

The Divine Trinity in Matthew Chapter 3

Series:
The Gospel
According to
Matthew

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God descending like a dove
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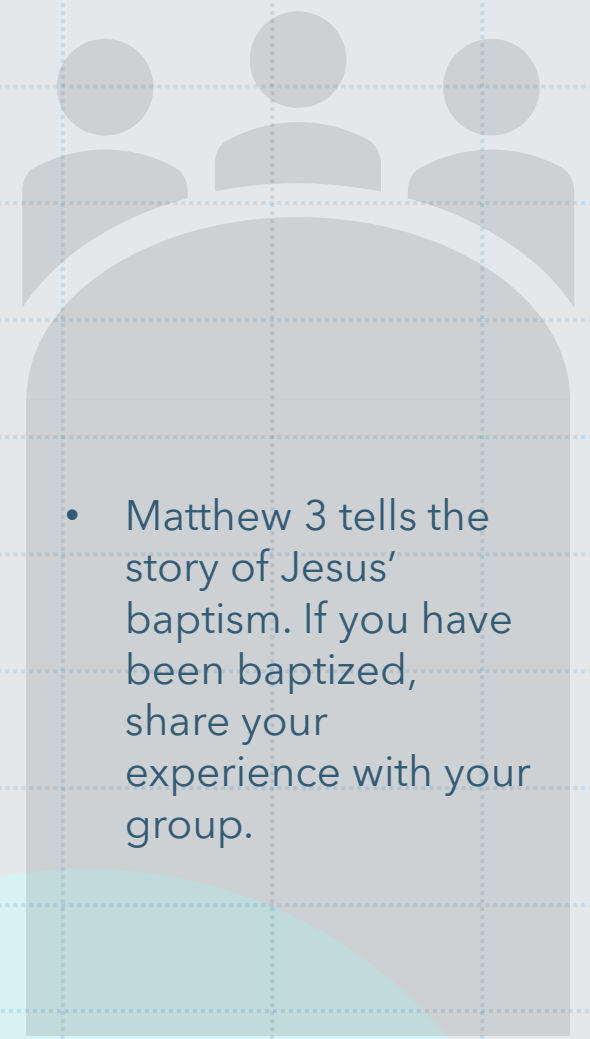
Matthew 3:16

The Divine Trinity at the King's Anointing

Matthew 3:13-15 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John to be baptized by him. **14** But John tried to prevent Him, saying, It is I who have need of being baptized by You, and You come to me? **15** But Jesus answered and said to him, Permit it for now, for it is fitting for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness. Then he permitted Him.

Matthew 3:16-17 And having been baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him. **17** And behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I have found My delight.

- The Spirit's descending was the anointing of Christ, whereas the Father's speaking was a testimony to Him as the beloved Son. This is a picture of the Divine Trinity: the Son rose up from the water, the Spirit descended upon the Son, and the Father spoke concerning the Son. This proves that the Father, the Son, and the Spirit exist simultaneously. This is for the accomplishing of God's economy. (*footnote on Matthew 3:17 from the Recovery Version of the Bible*)

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- Matthew 3 tells the story of Jesus' baptism. If you have been baptized, share your experience with your group.

The Spirit Upon Him for His Commission

Open your Bible and read these verses: Isaiah 61:1, 42:1, and Psalms 45:7

Now go on with the rest of this slide.

Luke 4:17-18 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, **18** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to announce the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed,

Luke 4:19-21 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, the year of jubilee." **20** And when He rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant, He sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. **21** And He began to say to them, Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.

- This carpenter [Jesus] stood up and read Isaiah 61:1-2, which was written thousands of years before He was born, and said, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." This is wonderful! We enjoy the anointing of the Spirit to preach the good news to the afflicted. Humanity is afflicted. The Lord Jesus was commissioned to bind up the wounds of the brokenhearted. Sometimes in our experience the Lord takes us through things where our heart is broken. **Who can bind up the wounds of the brokenhearted? Only this marvelous person dispensing Himself into us with all the riches of His Divine Trinity can heal the inner wounds of our heart.** He binds up the wounds of the brokenhearted; He proclaims release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. This is His commission. (Crystallization Study of Matthew, Vol. 1, Message 4, Ed Marks)

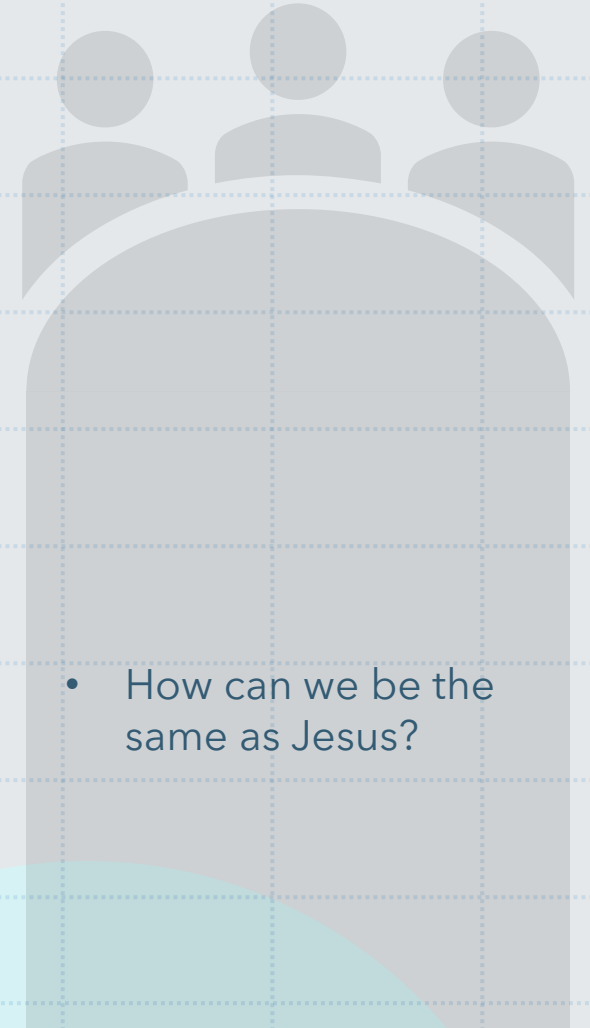


- What is the Lord's commission?
- Discuss in your group what this means: "Dispensing Himself into us with all the riches..."

We need to be the same as Jesus

In Gentleness and Singleness, Focusing Solely on the Will of God

- By the descending of the Spirit of God like a dove upon Him, the Lord Jesus ministered in gentleness and singleness, focusing solely on the will of God. A dove is gentle, and a dove can see only one thing at a time. This is why we say that the Lord ministered in gentleness and singleness, focusing solely on the will of God. We need to be the same. As we minister Christ to one another and to the unbelievers, we need to do it in gentleness and singleness. This is also the way we fight the spiritual warfare. After the Lord was baptized, He fought the spiritual warfare; there is much spiritual warfare in the book of Matthew.
- The Lord was like a dove before Pilate and before the Sanhedrin. In like manner, on the campuses we should be filled with this One as the dove. We should minister in gentleness and singleness, focusing solely on the will of God. This is what captures people. (*Crystallization Study of Matthew, Vol. 1, Message 4, Ed Marks*)



- How can we be the same as Jesus?