

JESUS THE BAPTIST

1 Samuel 16; Matthew 3:1-4:1

INTRODUCTION

- ✓ Matthew 1:1 begins by stating that Jesus is the “Messiah” or “Christ.”
- ✓ The baptism of Matthew 3 is about Jesus being anointed/christened with the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ The anointing of Jesus with the Holy Spirit is such an important event – that all four Gospels mention it (Matt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33).

Did You Know?

The title “Christ” is used in the New Testament 529 times. The word Christ means “_____”. “Christ” is simply the Greek for the OT “_____”.

I. THE EMPOWERING

PRESENCE OF THE HOLY

SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT (Numbers 11; Joel 2; cf. Num.11:29 with Joel 2:28)

A. Bezalel and Oholiab (Ex.31:2-6; 35:30-35)

B. Old Testament judges

1. Othniel, Caleb’s younger brother (Judges 3:9-11)
2. Gideon (Judges 6:34)
3. Jephthah (Judges 11:29)
4. Samson (Judges 13:25; 14:6,19; 15:14-17)

C. Old Testament kings (also priests; cf. Psalm 133)

1. Saul (1 Samuel 10:5,10-12; 11:6; 16:14)
2. David (1 Samuel 16-17; 2 Samuel 23:2)

D. The Prophets (**2 Peter 1:20-21**)

1. The miracles of Elijah and Elisha were a demonstration of the Spirit of God (2 Kings 2:9).
2. The words of the prophets came from the Spirit of God (2 Chron.15:1; 20:14; 24:20; Ezek.2:2; 3:12,14,24; Micah 3:8; cf. Num.11:25,26; 24:2; 1 Thess.5:19-21).

II. THE EMPOWERING PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

A. The public ministry of Jesus, the son of David, begins the same way that David’s did – with a prophet anointing God’s chosen servant (Matthew 3:13-17).

Isaiah 11:2

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Isaiah 42:1

“Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.

B. The first thing that Jesus does after His baptism is to confront _____ (Matthew 4:1-11).

C. The ministry of Jesus is done in the power of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2; Matthew 12:26-29).

D. Jesus is superior to the Old Testament priests, judges, kings, and prophets because He is the Giver of the Spirit. It is Jesus Who is the true baptist and not John (Matthew 3:11; John 20:22 with Genesis 2:7; 1 Corinthians 15:45; 2 Cor.3:17).

III. THE EMPOWERING PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CONVERSION

- A. Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot see or enter the kingdom of heaven (John 3:5-6).
- B. How does a person “receive the Spirit?” You must confess Jesus as Lord. (1 Cor.12:3)

1 Corinthians 12:3 (NASB95)

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is accursed”; and **no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.**

IV. THE EMPOWERING PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

- A. Are you experiencing the power of the Spirit in your life?
- B. Are you experiencing what Jesus promised, “Who ever believes in me...streams of living water will flow from within him” (John 7:38)? Can you say with the Apostle Paul, “I can do everything through Him who gives me strength” (Phil.4:13)?
- C. The same Spirit Who empowered the saints of the Old Testament, and Jesus Christ is the same Spirit Whom the Lord has given to you. The public ministry of Jesus was a demonstration of the Holy Spirit’s power. Likewise, your life in Jesus is also to be a demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit (John 15:1-11; Romans 8:1-15; Galatians 5:16-26).
- D. The Holy Spirit’s power is present in our lives so that we might crucify our flesh and crucify ourselves to this world and live for Christ (Romans 6:6; 8:1-15; Gal.2:20; 5:13-26).

“...Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the LORD of hosts.”
-Zechariah 4:6

Luke 11:11-13

11 “ Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish ; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish , will he?

12 “ Or if he is asked for an egg , he will not give him a scorpion , will he?

13 “ If you then , being evil , know how to give good gifts to your children , how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

QUESTIONS FOR SABBATH DISCUSSION & MEDITATION:

Take what you have learned this morning and make it into a prayer. Have you confessed Jesus as your Lord and Savior? If not, repent of your sin, be baptized, and commit your life to Jesus Christ.

What was the title of this morning’s sermon and why?

Why was one of the readings from 1 Samuel 16?

Why does the Holy Spirit matter?

Give some examples of the Spirit’s empowering presence in the Old & New Testaments.

How and when does a person receive the Holy Spirit?