

The Mighty One Mark 1:2-11

Mark 1:7 – “...*One is coming who is mightier than I...*”

The Messenger Mark 1:2-6

Mark 1:2 – “...*Behold, I send my messenger ahead of you...*”

- Old Testament prophets (Isaiah 40:3, Malachi 3:1-2) predicted a messenger would precede the Messiah. (Mark 1:2)
- John the Baptist, begins his messianic preparing ministry in the Judean wilderness. (Mark 1:3-6)
- The wilderness and Jordan River were significant places in Jewish history pointing to God’s deliverance. (Deuteronomy 8, Joshua 3)



The Mighty One Mark 1:7-8

Mark 1:8 – “*I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.*”

- John the Baptist deflects all glory to Jesus. (Mark 1:7)
- This “Mighty One” cleanses us (Titus 3:4-6) from the inside out (Mark 1:8)

The Miraculous Blessing Mark 1:7-9-11

Mark 1:11 – “*You are My beloved son, in You I am well-pleased.*”

- Jesus’ baptism is an act of obedience to the Father. (Mark 1:9 and Matthew 3:13-15)
- God splits open the heavens to speak a blessing over the Son through the Holy Spirit. (Mark 1:10-11)

“He’s mighty in power; He’s mighty in grace; He’s mighty in love; He’s mighty in wisdom; He’s mighty in redemption; He is what you need. In your weakness and your brokenness, you need His might.” - Paul Tripp (author)

Digging Deeper:

What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, John the Baptist refers to in Mark 1:8?

Baptism of the Holy Spirit is God's inward transformation of the heart, mind and soul. The baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at the moment you place your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The Holy Spirit comes into your life to stay, sealing you for the day of redemption and placing you in union with Jesus Christ and in God's family (John 14, Romans 6 Romans 8, Titus 3). Only faith in Jesus can bring the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Water baptism is an outward symbolic reflection of what happened inwardly when you were baptized by the Holy Spirit.

Why Did Jesus have to be baptized if he did not have any sin? (Mark 1:9)

I like Dallas Seminary professor Dr. Thomas Constable's answer to this question: "Jesus underwent John's baptism to identify with man and man's sin (cf. 2 Cor. 5:21). He did not do so because He needed to repent of personal sins. He had none! He also submitted to baptism because by doing so, He identified with the particular group of people that John was baptizing, namely: the Israelites. Jesus associated His baptism with His death (10:38; Luke 12:50). Consequently it is probably proper to conclude that He viewed His baptism as a public acceptance of His role as Israel's Suffering Servant, Messiah." I (Matt Doan) would also add, Jesus was baptized because the Father told him to do so and he was perfectly obedient to the Father ("Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness", Matthew 3:15).

LifeGroup Discussion:

Read Mark 1:1-6. John the Baptist's ministry of baptism and the location of where he was doing this (Jordan River) were obvious markers to Jewish Leaders that God was about to do something really significant. How did most of the leaders miss this significance? How are we tempted to similarly miss the significant things God is doing in our world and lives today?

Read Mark 1:7-8. John the Baptist gained quite a following as he baptized people at the Jordan River ("all the country of Judea was going out to him and all the people of Jerusalem – Mark 1:5). Yet he was quick to give all glory to Jesus. What are some ways you can be intentional about giving glory to Jesus Christ through your successes and failures?

Read Mark 1:9-11. The heavens "ripped open" (literal translation in the Greek) and God the Father blessed the Son (Jesus) as the Holy Spirit fell upon Jesus like a dove. This miraculous scene displayed the reality and relationship of the Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). What is God communicating to the world in this scene?

Next Steps:

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY OF FOLLOWING JESUS TODAY by placing your faith in Him as your Savior (Forgiver of your sins) and Lord (Leader of your life). Use the booklet in the seat rack in front of you called, "The Way to Connect with God" or come to a Prayer Point at the right or left of the stage this morning to pray with someone today.

JOIN A LIFEGROUP: LifeGroups are small group communities that gather together to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW in our faith, and REACH out to our community. For more info or to get involved, visit Connection Point in the Lobby, contact Pastor Robert Carter at rcarter@calvarylife.org, mark "LifeGroups" on The Card (located in seatback), or visit our website at calvarylife.org/lifegroups

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: Come grow in your faith each Wednesday in January at 7:00 pm with amazing ministries for Nursery to High School, plus these great options for adults:

- **Experience the Bible** - Discover the joy of studying the Bible in this class taught by Pastor Dave in the Chapel. Come learn how to uncover timeless principles from any passage of God's Word to help guide your life.
- **Jewish Apologetics** - Learn more about the Messiah and how God intends to keep His promises to Israel and the world in this 4-part series taught by Ron Davis in Fellowship Hall.
- **Celebrate Recovery** - Come find God's healing power through fellowship in this Christ-centered twelve step ministry which meets every Wednesday in S-6 (north side of the Chapel).

