

John the Baptist Baptizing Jesus

Matthew 3:13–17; Mark 1:9–11; Luke 3:21–23; Joseph Smith Translation, Matthew 3:44–46

And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. Mark 1:9

When Jesus was about 30 years old, He came from Nazareth to the river Jordan and was baptized by John the Baptist (see Matthew 3:13; Mark 1:9; Luke 3:23). John knew that Jesus had not sinned, so he did not think Jesus needed to be baptized. Instead, John felt that Jesus should baptize him. Jesus explained to John that even the Savior of the world must be baptized. (See Matthew 3:14–15.)

“And John went down into the water and baptized [Jesus].

“And Jesus when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and John saw . . . the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon Jesus.

“And lo, he heard a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear ye him” (Joseph Smith Translation, Matthew 3:44–46 [in the Bible appendix]).

Summary

Jesus came to John the Baptist to be baptized in the Jordan River. John knew that Jesus was without sin, and so he thought Jesus did not need baptism. When Jesus explained that even the Savior must be baptized, John went down

into the water and baptized Him. When Jesus came out of the water, John saw the Holy Ghost come to the Savior and heard Heavenly Father’s voice bearing witness of His Beloved Son.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS