

The Teachings on Baptism and the Wedding Gown—Part 1 Prophet Dr. Owuor

From the Book of Matthew let us look at baptism and what the Lord says about baptism. Matthew chapter 3 everybody; this is what He says about baptism, *“In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.’ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: ‘A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’ John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region around the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For ‘I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ‘I baptize you with water for remission of sins, for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”* Listen verse 12 everybody, *“His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”* Let us just stop there for a moment.

Why have I read this for you? Because baptism always comes after repentance, everybody; so again for those who are going to be baptized, I am going to make an altar call here at the end of this. You MUST be able to receive Jesus first into your hearts and repent of all your sins before you are baptized. That’s why the baptism of babies is not Scriptural. That’s why even the baptism that has been done in different churches in different ways *kuvuka bendera* those things are wrong; that is the enemy that has entered the church.

But I want you to know that when John appeared, John was sent to preach repentance for the remission of sins, he baptized them in water. And to begin with you see that the message John was carrying was a holy message, a glorious message. He did not preach in the Temple where his father was ministering. You understand? He did not preach in the Temple where his father was ministering, you understand? But John preached in the wilderness; you see that somebody?

John was preaching in the wilderness and when he preached in the wilderness, he preached a holy gospel of repentance and turning away from sin. Again remember that when you’ll be baptized, you have repented and you’ve accepted that you are turning away from sin. So surely that tells me there is no way you can intentionally begin to go back to sin. And the other thing about baptism and the message of repentance - they go together, and you see that John the Baptist, somebody listen to me, was dressed in camel’s hair.

You see that? And he tied a leather belt and yet his father Zechariah had been a priest in the House of the Lord. But John did not go to preach the message of repentance to those people in the Temple. He went out in the wilderness because of the state of the defilement in the House of the Lord at that time. So surely when John was out in camel hair - that is not attractive to the world, right? **So I want you to know that the process that you are entering into**

today doesn't have to be attractive to the world. When John was preaching in the wilderness, camel hair, a leather belt - it looked absolutely crazy. You see that? It looked something out of this world; not of this world. And yet inside that camel hair, inside that leather belt was the glorious message of repentance of the Lord. You see that? And so when you begin today the process of baptism into your lives, sanctification that is through baptism, you are actually separating from the beauties of the world.

Are we together somebody? I'm raising a foundation so you understand from square one that when you begin the practice of sanctification through baptism, you are beginning a walk away from the world because you see again like, I repeat, John dressed in complete camel hair, a leather belt, eating wild honey and locusts. That is not what the world wants to feed on. That is not the dressing the world wants to have; camel hair and he is in the wilderness.

So today you are beginning a walk away from the beauties of the world; like we are going to see very shortly because I'm going to start speaking with you about the deeper level of baptism; the finer fabric of baptism into your fiber—how baptism is going to transform you. And remember that again like I said baptism will kill your flesh today. And once your flesh is killed you can be able to resurrect as a new spiritual being that is resurrected under the power of the Blood of Jesus so you can be able to inherit the rapture of the church; the Kingdom of God. But again the other thing you see about baptism here, I just want you to be aware is that John is saying after him comes the more powerful one, our Lord Jesus whose sandals John is not even able to carry and He will baptize them with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

So I want you to know that the Holy Spirit of Jehovah God will only come on you after you have been baptized by water, in water. That is the chronology of events that the Father set out for us. You have to repent of your sins first. After repenting of your sins, then be baptized like you see very shortly which means to die with Christ; be buried with Him, then resurrect with Him. And then very clearly you see that John is talking of an ax, *shoka*, he's already saying there is an ax that's already at the foot of the tree.

Again I just want you to know that with baptism also comes judgment; the Judgment of the Lord so you are not ignorant so you become mature Christians different from the others out there who don't know; who think you can be baptized and go back to sexual sin. But he says the ax is already at the foot of the tree. If you have repented and you have been baptized, then please produce fruit in keeping with repentance – somebody, do you see that? Produce fruit otherwise the ax is already at the foot of the tree.

