

THE CHURCH BECOMING THE CHURCH MARK 2:18-20

Strange question: Was Jesus a Baptist

My response:

“Logic” of the issue:

John was a Baptist

John baptized Jesus

Therefore, Jesus was a Baptist

Therefore, Jesus founded the Baptist church

But I thought being a Baptist was a certain set of ideas / convictions.

What do we find in this text at this time in Jesus’ ministry?

I. There **already** was a Jesus movement

Mark 2:18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, Why do the **disciples of John** and of the **Pharisees** fast, but **thy disciples** fast not?

This first, small group of disciples would one day form the church and the first local church. However, it obviously had not been formed completely yet!

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Ephesians 2:20 And are built upon the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being **the chief corner stone**;

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Matthew 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

II. A Jesus movement **distinct from and different than** Judaism and the JTB movement

Mark 2:18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, **Why** do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, **but** thy disciples fast not? Mark 2:19 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they **cannot** fast.

The significant piece is to **notice who** is doing the noticing

- Others recognized it was distinct / different
- Others recognized how it was distinct / different
- Others didn’t really know why it was different / distinct

We are dealing with two very different movements:

1. Jewish Pharisees / Pharisaical movement

- Legalistic
- Anti-Christ → at least Jesus as the Christ
- Forerunners of the modern Orthodox Judaism
- Terminal movement – in this form, this ceases to exist

Acts 2:22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; **Jesus of Nazareth**, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: **Acts 2:23** Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: **Acts 2:24** Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 2:32 **This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.**

Acts 2:36 **Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.**

Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Galatians 3:6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. **Galatians 3:11** But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. **Galatians 3:12** And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

2. John the Baptist Movement (and others like it)

- Jewish
- Prophetic Judaism
- Believing
- Transitional movement

OT believers → Christ → Church

Luke 2:25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was **Simeon**; and the same man was just and devout, **waiting for the consolation of Israel**: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. **Luke 2:26** And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. **Luke 2:38** And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, **and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.**

Matthew 11:11 Verily I say unto you, **Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.**

Matthew 11:13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied **until** John.

III. A Jesus movement that would continue into the future

Mark 2:19 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber fast, **while** the bridegroom is with them? **as long as** they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. **Mark 2:20** **But the days will come**, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and **then** shall they fast in those days.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. **Acts 2:42** And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, **Acts 2:47** Praising God, and having favour with all the people. **And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.**

Acts 11:26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. **And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.**

1 Peter 4:16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

John 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

IV. A Jesus movement whose founder would be violently taken away!

Mark 2:20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be **taken away** (ὅταν ἀπαρθῇ ἀπ' αὐτῶν ὁ νυμφίος) **from them**, and then shall they fast in those days.

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. **Isaiah 53:4** Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. **Isaiah 53:5** But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. **Isaiah 53:6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. **Isaiah 53:7** He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. **Isaiah 53:10** Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. **Isaiah 53:11** He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

Mark 8:31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

Mark 9:31 For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day. **Mark 9:32** But they understood not that saying, and were afraid to ask him.

Mark 10:33 Saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles: **Mark 10:34** And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again.

V. A Jesus movement with a much different future

Mark 2:19 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. **Mark 2:20** But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

Romans 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

1 Corinthians 11:23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: **1 Corinthians 11:24** And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. **1 Corinthians 11:25** After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. **1 Corinthians 11:26** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.