

Gospel of John
(Inauguration Week – Day 2)

Inauguration Week (1:19-2:12)

Day 1: First Formal Public Testimony of John the Baptist About Jesus (1:19-28)

Day 2: Jesus' First Public Appearance (1:29-34)

→Jesus' baptism and temptation take place sometime prior to Inauguration Week (Mark 1:4, 9, 12)

I. Classification (v. 30)

-Jesus existed before He was born because He existed before John even though He was born after John.
See also John 1:1, 2; 6:38.

-Jesus' preexistence demonstrates His preeminence.

-Both John the apostle and John the Baptist emphasize Jesus' preexistence and preeminence (1:15, 27, 30).

II. Identification (v. 31-33)

-v. 31 answers the question of v. 25. John came baptizing in water to publicly introduce Jesus.

-John knew who Jesus was after His baptism in a way he didn't know Him before His baptism. See 1:26; Matt. 3:13, 14.

-Jesus' anointing with the Spirit at His baptism identified Him as the Messiah—the One who would usher in the age of the Spirit, and dispense His Spirit to His people (Is. 11:2; 42:1; 44:3; 61:1; Ezek. 36:25-27; Joel 2:28-32; John 3:34; Acts 2:23-33; 10:38).

III. Confirmation (v. 34)

-Variant reading: either 'Son of God' or 'Chosen One of God'

Practical Lessons

- 1) Who Jesus Is: the sin-removing Lamb of God; the preexistent Son of God; the divine Dispenser of the Spirit of God
- 2) What Jesus Does: He baptizes His followers with the Holy Spirit—a baptism without which no one enters heaven (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:13)