Now that is interesting to me. Why? Because the one that is coming after John he is saying He is coming with a winnowing fork. Do you see that? He is going to separate the wheat from the chaff. And He's going to burn the chaff with unquenchable fire. Now listen to me precious people. When the Holy Spirit of Jehovah God will come and touch you after baptism, some of you I know you've not received the Holy Spirit and many times if you've been to our baptism people can be baptized by the Holy Spirit immediately in the pool after they've been baptized.

So some of you may be touched here today depending on the will of the Father—with the Holy Spirit after you've been baptized in water; but remember that when the Holy Spirit comes, He's going to empower you. He's going to sanctify you. He's going to cause you to walk in the ways of the Lord; the righteous ways of the Lord. But when the Holy Spirit comes He also comes with the Fire of Jehovah God. That is the Fire that you now see that's unquenchable and

is burning the chaff; so baptism actually is meant to purify you so you can make it into the Kingdom of God. It makes me wonder as to those that have not been baptized. No wonder now they are calling the radio and they are saying, "Please we all want to be baptized" the Anglicans, because they found out that actually if anything happens to them without baptism they are in a very bad place.

But I just want before we proceed further that you understand the key events here. Number 1: Repentance—you have to repent to receive Christ. Repentance means you are walking in this direction and then you are turning around and heading where, this way. Let us be clear on that one everybody. Again repentance means you've been going in this way; sexual sins, the lying, the lusting at women, lusting at men, the love of money, witchcraft, slandering, phone calls that are unclean and then you turn this way. And baptism will enhance you and bring you to another level in your walk towards Christ.

Matthew chapter 3 and look at what he says here. Hallelujah! Verse 13, "*Then Jesus came from the Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.*" You see that? "*But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?'*" verse 15 everybody, "*Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.*" Why would Jesus have said that John the Baptist baptizes Him? Remember in the beginning our Lord Jesus, John chapter 1 verse 1 read at home later; our Lord Jesus He had the same level of Glory as the Father. In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. The Word was God.

Even later before He lives His disciples He says, "Father these are the ones you have given me. So even as I live Father protect them from the evil one and remember in the beginning as it was with the same glory with you." He reminds the Father of the original Glory He had with the Father. But Jesus chose to leave glory and come down here because He had to show you the way.

Do you hear me somebody? That's why He turns to John the Baptist and He allows John the Baptist to baptize Him so you can see the way how to go, the way to go, which way to go. He said, "Let it be done to fulfill all righteousness. So when I leave these people they will know without ambiguity, without confusion which way to go." Otherwise, the Lord Jesus said, "I am glorious enough. I am holy enough." In other words, He was actually blameless. He was unblemished. He could have refused to have been baptized. But He did it for your sake somebody. Let us continue.

16, "*As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.*" And "*At that moment heaven was opened, and the Spirit of the LORD*" Hallelujah; "*...descending like a dove and lighting on him. And then a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'*" Let's stop there. I'm just giving you the chronology of events that takes place from before you become a Christian until you are right into the Kingdom of God.

Listen to this: You repent of your sins, you receive Jesus; repenting meaning you are walking this way and turn back this way, receive Jesus and then you'll be baptized in water for the remission of sins. But after that, He says, "There is the baptism of the Holy Spirit and there is also the fire that is burning the chaff and the ax at the foot of the tree"- the judgment of the Lord that comes upon you when you don't walk right after baptism. And then after that you see very clearly that every time a voice appears preaching repentance, repent, repent somebody, repent the Kingdom of God is near, repent! - then very soon - the Lord will appear. And I want you to know that our God is not democratic and that's why I have been wondering a lot about

the nations of the earth. You see He's speaking to them from Kenya here. He is speaking to Texas now the earthquake we talked about. He spoke the tsunami from here. He spoke Katrina from here. He is speaking them from here. And every time His Word goes out, His Word has to be accomplished.

And you see that John the Baptist when he was preaching repentance for the remission of sins, he only operated around the Jordan River, around the Judea there. He did not reach North Korea, South Korea; He did not reach South Africa. He did not reach all the other places. The Lord did not say, "Just a moment this is unfair. Let us finish this. You come first to South Africa; get to China, India and then come back here before the Lord can appear." So our God's ways, we cannot take His ways for granted. You see that immediately John is preaching repentance around the Jordan River and baptizing and in a short while behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. You see that?

