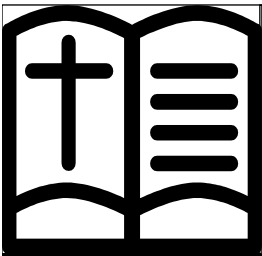


“BRANDING”

Mk 1:14-15; Mat 4:12-17; Luk 4:14-15

I. CREATING A NEW PEOPLE FOR A NEW WORLD

- A. *Creating the Messianic community - John and his admonishing invitation and steps of action - Repent, believe and be baptized (enter and identify), act on what you know and trust*
- B. *Recognizing the Messiah - Jesus Christ, the Son of God*
 - 1. *Recognition by birth of John*
 - 2. *Recognition by His own birth*
 - 3. *Recognition by John*
 - 4. *Recognition by His Father and the Holy Spirit*
 - 5. *Recognition by Satan*
- C. *Messiah identifying with the new people of the Messianic community*
 - 1. *Born Israeli, son of David, fully human and fully divine*
 - 2. *Delivery from Egypt*
 - 3. *Raised in the Mosaic community under the law*
 - 4. *Baptized into the messianic community to be an living member of them by the appointed voice*
 - 5. *Tested in the wilderness to pass the test Israel had failed*
 - 6. *His life is already being a substitute for His community and will be given to them upon His resurrection*
 - 7. *It is His life in them that makes them new*



II. JESUS' MESSAGE TO CREATE A NEW PEOPLE

- A. *Proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom of God*
 - 1. *The love and grace of God*
 - 2. *The truth about God*
 - 3. *The call to follow Him as the Messiah*
- B. *It is the right time: God's prophecies of Messiah and the new covenant are fulfilled and ready for presentation; the condition of the people was such that this was seen as essential*
- C. *The kingdom of God was near; it is as close as the King Himself in their presence; it was a prayer of faith away!*
 - 1. *The kingdom of God is the restoration of the order of creation that had been disrupted by transgression and rebellion*
 - 2. *It is the rejoining of heaven and earth under the dominion of the Lord Jesus Christ; the ending of the death and rebellion brought on by the willful separation of man, and heavenly beings from God*
 - 3. *It is the new heavens and the new earth as God created them in the beginning to be lived in by a newly created people in perfect fellowship forever with God*
 - 4. *It is the re-union of God and man in relationship and fellowship that is identical to that shared by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit*
- D. *To join this community requires a complete change of mind delivered by the persuasion of God in a surrendered humble hearer, trusting Jesus as Messiah, and that His work is sufficient to save.*