

MATTHEW

Advent of the King



Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.



Matthew 3:13-17

¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;

¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”



Outline

- 1. The Obedience of the Son**
- 2. The Descent of the Spirit**
- 3. The Voice of the Father**



1. The Obedience of the Son

Verses 13-15



Revised & Expanded Edition

The first thing Jesus does for the human race is *go down with it* into the deep waters of repentance and baptism. Jesus' whole life will be like this. It is well known that Jesus *ends* his ministry on a cross between thieves; it deserves to be as well known that he *begins* his ministry in a river among sinners.

—Frederick Dale Bruner

Luke 12:49-50

“I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!



Hebrews 5:8-9

Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him...



1. The Obedience of the Son

Verses 13-15

2. The Descent of the Spirit

Verse 16

Isaiah 11:1-2

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.





From womb to tomb to throne, the Spirit was the constant companion of the Son. As a result, when he comes to Christians to indwell them, he comes as the Spirit of Christ in such a way that to possess him is to possess Christ himself.

—Sinclair Ferguson

2. The Descent of the Spirit

Verse 16

3. The Voice of the Father

Verse 17

Psalm 2:7

I will tell of the decree:

The Lord said to me, "You are my Son;
today I have begotten you



Isaiah 42:1

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.



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“Here,” God is saying in so many words, “in this man, is everything I want to say, reveal, and do, and everything I want people to hear, see, and believe. If you want to know anything about me, if you want to hear anything from me, if you want to please me, get together with him” (or in the three words added emphatically by the Voice at the Transfiguration: ‘Listen to him!’ Matt 17:5).

—Frederick Dale Bruner

3. The Voice of the Father

Verse 17



The title of Son truly and by nature belongs to Christ alone, yet He was revealed as Son of God in our flesh, that He who alone claimed Him as Father by right, could win Him for us also . . . His fatherly love must flow to us in Christ. The best interpreter of the passage is Paul (Eph. 1.6), where he says that we have obtained grace in the beloved, that we may be loved in God.

—John Calvin

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