Jesus appeared somebody. And when Jesus appeared, the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world, then you see that John is baptizing Him there. But what do you see happening—Heaven opened. You see that the Father now is able to open Heaven because Jesus is teaching us the way, how to go, which way to go. When the Lord Jesus is baptized, after He has been baptized, He comes out of the water; Heaven opens and now the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Do you see that somebody?

Now the Holy Spirit comes like a dove and lights on Him. And when the Holy Spirit lights on Him the Father is able to speak about His love to Christ and the fact that, "This is My Son." Now how does that relate to you? That means immediately you have been baptized in water, then you should expect the baptism of the Holy Spirit. You cannot make it into the Kingdom of God, remember, without the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has to sanctify you; has to kill you completely; has to finish the good work that the Blood of Jesus has done. The Holy Spirit has been given authority and power and jurisdiction and mandate to prepare the church and you are the church for the Kingdom of God.

And you see that immediately you are baptized then now you have essentially entered into Sonship with God in Heaven. You see how important baptism is? Immediately He is baptized Heaven opens, "This is my Son." You women and men, boys and girls, you are all going to enter into Sonship with Jehovah God in Heaven. And remember forward [chapter 4](#) (of Matthew) you see that immediately the Holy Spirit comes; now the Holy Spirit can teach the Lord Jesus even how to overcome the devil.

You see that? [Chapter 4](#) you see that He is heading to the wilderness. Now I just want to mention 2 items there: Number 1, immediately some of you I know you have been living in certain relationships, certain arrangements, certain connections, certain network of friends, but immediately this baptism will take place here, listen to me very carefully and then the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the fire takes place, what is going to happen here?

The chaff has to be burned. *Sindio*? That means some of your friends, your connections are going to start cutting you. And that's why you see the trial that Jesus had to go through. That is the trial you are going to go through. You are going to wonder how come now that I'm baptized, after all these years, all of a sudden I've just lost my job. And some of you begin questioning God; I've heard people questioning the LORD. They say, "If surely I have been baptized it should have been better." But I started by saying that the figure that John the Baptist wore was not pleasing to the world. Remember our God is going to bless you. That is all

right. But I'm just talking about the structure and the figure that John wore; he that brought the message of repentance at that time before the Kingdom of God. It was camel hair and a leather belt. That is the least of what the world really wants to wear. And he was feeding on locusts which means even your diet is going to change.

Some of you, physical diet might change. But I'm talking about your spiritual diet here. Your diet is going to change. You are going to start feeding on something else even though not popular to the world, even though it may not be *Vitimbi* here, *Vioja Mahakamani* but it will be the diet of the Kingdom of God because He is the true Bread, right? And you are going to enter into intimacy with Him. I just want to mention that you are going to enter into Sonship with Jehovah God and the other thing, the second thing is temptations and trial are going to set in.

You are going to see some of your friends break off; you are going to see that you don't even like watching some of those TV programs because the process you are going to enter into is a process of spiritual sanctification. You may not understand why all of a sudden you don't like this soap opera that you used to watch; *nini nini* those programs right? You are not going to like those programs. You are going to begin liking more of things about the Lord. You are going to like reading the Bible.

You are going to not like hanging out with people that are drinking in the bars or whatever; Friday nights. You are not going to be found in those places because you are going to be set apart, separated and sanctified and prepared for the Kingdom of God. I'm going to read one more Scripture and then we go now to the next level. Let us go to the Book of Romans chapter 6 even as we continue on baptism. And then I will bring you to the next level, the key now for the day. Hallelujah!

Romans chapter 6 and then I will bring you to the next level. I'll talk about the Gown that you wear after baptism. Ok let's first read Romans chapter 6 he says, very carefully everybody listen, "*What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?*" Now that is the tragedy in which the church has found herself in, right? The church said, "No we have the grace," you see? *Tuna neema*. They said the grace is sufficient. So they have actually abused the grace because they have continued sinning after they received the Spirit of God. You see that? But I'm bringing it forward to you; I am submitting this to you today that after your baptism today, you should in no way get involved in intentional sins.

