

Never Alone Mark 1:9-11

It's All So Unexpected

- Because we would expect Jesus to launch His public ministry in the city of _____, not in the wilderness—and not by being baptized.
- Because John is baptizing sinners, as a sign of _____ for their sins. Matthew 3:14, "John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?'"
- Because Jesus was totally _____; He had nothing to repent of. Hebrews 4:15, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin."
- The account of Jesus' baptism deepens our _____ in the Word of God, because the Bible never shies away from speaking the truth—even if that truth may be misunderstood or misconstrued.

Why Jesus is Baptized

1. It's Jesus' _____ as King.

- A _____ sign: the heavens open and the Spirit of God descends like a dove, coming to rest upon Jesus. It's a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah. Isaiah 42:1, "Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations."
- An _____ voice: the Father says, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Revelation 11:15, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

The Point: Jesus' first coming isn't about a crown of glory; it's about a crown of _____. It's about a rule and reign that wins the hearts of His people by laying His life down for His people. That's why this is a humble inauguration. His baptism mirrors His _____.

2. It's Jesus' _____ with sinners. Matthew 3:15, "John, let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

- Jesus isn't being baptized for Himself—as a sign of repentance for His own sin; He's being baptized _____—as a sign that He is identifying with us in our sin.
- Jesus will live the perfectly righteous life we couldn't—in our place, so that when we believe on Jesus, the Father credits our eternal account with the righteous life Jesus lived.
- Jesus is identifying with His people by being the _____ for His people. Isaiah 53:12, "He poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors."

I Am With You

- As a follower of Jesus, His baptism is a perpetual reminder that you are _____ alone.
- Do you ever wonder if anyone can really _____ with you in your situation? Jesus can and Jesus does. Matthew 28:20, "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."