

Passage Summary

We began a new series this past Sunday focusing in on some encounters between Jesus and various individuals God sovereignly brought into His life. The first encounter centered in on the conversation between Jesus and John the Baptist in Matthew 3:13-17. In this passage John initially resists that which Jesus asks him to do, namely, baptizing Jesus in the waters of the Jordan river. While John understood much about the person and ministry of Jesus it is clear from this interaction that he was still growing in his understanding of our Savior. He also becomes someone with whom we all can easily relate since we too believe but are also growing in our understanding. Jesus provided a good model for John to follow but He also demonstrate qualities which we should worship.

Matthew 3:13–17

¹³ 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. 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.”

Discussion Questions

Following the lead of our Lord Jesus

Sacrificing for an undeserving world

What specifically did Jesus sacrifice in this passage? What are some other sacrifices which we know Jesus embraced?

What are some ways that we can sacrifice for an undeserving world?

Humbling ourselves in the manner that Jesus humbled Himself

How was the baptism of Jesus a demonstration of the humility of Jesus?

How did God exalt Jesus after Jesus humbled Himself?

Matthew 3:16–17

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What are some ways that we ought to humble ourselves in similar manner as Jesus?

What are some ways that you have seen God exalt others in the midst of their humility?

Falling to our knees in worship of our Lord Jesus

Matthew 3:16–17

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Worshipping Jesus because of His power

How does the fact that Jesus is the Son of God provide an opportunity for us to worship Him?

How does the truth of Jesus as the Son of God impact your life today?

Worshipping Jesus because of His solidarity with us as humans

How does the baptism of Jesus demonstrate His solidarity with us as humans?

What are some ways that we can worship Jesus because of His solidarity with us as humans?

How do we actually worship Jesus as a response to these truths?