

## The Kingdom of God Part 3

### Matthew 3

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea **2** and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” **3** This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.’”

**4** John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. **5** People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. **6** Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

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**11** “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

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

- It's not until John the Baptist in the New Testament that we see Water Baptism...
- Because of John's ministry, Baptism has a profound introduction...
- John is preaching in the wilderness...
- Not like any of the other preachers, but one who is anointed by the Holy Spirit preaching with urgency, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" & "Make straight the way of the Lord"
- People are coming from all over Israel, repenting of sin and being baptized in the Jordan River...
- The Result is, the Kingdom of God is near...
- This is Revival: Jesus is exalted... The Kingdom is present... Hearts turn to God... Lives are changed...
- Revival isn't zeal for religious things...
- Revival is the real presence of God touching real people...

**Vs. 11** "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

- Oh He is Great...
- John Says:
  1. He is far superior to me... I am not even worthy to untie his sandals...
  2. I Baptize you with water for repentance, He will Baptism you with the Holy Spirit and Fire...

Today is Water Baptism Day:

**Baptism:** baptisma  
immersion, submersion

## **So in regards to water baptism, it is an immersion or submersion of water...**

- According to Romans 6: Water Baptism is a symbol of the grave and us sharing in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Burying the old person under water and what comes up from the water is the new person in Christ...

Along with that:

Water Baptism is a public declaration of faith and the outward showing of an inward change...

## **In regards to Holy Spirit baptism, it is an immersion or submersion in the Holy Spirit...**

- The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity...
- So to be Baptized in the Holy Spirit is to be immersed in or submersion in the Spirit of God...

This is the manifestation of the Kingdom of God in us; transformation and power...

The Kingdom of God is not in observation but in power...

## **The Apostle Paul shares:**

### **Romans 14**

**17** For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,

The Kingdom of God is not about trivial things or debates...

The Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit...

A righteousness that is not our own... it's His

A peace that is not our own... It's His

A joy that is not our own... It's His  
It all comes from God

When Jesus is exhalted... The Kingdom is present... Hearts turn to  
God... Lives are changed...