

## +The Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Our Theme for 2015: *Draw Near to Worship – Draw Near to Follow the Lord*

### I. The Baptism of Jesus: *Curiously* in all Four Gospels

- The Necessity of Jesus' Baptism Denied!

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. (Matt 3)

- The Non-Necessity of Jesus' Baptism Affirmed

<sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. (Matt 1)

<sup>19</sup> ... precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Pet 1)

<sup>15</sup> ... one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Heb 4)

<sup>29</sup> And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." (John 8)

- A Baptism by other than water

<sup>50</sup> I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! (Luke 12)

<sup>38</sup> Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" <sup>39</sup> And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, (Mark 10)

### II. Why Jesus' Baptism?

- The manly example: What it is

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

<sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' (John 3)

- The manly example: What it should become

<sup>1</sup> And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ....

<sup>14</sup> And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee ... (Luke 4)

- The Divine Empowerment

<sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Luke 3)

<sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

<sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' (John 1)

<sup>33</sup> Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. (Acts 2)

### **III. Being Obedient to Baptism**

- Commanded

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority <sup>b</sup>in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- Intimately linked to the HS: Acts 18/19 - Apollos/"Some Disciples"

- Jesus' experience and mine are different!

### **IV. Fulfilling the Purposes of Baptism**

- Receive the Holy Spirit

<sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (Titus 3)

<sup>9</sup> ... Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. (Romans 8)

- Keep on being filled by the Holy Spirit

<sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit ... (Ephesians 5)

- Be baptized once – be filled a 1000 times

### **V. Why Can't I keep on?**

- Not yet age of HS
- Cares of this life
- Sin

### **VI. How do I live into Jesus' Baptism & Mine?**

- Confess and renew
- Taste the means of grace
- Join in worship – the foretaste of the Age to Come