

To Fulfill All Righteousness
Matthew 3:1-17

Review:

1. Because Jesus is the Son of God, He deserves wholehearted allegiance from everyone in every nation
2. All human beings are called to confess our sins and repent, to give ourselves ever more completely to the worship and service of God.
3. Because Jesus has fulfilled all righteousness, as we are joined to Him by faith we are made perfectly righteous in the sight of God.

Go Further – Read Psalm 97

1. Over what area does verse 1 claim that God rules? Why should this be good news to those who live in the islands or coastlands, places where God's people did not live at that time?
2. Compare the description of God's presence in verses 2-5 with the way that God revealed Himself on the top of Mt. Sinai in Exodus 19:16-18. What similarities do you find?
3. In verse 2, what is said to be the foundation of God's throne? Why would that be important to believers? Why would that be important for people who do not yet worship God to know?
4. What does verse 3 say God will do to His enemies? What would that mean to both believers and unbelievers?
5. What reaction does verse 4 say people have to God's lightning? Why would this be especially significant for ancient people who worshipped storm gods such as Baal or Zeus?
6. What does verse 5 say God's power will do to the mountains? Why would this be significant to anyone or anything that might lift itself up in the place of God?
7. What message does verse 6 say the heavens declare? What do all the people see there? How might the stars or angels make such a declaration?
8. In verses 7-9, the psalmist begins to draw conclusions from the ways in which God reveals Himself. What does verse 7 say will happen to those who worship other gods?
9. In contrast, what reaction does verse 8 say that believers should have to God's self-revelation?
10. How does verse 9 compare God's power with that of any rivals for His glory?
11. What reaction does verse 10 say that believers should have toward things that are contrary to God's will?
12. What four promises do verses 10 and 11 give to those who are in a right relationship with God?
13. How does verse 12 suggest that we should respond to God's authority and gracious promises?

Apply:

1. How do you feel about the fact that Jesus obeyed God's Law perfectly on behalf of all who trust in Him? How does the active obedience of Jesus give you assurance?
2. How do the promises God makes in Psalm 97 to those who are in a right relationship to Him give you hope and assurance?
3. If you were to write a prayer of thanksgiving based on Matthew 3 and Psalm 97, what reasons would you have to be grateful to God?