

FOR
TEENS
AGES
15-17

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE CLASS

SPRING QUARTER | MARCH | APRIL | MAY 2023



Senior High Bible Class

SPRING QUARTER

Jesus Pleases His Father

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LOOKING AHEAD

This quarter we will be looking at the many ways in which Jesus, the Son of God, pleased His heavenly Father.

Our first unit centers on the basics of how Jesus pleased the Father. From the start of His ministry, He did everything the Father required of Him. He submitted to baptism, and He resisted the devil's temptations. He followed the Father's will in all things.

The second unit concentrates on the most important way in which Christ pleased the Father. He submitted to the Father's will in Gethsemane and endured crucifixion in order to pay for our sins. But on Easter Sunday we will celebrate that He rose bodily from the dead. He proved that He had risen when He appeared to His disciples.

In our final unit, we will see how Jesus pleased the Father by His teachings. Through a series of "I am" statements, Christ revealed the fullness of His greatness. The quarter closes with His High Priestly prayer on the eve of His crucifixion.

I pray that this quarter's lessons will help you grow in your love for Christ.

—Stephen H. Barnhart.

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SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

MARK 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

6 And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

7 And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

12 And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.

13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

NOTES

PLEASE NOTE: Fundamental, sound doctrine is the objective of The Incorporated Trustees of the Gospel Worker Society, Union Gospel Press Division. The writers are prayerfully selected for their Bible knowledge and yieldedness to the Spirit of Truth, each writing in his own style as enlightened by the Holy Spirit. At best we know in part only. "They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

Jesus' Baptism

Lesson Text: Mark 1:4-13

Related Scriptures: Matthew 3:1-17; Luke 3:15-22;
Matthew 17:1-7; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

TIME: A.D. 26

PLACES: wilderness of Judea; Jordan River

GOLDEN TEXT—"There came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11).

ANALYZING

In giving us the Bible, God chose four different men to write about Jesus Christ. The Gospels do not disagree with each other, but each one emphasizes a different aspect of Christ's ministry.

The Gospel of Mark begins with the public ministry of Christ and shows us how God prepared Him as a man to be a leader. Jesus was completely man, and as a man He had to study and learn and prepare to please His Father. At the same time He was God. He was perfectly qualified to lead, but He still went through God's process of preparation.

1. Announced as a leader (Mark 1:4-8). God the Father had planned for salvation through Christ even before the creation of the world. He knew that Christ would come to earth, die, and be resurrected. So everything was in place for the ministry of Christ even before He was born.

One of the Old Testament prophecies said that a man would come to announce the Messiah by calling people to repentance. That man was John the Baptist. He preached that people

should admit they were sinners and then be baptized to show they needed someone else to cleanse them from sin. Baptism had been practiced before this, but it had been an act of cleansing a person did for himself.

The entire ministry of John was to prepare the people for the coming of the Messiah. It was peculiar that he lived in the desert and wore camel-hair clothes. But he did not call attention to himself. Instead, when people came to him, he told them about the One who was coming.

John told them that when Jesus came, He would baptize them into the Holy Spirit. Just as they needed to be baptized in water by someone else, so they would need someone else to unite them with the Spirit. That Person was Jesus Christ. He was the One who could save them from sin.

2. Recognized as a leader (Mark 1:9-11). At first it might seem that Jesus did not need to be baptized. John was preaching a baptism of repentance, and Jesus did not need to repent, for He was sinless; however, His baptism was the event God chose to announce Him to the world. Jesus was identifying Himself with man. Even though He had no sin, He would