

WHAT WE FOUND

At the Jordan we saw the Trinity in one frame: the Son praying in the water, the Spirit descending as a dove, the Father's voice fusing the coronation psalm (Ps 2:7) with the suffering servant (Isa 42:1). We saw why Luke parks his genealogy between baptism and desert: it climbs past David and Abraham to Adam, the son of God, and then sends this Son of God out to face what Adam faced.

In the desert we discovered that all three of Jesus' answers to the devil come from Deuteronomy 6–8, Israel's wilderness exam: bread, worship, and testing God. Where Israel failed forty years, the true Israel stood forty days. And in Nazareth we heard the study's title word on Jesus' own lips for the first time: reading Isaiah 61's Jubilee manifesto, Jesus sat down and said, today (*sēmeron*) this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing. The hometown crowd turned murderous when he reminded them that Elijah was sent to a Gentile widow, and that in Elisha's day only Naaman the Syrian was cleansed. Watch the outsiders from here on.

VOICES OF THE CHURCH

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St. Gregory Nazianzen (*Oration 39, On the Holy Lights*)

Christ is baptized not to be cleansed, for he sanctifies the waters: he buries the old Adam in the stream, goes down into the Jordan carrying the world, and comes up drawing the world after him.

VOICES OF THE CHURCH

St. Irenaeus of Lyons (*Against Heresies V, 21*)

The enemy who conquered a man at the beginning is conquered by a man in the end: fasting and hungry, Christ answers every assault from the Law, and the disobedience worked through a tree is undone by obedience.

VOICES OF THE CHURCH

St. Cyril of Alexandria (*Commentary on Luke, on Nazareth*)

The words were fulfilled that day because the Reader was himself the text's subject: the anointed one stood among them, reading his own commission of release, sight, and the acceptable time.

LIVE IT THIS WEEK

- Memorize this week's verse until you can say it under pressure; it is one of the Lord's own desert answers.
- Circle the word today every time you meet it in Luke from here on. Keep a tally in your margin.

- Pray for one person whose inclusion in God's mercy you quietly resent. By name.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Luke 4:8 *You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.* (RSV2CE)

Before next session: read Luke 5:1–6:49, four calls, a paralytic through a roof, and a sermon on a plain.

Catechism this week: CCC 535–540, 695, 714, 1286.