

# **Transition from John the Baptist to Jesus**

## **Jesus is Baptized**

**January (R), October (K), 25 A.D.**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

**Mark 1:9-11**

**Luke 3:21, 22**

**Psalm 2:7**

**Acts 13:33**

**Romans 1:1-6**

**John 1:14-18**

# **Transition from John the Baptist to Jesus**

## **Jesus is Baptized**

**Text:**

**Matthew 3:13-17,**

**13. Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.**

**14. But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”**

**15. Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.**

**16. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.**

**17. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”**

**Commentary:**

**Matthew 3:13, Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.**

I. At high tide in regard to John’s ministry, Jesus came from his home in Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized of John.

II. Jesus was not baptized confessing and repenting of sins nor to obtain forgiveness of sins for Jesus had no sins.

III. Jesus was baptized to “fulfill all righteousness.”

A. “Righteousness” refers to keeping God’s commands.

**B. Psalm 119:172, May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are righteous.**

C. Jesus was baptized because he knew it was what God wanted him to do.

D. We must do what we know God wants us to do!

**Matthew 3:14, But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”**

I. John and Jesus were cousins/kinsmen and yet John did not regard Jesus as his equal, but his spiritual superior.

II. John hesitated to baptize Jesus knowing Christ was sinless and that he, John himself, was, even at best, sinful.

III. John felt Jesus should baptize him, not the other way around.

**Matthew 3:15, Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.**

I. Jesus said in effect that he knew he was without sin, but that he was to be baptized to please God.

II. When John understood this he immediately baptized Jesus.

**Matthew 3:16, As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.**

I. When Jesus had been baptized he immediately went up from the river and the Spirit of God in the form of a dove descended upon him.

II. By this sign the Christ was made known to John.

**A. John 1:32-34, Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God.”**

B. A dove under the Mosaic law was: a ceremonially clean fowl, used in sacrifices, a symbol of peace, an example of gentleness and love, a messenger (the homing pigeon is a dove).

**Matthew 3:17, And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”**

I. A voice from heaven said of Jesus, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.”

II. God spoke on three occasions from heaven of Jesus during his earthly ministry; viz.,

**A. Matthew 3:17, And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”**

**B. Matthew 17:5, While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”**

**C. John 12:28-30, Father, glorify your name! Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again. The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine.”**

III. In this passage we have the Trinity represented.

- A. God the Father spoke from heaven.
- B. God the Son stood by the Jordan River.
- C. God the Holy Spirit rested on Jesus in the form of a dove.

IV. God the Father testified that Jesus was his unique, beloved Son and that Jesus pleased him well!

**A. John 3:18, Whoever believes in him is not condemned but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only son.**

**B. 1 John 4:9, This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.**

**Text:**

**Mark 1:9-11, At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."**

**Commentary:**

I. Jesus was about thirty years of age when he came from Nazareth in Galilee to be baptized of John in the Jordan River.

A. The fact that Jesus was baptized "in the Jordan" and came straightway up out of the water indicates that immersion was the form of baptism used by John.

1. This coincides with the Greek word used here “baptidzo” which means to immerse.

**B. Luke 3:23, Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli.**

C. The heavens were rent asunder and the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in the form of a dove.

D. The voice from heaven was directed/spoken to Jesus; “Thou art my beloved Son, in thee I am well pleased.”

**Text:**

**Luke 3:21-23, When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”**

**Commentary:**

I. The Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove and rested on Jesus.

A. Following his baptism Jesus prayed.

B. John knew Jesus was the Messiah by this divine acknowledgement.

**C. John 1:33, I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’**

D. The dove was a clean animal used in sacrifices. Jesus was sinless and gave his life for the sins of the world. Both were messengers.

E. The Trinity is clearly depicted here; viz., God the speaker, Holy Spirit the dove, Jesus the Son.

F. This act of receiving baptism, something Jesus did not need to wash away sins or to give Him the Holy Spirit, may be the actual point in which Jesus accepts the sacrificial role offered Him by God the Father for us.

1. Jesus casts His lot with us and accepts the job by doing something all other “men” are called to do: be baptized and begin our new life.

2. This was to be a new life for Jesus also, a life in the flesh.

**a. John 1:14-18, The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' " From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.**

**b. Psalm 2:7, I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father.**

i. Psalm 2:7 foretold this event. “You are my Son. This day have I begotten You.”

**c. Acts 13:33, He has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:**

**“You are my Son; today I have become your Father”.**  
(NIV)

i. Acts 13:33 says that God fulfilled Psalm 2 by sending Jesus to pay our penalty and by raising Him from the dead.

**d. Romans 1:1-6, Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. (NIV)**

i. Romans 1:1-6 says that Jesus was declared to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead.

ii. Note that the word “begotten” (Psalm 2 and Acts 13:33) refers to Jesus’ saving work and resurrection, not to His birth in Bethlehem.

iii. It was Jesus’ acceptance of His Father’s will which declared that even as a man, He was the Son of God.

# Baptism of Jesus

## Questions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ came from \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be \_\_\_\_\_ by you, and do you come to me?”
3. Jesus told John, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to \_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_.” Then John \_\_\_\_\_.
4. As soon as Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_, he went up out of the \_\_\_\_\_. At that moment \_\_\_\_\_ was opened, and he saw the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ descending like a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on him.
5. A voice from \_\_\_\_\_ said, “This is my \_\_\_\_\_, whom I \_\_\_\_\_; with him I am \_\_\_\_\_.”
6. Jesus was not baptized \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of sins nor to obtain \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus had no \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Jesus was baptized to “\_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_.” Jesus was baptized because he knew it was what \_\_\_\_\_ him \_\_\_\_\_.
8. John and Jesus were \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ and yet John did not regard Jesus as his \_\_\_\_\_, but rather his \_\_\_\_\_.
9. When Jesus had been baptized, he went up out of the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ was opened, and he saw the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ like a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on him. By this John knew that Jesus was the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

10. A \_\_\_\_\_ under the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ was a \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_, used in peace, an example of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_.

11. A voice from heaven spoke three times during Jesus' public ministry; viz., (1) \_\_\_\_\_; (2) \_\_\_\_\_; (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

12. At Jesus' baptism the Trinity was represented, God the Father was represented by the \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_. God the Son was present in the person of \_\_\_\_\_. God the Holy Spirit was represented by the \_\_\_\_\_.

13. Jesus was about \_\_\_\_\_ years of age when he came from \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.

14. Following Jesus' baptism, he \_\_\_\_\_.

15. Why should people today be baptized? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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