You cannot abuse the grace of our Lord like you'll see very shortly when I'll talk about the gown that you will wear after baptism. You see that? You cannot abuse the grace of our Lord because that grace was designed and was made by God and given to you at a very expensive price. So he says, "*What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that the grace may increase?*" He says, "*By no means!*" The answer is no. "*We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?*" somebody! You are going to die to sin today.

How can you continue in living in sin if you have died to sin? Surely there has to be a change, right? And that's why John was saying the ax is already at the foot of the tree unless you produce fruit in keeping with repentance; good fruit he said, you are going to be cut down, somebody. You see that? That means you begin bearing fruit; you must bear fruit. Let's continue. "*Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?*" And he says, "*We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*" Let me stop there for a while. Listen to me precious people: That is the process

of baptism that we are going to go through here; the killing of flesh, the burial, dying with Him, and then the burial with Him in the water through baptism and then the resurrection with Christ. **That's why I said baptism is not a physical process. You should be anticipating the receiving of the Spirit of the Lord.**

You should be looking forward to receiving the Holy Spirit of Jehovah; you see that? Because He said you are going to die to flesh; to die with Him and then you are going to be buried with Him in the water and then resurrected by Him. Now listen to this: Our Lord Jesus when He died, the Holy Spirit of Jehovah God was able to raise Him from the dead into glory. You see that? That's why I said the Holy Spirit is very critical in this process of baptism. The Holy Spirit is very central because it is He the Person of the Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead. And He's going to raise you today; that means today you begin to wear a new identity.

Today you cannot even identify with sin anymore. I know you are going to fall at times here and there, maybe you made a mistake and you did something. But He said, "Accidentally, it's alright." You can say, "Lord give me a hand. I slipped. I fell here. I did not know when putting this here, I was doing this. I did not know when I was telling this sister to go to the other brother to be taught that the brother was going to go into sexual sin with her." Those are accidental reasons, sinning; unintentional.

But we cannot go ahead and sin intentionally anymore because we are being killed. We are dying to sin. How can we continue living in sin somebody? That's what he's talking about here. In other words when you go into this baptism here, you are actually replicating what Jesus did in [Isaiah 53](#); when He died for you and after dying for you, He obeyed to crucify the flesh and then resurrect eventually.

You see what I'm talking about here? What do you wear after baptism especially in these last days when we are preparing for the rapture of the church, definitely you are wearing a different gown right now—those of you that have not been baptized. But after baptism you are going to wear another gown because He says you are going to qualify for the Kingdom of God. He is going to say, "This is my son whom I love with Him I am well pleased." And remember Sonship encompasses both women and men. And for you to be able to qualify into the Kingdom of God, to qualify to be taken up in the rapture that means you are able to be sanctified clean, be glorious and wear the Wedding Gown of the rapture of the church.

So I want to bring to you today a newer aspect of this today that you are going to wear the Wedding Gown beginning today. But the problem is not wearing the Wedding Gown because the Wedding Gown has been prepared for all people, everybody that confesses and says, "Jesus is Lord. I receive Him today. I repent today. I am baptized today." Everybody qualifies for the Wedding Gown, [Isaiah 53](#).

The problem now becomes, "How do you keep the Gown glorious, bright and clean?" Do you hear me? The Wedding Gown that you wear even as you qualify today for the Kingdom of God. And we all are aware that the rapture is near; there is no time for dilly-dallying around. Are we aware? Amen in the name of Jesus.

I'm reading now [Zechariah chapter 3](#) precious people and this is what he says here. And I want you to see yourself here. I'm reading [Zechariah chapter 3](#) for your attention everybody. He says, "*Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing on his right side to accuse him. The LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick*

snatched from the fire?" Verse 3, "Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes." Those of you that are not yet baptized, you see your dressing right now? You are dressed in filthy clothes. Whoever has not repented is dressed in filthy clothes. But let's continue. He said, "Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel." And "The angel said to those who were standing before him," Hallelujah; "The angel said to those who were standing before him, 'Take off his filthy clothes.' Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you." So actually the true meaning of the process you are going to go through today is the wearing of the Glorious Garment that qualifies you for the Kingdom of God.

