

## **The Miracle of the Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3: 13-17)**

- Jesus' baptism is a miracle in which Jesus is at the center of it.
- Jesus' baptism is miraculous for several important reasons.
- clear aspects of the miracle: the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus.
- The audible voice of the Father from heaven
- Deeper miraculous truths come to the fore in Jesus' baptism.

### **I. Understanding Jesus Baptism**

- Understand baptism: sinners being united to Christ (1 Cor 12:12,13)
- Jesus' baptism – inaugural act of identification & oneness with sinners
- Jesus is recognized by the Father as the head of the Church, His body.
- John objected (3:14) but Jesus insists: *"it is fitting for us fulfill all righteousness."*

### **II. Heaven is Opened Up**

*"When he had been baptized ... behold the heavens were opened to Him" (v.16)*

- Jesus fulfills that imagery of Jacob (Gen 28:10-12)
  - Jesus words to Nathanael (John 1:49,50)
1. Jesus, one with Father and the Holy Spirit: *Holy Spirit without measure*
  2. The Holy Spirit descending like a dove alighting on Him.

### **III. A Voice from Heaven**

- The Father affirms Jesus as His chosen Son & His accepted ministry.
- Father's voice proves that Jesus was not compromised by His incarnation.
- Jesus would endure another baptism, a baptism of blood to save His people.
- God has accepted the Son, and we are accepted in the Son. (Eph 1:5,6)

John 1:12, 13; 17:24-26

## **The Knowledge and Power of God unto Salvation (2 Peter 1:2,4)**

Last week “Like precious faith”

1. Simon Peter, bondservant, Apostles of Jesus Christ (1:1a).
  2. Those who have obtained, a like precious faith.
- Peter now encourages his readers to trust in the power of God (1 Pet 1:3-5)

### **I. Grace and Peace in the Knowledge of God (1:2)**

#### A. Grace

- God’s goodness, divine favor shown forth to undeserving sinners (1 Pet 1:2)

#### B. Peace

- Grace always proceeds peace – in grace and peace are multiplied to us.

### **II. Divine Power Provides us with All we need for Life and Godliness**

#### A. His divine power

Rom 1:3, 4; Eph 3: 16, 17; 2 Cor 3: 16, 17

#### B. Given to us all things.

Rom 8: 32; 2 Cor 12: 9,10.

#### C. That pertain to life and godliness.

Gal 2: 20; John 15: 5,7

#### D. Through the knowledge of Him who “called us”

2 Pet 1:1; John 10:10

#### E. By “glory and virtue” (excellence).

Rom 8:28-30