

**February 4<sup>th</sup> 2018**  
**Three Baptisms**  
Matthew 3:1-12

**Baptism in W\_\_\_\_\_**

●John the Baptist

1. Was dressed in a way that proclaimed himself as a p\_\_\_\_\_ of God (v. 4)
  - a. Wore clothing made out of camel's h\_\_\_\_\_ (Zech 13:4)
  - b. Wore a leather b\_\_\_\_\_ around his waste (2 Kgs 1:8)
2. By preaching in the wilderness
  - a. He fulfilled the p\_\_\_\_\_ of Is 40:3 (v. 3)
  - b. Attracted just about everyone in J\_\_\_\_\_, all Judea, and those from the surrounding district (v. 5)
  - c. Breaks the \_\_\_\_\_ years of silence. God's people had not heard from a true prophet since Malachi.
3. Preached a baptism of r\_\_\_\_\_ -
  - a. He refused to baptize the religious leaders from Jerusalem (Pharisees and Sadducees) because they did not bear f\_\_\_\_\_ that demonstrated repentance (v. 8).

●Baptism in water should never be taken l\_\_\_\_\_

1. John's baptism was the forerunner to Christian baptism which Jesus commanded the c\_\_\_\_\_ to administer on those whom they make into disciples (i.e. followers of Christ) – Matt 28:19
2. Christian baptism is where a person is (Rom 6:4-6)
  - a. Declaring their repentance from s\_\_\_\_\_ ways
  - b. Declaring their t\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ
  - c. Pledging to live Jesus's w\_\_\_\_\_

**Baptism in the H\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_**

●John the Baptist pointed people to someone g\_\_\_\_\_ than himself who would baptize in the Holy Spirit

1. This person was \_\_\_\_\_
2. John said that he was not even worthy to be His s\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 11 – removing sandals from a ruler's feet)

●What is baptism in the Holy Spirit

1. Most versions translate “with” instead of “in” the Holy Spirit.
  - a. The Greek text uses a preposition that should always be translated as in unless the c\_\_\_\_\_ gives you reason to do differently
  - b. John baptized “in” water not merely “with” water. He immersed them “in” the Jordan River.
2. Jesus would immerse in the Holy Spirit

- a. Jesus taught His disciples that He would send the Holy Spirit to be i\_\_\_\_\_ them forever (Jn 14:16,17) – we are completely engulfed by His presence.
- b. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the J\_\_\_\_\_ first (Acts 2), Samaritans second (Acts 8), and the Gentiles last (Acts 10).
- c. After Acts 10 as soon as anyone accepted Christ, they were immersed in the Holy Spirit (I Cor 12:13 – notice the term “all”; 1 Cor 6:19)

### **Baptism in f\_\_\_\_\_**

- Many erroneously have equated this with the “t\_\_\_\_\_ of fire” in Acts 2. The context of Matthew tells us otherwise.
  1. Verse 8-10 – right before declaring that Jesus will baptize in fire, he talks about a tree producing bad fruit
    - a. He applied this metaphor to the Pharisees and Sadducees who were not producing fruit demonstrating r\_\_\_\_\_
    - b. A bad tree is chopped down and t\_\_\_\_\_ into the fire (implying they will be thrown into the fire).
  2. Verse 12 – right after declaring that Jesus will baptize in fire, he declares that at harvest time, the wheat will be gathered into the barn, but the chaff will be burned up with a fire that never \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Therefore, baptism in fire equals the L\_\_\_\_\_ of Fire (Rev 20:15)
- Many have difficulty grasping how God can be b\_\_\_\_\_ loving and wrathful to the point of rejecting or ignoring the Scriptures that speak of His wrath.
  1. If we explain away these Scriptures as being merely metaphors, or poetic expressions, or s\_\_\_\_\_ and leave it at that, we are guilty of not trying to discover the intended meaning.
  2. If we reject these Scriptures because they do not fit our concept of God, then we are making ourselves the j\_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture.
- Jesus held the body of Scriptures up as the a\_\_\_\_\_ as to what we should believe.
  1. Matt 22:29 – He told the Sadducees who denied the existence of spirit beings and the after-life: *You are w\_\_\_\_\_ because you neither know the Scriptures nor the power of God.*
  2. Matt 22:43 – He declared David’s p\_\_\_\_\_ as authoritative because his words were in the Holy Spirit.
  3. Luke 16:31 - Jesus put a stamp of ultimate authority on the Books of M\_\_\_\_\_ and all the prophetic books in the O.T.
  4. 1 Tim 3:16 states that \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture is inspired by God.
- God’s wrath
  1. John the Baptist prophesied of the c\_\_\_\_\_ wrath (Matt 3:7)

2. The unbelieving world that witnesses the visible return of Christ will try to hide from the wrath of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the L\_\_\_\_\_ (Rev 6:16,17).

●Gehenna is used 12 times in the N.T., 11 times by Jesus.

1. Often translated as hell, but this is technically incorrect. Hell corresponds with H\_\_\_\_\_ and will end up in the Lake of Fire (Rev 20:14)

2. Gehenna is a place of unquenchable f\_\_\_\_\_ (Mk 9:43)

3. Jesus stated that we are not to be afraid of those who can kill us physically but not spiritually. Instead, we are to be afraid of God who will kill b\_\_\_\_\_ body and soul in Gehenna (Matt 10:28).

●God's obligation

1. God did NOT have to obligate Himself to love any creation

a. He did not r\_\_\_\_\_ the angels who sinned (Heb 2:16).

b. The unquenchable fire was created for the \_\_\_\_\_ and his angels (Matt 25:41).

2. God c\_\_\_\_\_ to obligate Himself to love people from every tribe, tongue, nation, and class by absorbing His wrath upon sin through Jesus's sacrifice on the cross.

a. Those who are drawn by His love will be s\_\_\_\_\_ from His wrath (1 Thess 5:9)

b. Those who reject His love will not be able to f\_\_\_\_\_ from His wrath.

3. Yet remember, God does not d\_\_\_\_\_ in anyone's destruction (Ezek 33:11)

### **Conclusion:**

1. If you have not entrusted your life to Christ, you can only escape God's wrath through His l\_\_\_\_\_.

2. If you have entrusted your life to Christ, you should fall down on your knees in unworthiness, thanking Him for His love.