Do you hear me somebody? If I were to summarize for you what you are going to go through, those of you that have not been baptized is that today you are actually going to wear a Gown that is going to be able to qualify you for the Kingdom of God. Without that Gown, you cannot make it into the Kingdom of God and that's why he says the clothes were filthy here and so he orders and he says, "Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin," your sins are going to be buried in that water.

Do you hear me? Every sin that is according to the flesh, the sins, the desires of the flesh is going to be buried into this water here. And that means essentially what's going to happen is that you are going to wear a new Gown, a Glorious Gown that will qualify you for the Kingdom of God. You see that? And I continue here somebody. Listen to what he says, he says "...and I will put rich garments," you see? "Then I said, 'Put a clean turban on his head.' So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the LORD stood by." Now why am I reading that verse for you? because I want you to understand that even today as you begin the process of qualifying to enter the Kingdom of God through baptism that He's going to kill the flesh and kill the sinful desires of your flesh; that is not a process that you have actually qualified for because you have merit. It is not based on your merit that you are going to qualify for Heaven today.

Do you hear me somebody? **It is based on the merit of the Blood of Jesus.** That is just the design of the Father. That's what the Father designed so He may be able to redeem you. There is nothing you have done that says, "For me I have qualified for this than others." That's why he says very clearly here, verse 4 then, "The angel said to those who were standing before him, 'Take off his filthy clothes.'" Our Father Jehovah God before you were created in the physical, He already had a plan for you that you should be sanctified.

Our Father already designed a plan for your sanctification. That's why in the Book of 1 Thessalonians chapter 4 he says, "Therefore it was God's will that you be sanctified." He already prepared this; not by any merit of what you have done. And number 2 what do you see there? Joshua is telling the people, those are angels by the way; the Angel of the LORD is Christ Jesus by the way if you wanted to know. He is telling the other angels standing next to Joshua, "Take off His filthy clothes." What does that tell you about the baptism that you are going into today?

That tells you that actually Jehovah God is the one that has already tailor made it for you, the glorious Gown you are going to wear today that is going to qualify you to Heaven. He is the one that has made the Gown. It is not, "O let me make my own gown; I have now been baptized." You cannot make your own gown. You cannot shape your own way into the Kingdom of God. Jehovah has designed this for you through the Blood of Jesus, I said Isaiah 53. And that's why He commands, He says, "Take off his filthy clothes." Today, the LORD is going to

command that your filthy clothes be taken off so you can begin wearing the glorious Gown that will qualify you into the Kingdom of God.

Again I repeat this one here, **the Wedding Gown that you are going to wear so you can make it into the Wedding with Christ is made by Jehovah not by you**; not by men. So the process you are going through is ordained by God. And you have to go through this. Otherwise you cannot make it into the Kingdom of God. The filthy clothes you've been wearing that are so loaded with sin are going to be left right into the water here today. And at times what do you see there? Let me just ...Hallelujah! Let me go through this with you.

Listen to me somebody: At times you've gone through things that's why after baptism we've received a lot of people calling: "Do you know that I was HIV positive when you baptized me" in Kakamega or in Kericho, "...and when I went back to check the wounds began disappearing; the *vidonda* were healing and I went to VCT and they told me, 'Now you are negative. We don't understand this.'" The filthy clothes that Joshua wore here made the enemy claim rights over Joshua.

The filthy clothes you are wearing before you are baptized make the enemy claim rights over you. That's why Satan was standing right next to him. But, when the LORD ordered that the filthy clothes be removed, so the glorious Wedding Gown that qualifies you into Heaven be put on him, then you now hear the angels of the LORD are the one's standing next to him. Hallelujah! Isn't it awesome?

So actually the fact that you have not been baptized makes the enemy claim rights over you. Hallelujah!