

John 1:32-33

Through baptism with the promised Holy Spirit we come to enjoy the preeminence of the promised Christ.

1. The promised Holy Spirit announced Jesus as the promised Christ.
 - a. Confusion about John the Baptist sets the stage for the announcement of Jesus as the Christ. The expectations surrounding John the Baptist point to the preeminence of Christ.
 - i. John was not the light (1:8), Jesus is (1:9, 18).
 - ii. John was not the Christ, Elijah, or the Prophet who would renew the covenant (1:19-23), Jesus is the Lord for whom John prepared the way (1:23, 17; cf. 3:29).
 - iii. John is not the coming One who was “before” (1:15, 27), Jesus is (1:15, 27; cf. Matt. 11:3).
 - b. The Holy Spirit announces Jesus as the Christ (1:31-33a). Because of the Spirit’s testimony, John testifies that Jesus is “the Son of God” (1:34).
 - i. This is a public commissioning for Messianic offices.
 - ii. Descending and Remaining/Abiding describe a unique relationship with the Spirit (cf. 3:34-the Spirit w/o measure; 14:10-11-Father and Son communion).
2. The promised Christ baptizes with the promised Holy Spirit.
 - a. The New Creation/Age to Come promised both the Christ and a deluge of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. Spirit Baptism in the OT (Isa. 32:15; Ezek. 36:25-27; 37:14; 39:29; Joel 2:28-29; Zech. 12:10). Judgment and Salvation
 - c. Spirit Baptism in the Synoptic Gospels(Matthew 3:11-12; Mark 1:8; and Luke 3:16-17).
 - i. Matt. & Luke “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in His hand, to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”
 - ii. Fire is conspicuously absent from Mark and John.
 - iii. Judgment and Salvation
 - d. Spirit Baptism in Acts (1:5; 11:16; 19:2). Incorporation, identification, and empowerment for witness, although other terms used to express empowerment, so that baptism with the Spirit is necessary condition for empowering, but other terms used for empowering.
 - e. Spirit Baptism in Paul (1 Corinthians 12:13). Incorporation.
 - f. Cleansing
 - g. Covenant Renewal
 - h. Incorporation into Christ and enjoyment of the Triune God.