Take the . . .

Take the Plunge!

I. Jesus’ Baptism

Luke 3:3-4 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”
I. Jesus’ Baptism

Luke 3:21-22 ¶ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, . . .”
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A. Why was Jesus’ baptism necessary?

1. To affirm the ministry of John the Baptist.

2. To obey God the Father.

   Luke 3:22 “. . . You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”
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A. Why was Jesus’ baptism necessary?

3. To identify with humanity.

Luke 3:21 ¶ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized . . .”
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Jesus: Our Representative

Heb. 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.
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Jesus’ Perfection

Heb. 7:26 ¶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.
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B. What was its significance?
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Luke 3:21b-22 the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”
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B. What was its significance?

1. It identified Jesus as Israel’s King.

**Luke 3:21b-22** the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”
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B. What was its significance?

1. It identified Jesus as Israel’s King.
   a. Descent of the Spirit

   Luke 3:21b-22 the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove
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• Acts 10:37-38 you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
B. What was its significance?

1. It identified Jesus as Israel’s King.

b. The Father’s Pronouncement

Luke 3:21b-22 “... and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”
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b. The Father’s Pronouncement

- **Psa. 2:7** ¶ I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

- **Is. 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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B. What was its significance?

2. It confirmed Jesus’ calling.
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- Acts 10:37-38 you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
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Implications for us:

• **LISTEN TO JESUS (LK. 9:35)!**
II. Believer’s Baptism

- What baptism is not:
  It is not a means of washing away sin.
Heb. 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.
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II. Believer’s Baptism

- What baptism is not:

It is not a means of washing away sin.

Baptism is NOT essential for salvation
Eph. 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
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20-1 Baptism. Water baptism, the immersion of the believer, is a visible testimony to the work of regeneration and a mark of identification and union with Christ. *It has no saving or cleansing power,* but it is the answer of a good conscience before God; hence, it should be administered only to those who have, by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, realized the forgiveness of sins and possess the assurance of acceptance with God.
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II. Believer’s Baptism

A. Why is it necessary?
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*Take the plunge of baptism to follow Jesus’ example and identify Him as your Lord.*
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II. Believer’s Baptism

A. Why is it necessary?

1. To follow Jesus’ example.

2. In obedience to Jesus’ command (Matt. 28:18-20).
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Matt. 28:18-20 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, . . . .”
Take the Plunge!

20-1 Baptism. Water baptism, the immersion of the believer, is a visible testimony to the work of regeneration and a mark of identification and union with Christ. It has no saving or cleansing power, but it is the answer of a good conscience before God; hence, it should be administered only to those who have, by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, realized the forgiveness of sins and possess the assurance of acceptance with God.
B. What is its significance?

1. Visible Testimony

**Titus 3:5** he [God] saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,
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B. What is its significance?

1. Visible Testimony
2. Mark of Identification
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2. Mark of Identification
   a. With Jesus
Rom. 6:3-4 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized pinto Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
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2. Mark of Identification
   a. With Jesus
   b. With the Church

1Cor. 12:13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and mall were made to drink of one Spirit.
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Next Step: Get baptized!