

THE BAPTISM OF THE MESSIAH

I. WHO BAPTIZED HIM?

A. **Mark 1:9**

Plainly enough, it was John who baptized Jesus, but who was he?

B. **Luke 1:5-25, 57-80**

John was foretold of by name by an angel to his father Zacharias. It was his duty, according to prophecy, to lead a wayward people back to the Lord, in preparation for the salvation to come.

C. **Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6; Matthew 11:7-11**

Jesus identified him as the one whom Malachi prophesied of, a great man indeed.

D. **Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 3:1-3**

Isaiah prophesied of him, too.

II. WHEN WAS HE BAPTIZED?

A. **Mark 1:6-9**

Jesus was baptized in the days when John had been proclaiming the imminent arrival of Christ.

B. **Luke 3:21_a; Acts 13:23-25**

He was baptized "*when all the people were baptized*", that is when John's ministry was nearly complete.

C. **Acts 1:21-22**

It was important that the rest had been baptized first, so they could bear witness to Jesus being baptized, marking the beginning of His ministry.

D. **Luke 3:23**

Jesus would have been about 30 years old.

III. WHERE WAS HE BAPTIZED?

A. Matthew 3:13

He was baptized in the Jordan River.

B. John 3:23

John chose Aenon as the specific location on the Jordan to baptize because of the abundance of water in that spot. Evidently, it took a lot of water to do what John was doing.

IV. HOW WAS HE BAPTIZED?

A. Matthew 3:16a

After being baptized, Jesus came up from the water, implying He had first gone down into it, meaning He was submerged.

B. Acts 8:38-39

This is how baptism works. One gets all the way in, and then gets out; down, then up. It isn't baptism otherwise.

V. WHAT ACCOMPANIED HIS BAPTISM?

A. Luke 3:21-22

Three events accompanied this baptism. First, Jesus prayed. Second, the Holy Spirit lit upon Him. Third, the heavenly voice announced Jesus' identity.

B. 1st Thessalonians 5:17

Prayer needs to be a constant.

C. John 1:29-34

The arrival of the Holy Spirit on Jesus proved to John who Jesus is.

D. Matthew 16:15-17

The announcement from heaven was the basis of Peter's confession, which in turn is the basis for the church!

VI. WHY WAS HIS BAPTIZED?

A. Mark 1:4; 1st Peter 2:22

He could not have been baptized for the same reason as others, for John's baptism was intended for remission of sins, but Jesus never sinned.

B. Matthew 3:13-15; Psalm 119:172

He was specifically baptized to fulfill all righteousness. Since it had been commanded by God, it was righteous, and to decline it would have been unrighteous.

C. Luke 7:30

Those who refused this baptism were rejecting God's will.

CONCLUSION

A. John 3:26-31

Everything about John's ministry was to point the way to Jesus.

B. Acts 18:24-19:5

Before long, John's baptism was replaced by baptism into Christ.