LYRICAL DEVOTIONAL · DAY 130

Jesus Was Baptized Twice

> *But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!*
> **LK 12:50**

Written by Bill Perkins

We often think of Jesus' baptism
as the moment in the Jordan-
the water,
the dove,
the voice.
And it was these three.

But Jesus spoke of another baptism,
one still before Him.
A baptism of suffering.
The cross.
The cup.
The descent into death
so we could rise with Him.
(Mk 10:38)

The first baptism identified Him
with John the Baptist and with us.
The second baptism would save us.
One in the river,
one on the cross-
both part of the same mission
to bring us into His life.

His second baptism
is the one that makes ours possible.

Paul said we were
"baptized into His death"
and raised with Him
into new life. (Rom 6:3-4)

Water is the symbol.
Union is the reality.

Like a wedding ring,
the water doesn't create the covenant.
It announces it.
The ring doesn't make someone married.
It reveals vows already exchanged.
Baptism works the same way.

And in the days of John and Jesus,
baptism meant something bold:
a public break with the old life (Matt 3:1-6),
repentance for a new kingdom (Lk 3:3),
and visible allegiance
to a new teacher (Jn 1:35-37).

It was stepping out
of one story
and into another.

You may not know this about Jesus-
His second baptism
was the cross itself.
And through it,
He invites us
into the Name-
the life of the Father,
the grace of the Son,
the power of the Spirit.
(Matt 28:19)