

Servants Obey

Mark 1: 4-11

November 23, 2025



Verse 4 - 5

John obeyed: Preaching a baptism of
repentance

John's baptism was different than Christian baptism – How so?

John's baptism was a baptism because of repentance

John's baptism was to get the people prepared to receive Messiah

Christian baptism comes after salvation; it is an act of obedience to Jesus' command to be baptized

Christian baptism is a public picture of a believer's death and burial to the old life, and resurrection to their new life in Christ

Verse 6 - 8

John obeyed: He pointed everyone to Jesus



Obey my rules or else!



Messiah is here!

Why were people attracted to John? How could this wild-looking person attract so much attention?

John did no miracles to get the people's attention – John 10: 41

John had something that few, if any, had on earth at the time = John had the Holy Spirit – Luke 1: 15

John had the Holy Spirit power to DO, the anointing to DO!

Every believer today has been given the Holy Spirit

Every believer has “*dunamis*” (capable) power to do - to do what God has called them to do – Acts 1: 8

John was a witness, a POINTER, to Jesus – John 1: 6-9

You are a witness; you are a pointer to Jesus, the **LIGHT of the world**

Jesus gives light (*the ability to see Jesus and to believe Jesus*) to every person in the world

The **LIGHT is universal and available, but it is up to the individual to accept or reject it**

God has revealed Himself to every person on the planet through “General” revelation and “Special” revelation

General revelation screams GOD!

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.

- Psalm 19:1-4 -

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All creation declares the glory of God by reflecting His power, wisdom, and beauty. The universe, nature, and life itself bear witness to His existence and majesty. As believers, we are called to recognize this revelation, respond in worship, and steward creation with care. When we look at the world around us, we are reminded that everything exists to bring glory to its Creator.



For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Romans 1:20

Special revelation includes physical appearances of God in dreams and visions (*RARE*)

Of primary importance, is the revealing of God in His Word, the Bible (*DAILY*)

You are not only a witness, but you are also a light –
Jesus said so! - Matthew 5: 14

What are we doing with our light?

Let it shine! - Matthew 5: 16

John was able to impact many with his words, with his fervor for God

You are called to impact with your words

You are called to impact with fervor (*intense passion, zeal*) for God

You are called to impact with your life

What does baptism in the Holy Spirit mean?

Scripture is our guide, not emotion, not someone's view, but Scripture! - 1 Corinthians 12: 13

Baptism of the Spirit is experienced by all who believe at the moment of salvation

In that baptism, all are identified with Christ and are indwelt by the Spirit

Verse 9 - 11

Jesus obeyed: He was baptized by John
Why?

My view:

Jesus was identifying with sinners whom He came to save – Luke 19: 10

“The Spirit descended on Him like a dove” – this was visual and DRAMATIC!

Jesus accomplished His amazing ministry through the power of the Holy Spirit

Closing Thoughts:
Obeying!

Obeying Jesus and the Apostle's teaching in Scripture seems to be an elective for most believers today

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

- 1. Glorify God**
- 2. Edify the saints**
- 3. Evangelize the world**



Truth be known, “*if I feel like it*” permeates American Christianity

YES! The Christian life is a life of stretching and denying SELF!

If we are not bringing God our best, we are despising the name of the LORD – Malachi 1: 6-8

Truth be told, obedience is not an option for you!

The message is clear, we have the Holy Spirit, we have a mission, we are servants of Jesus!

The mark of a bondservant is OBEDIENCE! - Ephesians 6: 5-6

Mark is all about
the suffering Servant,
Messiah

Servants of Messiah,
OBEY!

