

Study of Matthew Matthew 3:13 – 17

April 10, 2022

Sunset Avenue Church of God

DISCUSSION QUESTION: What do you do physically in life to follow the commands of God? What are outward expressions of Jesus work on the inside?

TODAY: Matthew 3:13 – 17

Here we have the first adult appearance of Jesus on the scene. The Creator of the Universe now steps on the scene interacting with HIS creation to fulfill HIS purpose on behalf of mankind.

1. Arrival (vs. 13)

The KJV states *"then cometh Jesus"*

The word means to become near, to place oneself by the side of, hence to be present, to come near, approach

NAS says, *"Then Jesus arrived from Galilee..."* When the time was right, Jesus arrives; he comes near

As John the Baptist was doing what he was supposed to do; **THEN**

- While preaching repent, the Kingdom of God is at hand...**THEN**
- Just doing what God told him to do...**THEN!**
- Telling the truth about the poison in the society...**THEN!**
- Telling the way to salvation...**THEN!**

When Jesus arrives, **THEN**, things shift.

This is Palm Sunday...the day the Church remembers that Jesus rides into Jerusalem

Matt 21:5-10 *"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is **coming to you**, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'" 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. 8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" 10 And when he entered Jerusalem, **the whole city was stirred up**, saying, "Who is this?" [ESV]*

When Jesus Arrives... things get stirred up

2. Acknowledging (vs. 14)

John never lost sight of who he was and who Jesus was.

John 3:26 *"He must increase, but I must decrease."* [KJV]

- "He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less." [NLT]
- "He must become greater, and I must become less important." [NCV]
- "...moment for him to move into the center, while I slip off to the sidelines." [THE MESSAGE]

2 Cor 12:9-10 *"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."* [ESV]

3. Approval of Message (vs. 15)

John has already declared that the Baptism of Jesus would be greater than his baptism.

Jesus does not need to be baptized for sin for HE was sinless. Jesus said it was to fulfill righteousness... Jesus is confirming God's standard of righteousness and also showing approval to John's Ministry...the need to confess sin and repent and be baptized.

4. Anointing (vs. 16)

The heavens open... Language that reflects a prayer of Isaiah, where he cries out that God would rend the heavens and would come down.

Dove descending... a beautiful description; ...the only other time we have the dove hovering is when Noah is in the ark and the dove is flying over a chaotic creation

Here the dove descends on the ONE that will cause old things to pass away and all things to become new.

2 Cor 5:16 *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."* [KJV]

5. Affirming (vs. 17)

Here we find a great example of the Trinity being revealed. A great mystery of Three Persons and One God.

We get to see what God, the Father thinks about Jesus, HIS Son! My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

The greatest revelation you will ever get is that you are a Son of the Most High God!

- You are in the Family
- You have Fellowship
- You have the Force of Heaven with you
- You have Favor (Advantage, Privilege)