



H2Oh!

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

God is always faithful, appointing men to preach His Word to the world. But the world hates the Word that God sends these men to preach. **God is not deterred. He knows I need to hear the Gospel. He sends that Word to me in mercy, even though I am not worthy of hearing it, so that I will hear and believe that His Son, Jesus, is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.**

Bible Words

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.
Acts 16:31

From the Catechism

What does it mean that our Lord Jesus is called the Christ?

In the Old Testament, God set certain people apart as prophets, priests, and kings by anointing them with oil. The title *Christ* or *Messiah* means "Anointed One." In the New Testament, Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our Prophet, Priest, and King.

SOURCE: Question 182, *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, © 2017 CPH.

Revealing H2Oh! John the Baptist

Luke 3:1–20; John 1:19–34

New Testament Judeans anticipated and watched for the long-promised Messiah. Prophets foretold the Messiah's arrival and work. They even said that a forerunner, the prophet Elijah, would proceed Him (Malachi 4:5; Isaiah 40:3–5). Yet, when both arrived, many people didn't recognize them.

John the Baptist, a never yielding preacher of truth, boldly proclaimed God's Word. He prepared the way for Jesus by calling people to repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins. He was the promised Elijah, identified by Jesus Himself (Matthew 11:13–14).

Matthew even recorded that John wore camel's hair clothing and a leather belt (Matthew 3:4) to remind hearers of Elijah's hair garment and leather belt (2 Kings 1:8).

Pointing to Jesus, John said "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! . . . For this purpose I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel. . . . This is the Son of God" (John 1:29, 31, 34).

Jesus, the Passover Lamb, was sacrificed for the sins of God's people. He carried the sins of the world to the cross, where He suffered for them and won salvation for those who believe in Him.

The Scriptures Point to Jesus

Every biblical prophet pointed to Christ. In fact, all of the Scriptures point to Jesus. Jesus said to the Jews, "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life and it is they that bear witness about Me" (John 5:39).

On Easter, Jesus explained His fulfillment of the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and to those in the closed room that evening (Luke 24:27, 32, 44–48). He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures (Luke 24:45). May He do the same for each of us.

Prayer

Jesus, open our eyes, minds, and hearts to see, understand, and live Your Word. In Your name we pray. Amen.