

JESUS' BAPTISM AND TEMPTATIONS

Read Matthew 3:13-4:11; Mark 1:9-13; Luke 3:21-22; 4:1-13

1. It is estimated that Jesus traveled 65 – 80 miles to be baptized by John in the Jordan River. What does this indicate regarding the importance Jesus placed upon obeying His heavenly Father? Upon us obeying the Father?
2. Jesus explained the necessity for Him to be baptized by saying “it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” What does that mean? Please research this (commentary in church library or www.arm.org > click on the Bible w/ the cross > Bible Study Textbook Series > Gospel of Matthew, vol. 1, Section 6, scroll to v. 15 comments).
3. What does Acts 19:1-5 indicate about the purpose and duration of John’s baptism?
4. In what respects may it be appropriate or accurate to use Jesus’ baptism as an example for people today? In what respects is it not appropriate or accurate?
5. Luke’s account reveals the fact that Jesus was praying as He emerged from the water at His baptism (3:21). The Bible does not tell us what He was praying. But what would be appropriate to include in a prayer as one is raised to new life in Christ?
6. Who witnessed the descent of the dove and heard the voice of God when Jesus was baptized? Why was this necessary? See John 1:31-34.
7. James 1:13 says God cannot be tempted and does not tempt anyone. Why, then, did the Holy Spirit lead Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted?
8. On the reverse side list practical tips for resisting temptation that we learn from Jesus’ example.