

The Baptism of Jesus: Knowing Your Identity

Series: The Gospel of Mark

A. Date: around 45 – 65 AD

B. Purpose: to record the most important stories, teachings, and events in the life and ministry of Jesus *before* there were no _____ left to tell the stories

C. Content: Rather than the Christmas story, Mark immediately starts with the Baptism of Jesus

1. John's form of baptism was "_____ baptism" - The point of what John was doing, which is *before* Christ was on the scene, was to get people to repent of their sins, then wash them clean with the water from the Jordan river

2. John's type of baptism did not fit Jesus, because Jesus had no _____

3. "I need to be baptized by *you* Jesus! Why do you come to me?"

D. Why was Jesus baptized? at least 4 Reasons:

1. He was simply _____ for us what we should do, even though it was spiritually meaningless for him since he didn't repent of anything

2. - to identify with our sinfulness, even though he had no sin of his own

3. - an official act of _____ or anointing for his public ministry

4. The primary reason Jesus was baptized was to establish His _____

E. For centuries, the church has believed that what is happening in Jesus' baptism, also happens in _____ baptism

1. When push comes to shove and the fire's of life start burning under your feet, what is the compass that helps you stay on the good path?

a) answer = your identity

2. The 3 most important questions you will ever answer in you life are these:

a) Who are you? (your identity)

b) What are you supposed to be doing? (your mission)

c) Where are you headed? (your vision)

F. Foundation for it all = your identity

1. If you truly *know* _____, you simply will make better decisions2. If you are *confused* about who you are, chances are, you will walk aimlessly down the broad path that leads to self-destruction

G. Who are you?

1. Baptism = huge step in recognizing your truest, deepest, and most "real" identity: God's child/in God's family; God loves you – it will guide your actions, behavior, decisions, choices, and ultimately, your eternal future

b) "No matter who you are, no matter how old or how young, no matter what you have done, where you have been, or where you are on your journey of faith, God Loves You; and If you accept His love, He is well-pleased with you, and you can know that you are His child forever."

B. apostles C1. repentance 2. sin D1. modeling 3. ordination 4. identity E. our F. yourself