



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Matthew 3:13-17

Title: Identity Swap

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 3/1/2020

Discussion Starter - Identity Swap – Jesus came to earth and experienced the difficulties of being human (See Philippians 2:8)? How is this an identity swap? How does this uniquely qualify Jesus to be worthy of our praise? How is this related to Jesus' desire to be baptized?

Prophecy Fulfilled

- Who was John the Baptist? Who predicted that John the Baptist would precede Jesus? Read Isaiah 40:1-5.
- What was the literal and spiritual meaning of "Prepare the way of the LORD" (Isaiah 40:3)? To whom was this calling for and how were they to respond to this calling?
- What was John the Baptists predicting in John 1:29? Who is the Lamb of God? How is this related to the Jewish festival of Passover?
- Why was Jesus baptized? (three reasons according to Pastor David)
- How does the baptism of Jesus validate John's ministry?
- Read verses 16-17. How do these verses reveal the trinity – the Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit?

Obedience to God's Word brings us Great Reward

- What had Jesus accomplished prior to his baptism? Why did the voice from heaven say, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"? How did Jesus demonstrate obedience?
- As Pastor David explained, Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit prior to his baptism. Why did the Holy Spirit come **upon** him at this particular time?
- How would you explain the importance of obedience to a new believer? Have you experienced unexpected benefit from obedience to God's instruction?
- Pastor David defined three positions of the Holy Spirit relative to humans. What are they?
- How does the Holy Spirit influence us before we are saved? (See John 14:15-17)
- What requirement must be fulfilled before the Holy Spirit may indwell our bodies? How did Jesus enable the indwelling of the Holy Spirit for humanity?
- What is the purpose of this indwelling? (See John 16:8, John 16:13-14, Galatians 5:22)
- Once we are saved and have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, what is the purpose of the Holy Spirit coming upon us? Why did the Holy Spirit come upon Jesus? (See John 16:13-14)
- How would you explain the working of the Holy Spirit to a new believer?