

Matthew Series

Lesson #011

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Dean Bible Ministries

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MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire
Matt. 3:10–12

Matt. 3:2, “and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!’ ”

μετανοέω *metanoēō*
pres act impera 2 plur
to repent

Matt. 3:7, “But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, ‘Brood [offspring] of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?’ ”

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Gen. 3:15, “And I will put enmity between you [the serpent] and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

The Old Testament prophets predicted a judgment before the coming of the kingdom.

Isa. 4:4, “When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning,”

The Old Testament prophets predicted a judgment before the coming of the kingdom.

Jer. 33:15, “In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.”

The Old Testament prophets predicted a judgment before the coming of the kingdom.

Dan. 7:26, “But the court shall be seated, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever.

Dan. 7:27, “Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.”

Matt. 3:8, “Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,

Matt. 3:9, “and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.”

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Matt. 3:9, “and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.”

ποιέω *poieō*

aor act impera 2 plur

**to do, make; to work,
produce**

Matt. 3:10, “And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

- 1. Is this a detailed analogy, where each element means something, or is it a general analogy, depicting future judgment?**
- 2. Does the fire refer to temporal judgment [AD 70, Day of the Lord], or eternal judgment [cast into the Lake of Fire]?**

Matt. 3:10, “And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Matt. 3:11, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Matt. 3:12, “His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

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Reasons the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Baptism with Fire are Not Identical

- 1. The context uses “fire” three times, so it is most natural to view the one in the middle as identical.**
- 2. The passage develops the concept by stating it first in v. 9, identifying the one who performs the judgment in v. 10, and then the details in v. 11.**
- 3. The apostles reference the Baptism of the Holy Spirit without mentioning fire. (Acts 1:5; 11:16; Acts 19:2–4; Rom. 6:3)**

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Matthew 3:11, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire:”

ἐν πνεύματι, *en pneumati*;

En plus the dative,

By means of the Spirit

In Matthew, the subject of the active voice verb is Jesus Christ. It is Jesus Christ who performs the action of baptism by means of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:11, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but HE that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: HE shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire:”

**Matt. 3:11, “As for me,
I baptize [pres active ind] you
with water [*en hudatī*]
for [*eis*] repentance,**

**but He who is coming after me is mightier
than I, and I am not fit to remove His
sandals;**

**He will baptize you
with the Holy Spirit [*en pneumatī*] and fire.”**

Baptism by means of the Holy Spirit

John
Matt. 3:11

En hudati
By water

eis metanioan
For repentance

Jesus
Matt. 3:11

En pneumati
By the Spirit

unstated

Unstated
1 Cor. 10:2

En nephele
En thalasse
By the cloud, sea

Eis Mosen
Into Moses

Unstated
1 Cor. 12:13

En pneumati
By the Spirit

eis soma
Into the body

**Performer
of the
Action**

Action

New State

*To identify
the person
with*

uses

**John the
Baptist**

Water

Repentance

*To identify
the person
with*

uses

Jesus Christ

**The Holy
Spirit**

**Himself: Death,
burial,
resurrection—
into His body**

The baptism by means of the Holy Spirit is the work of Christ whereby at the moment of faith alone in Christ alone Christ uses the Holy Spirit (in the act of regeneration) to identify the believer with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. So that he is becomes a new creature in Christ.

TWO TYPES OF BAPTISMS:

- **REAL Baptisms**
- **RITUAL Baptisms**

REAL baptisms do not involve ritual; they are real, spiritual identifications made by God.

- 1. The Baptism of Noah, 1 Pet. 3:20–21**
- 2. The Baptism of Moses, 1 Cor. 10:1–3**
- 3. The Baptism by the Spirit, 1 Cor. 12:13**
- 4. The Baptism by fire, Matt. 3:11**
- 5. The Baptism of Christ, Matt. 20:22**

RITUAL baptisms involve ritual immersion which depicts some sort of identification of the object immersed with a new stage of life.

- 1. John's baptism, Matt. 3:1–3; Luke 3:3**
- 2. The baptism of Jesus, Matt. 3:16–17**
- 3. The baptism of the believer,
Matt. 28:19–20**

Rom. 6:3, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”

Rom. 6:4, “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Rom. 6:11, “Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom. 6:12, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.”

Rom. 6:13, “And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Rom. 6:14, “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.”