

The Divine Messiah Enters The Depraved World

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Text: Matthew 3:1-17

I. THE SETTING (v. 1-10)

The unpleasant location (v.1)

The unattractive messenger (v. 1-5)

The unappealing message (v. 2, 7-10)

The unashamed crowds (v. 5)

The unbelieving hypocrites (v. 7-10)

II. THE BAPTISMS

John's Water Baptism - is a picture of repentance. (v.6, 11)

Spirit Baptism - is a theological reality that affirms our unity with Christ and with one another (1 Corinthians 12:13).(v. 11)

Fire Baptism - is a picture of impending judgment (v. 11)

Believers' Baptism - is a picture of our identification with Christ's death and resurrection.

Christ's Baptism - is prefigurement of his death and resurrection and an identification with fallen humanity.

III. FROM THE MESSENGER TO THE MESSIAH (v. 13-17)

The Messiah's transition (cf. John 3:30)

The Messiah's perfection (v. 14)

The Messiah's coronation (v. 16)

The Spirit's empowerment (v. 16)

The Father's validation (v. 17)