus' baptism signify?

A. The _____ - _____ of God's kingdom

1. The heavens were torn open

"Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down" [Isaiah 64:1]

God is truly with us – _____ – the Word made flesh

The rescue and renewal of all things begins with the arrival of the _____

2. The Spirit descends upon Jesus like a dove

The Messiah is here – and the Spirit of God is with Him

a. The dove emphasizes the _____ reality of the Spirit's descent

b. The dove symbolizes the wisdom and word of God

c. The dove is a _____ of new life

3. A voice came from heaven: *"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased"*

"Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul _____; I have put my Spirit upon him...." [Isaiah 42:1a]

B. **The reality of the Trinity**

"Mark is giving us a glimpse into the very heart of reality; the Father, the Son, and the spirit _____ one another" [Tim Keller, 6]

Ultimate reality has much to do with our _____

C. **The _____ of redemption**

1. John is preparing for the Way, the Truth, and the Life--he is pointing to Another

Jesus's baptism is a clue to the meaning of His coming

2. Jesus first baptism points to His second baptism

Jesus did not *"flee from the _____ to come"* [Matthew 3:7]

On the cross He was willingly _____ in the floodwaters of God's wrath for us!

He gives life to all those who look to Him!

God now delights in us – His adopted children