

The Father Spoke Twice at His Baptism

"You're My beloved Son, in You I'm well pleased. [And] This is My beloved Son, Who brings Me great joy."

MATTHEW 3:17

Written by Bill Perkins

Jesus stood in the water,
fresh from thirty hidden years.
No sermons preached.
No miracles performed.
Just quiet obedience.

And then the heavens opened.

Mark and Luke record
what the Father said directly to Jesus:
"You are My beloved Son;
with You I am well pleased."
It's intimate.
Tender.
A personal blessing
before the wilderness.

But Matthew captures another voice —
this one spoken to the crowd:
"This is My beloved Son,
in whom I am well pleased."
Public.
Declarative.
A coronation
before the ministry begins.

Some see contradiction
in these two accounts.
But you may not know this about Jesus:
The Father spoke twice —
once to the Son in love,

once to the world in proclamation.
One personal, one public.
One for Jesus, one for the crowd.

The Spirit descended like a dove.
The heavens split.
And the voice of the Father
filled both heart and sky.

Jesus entered the water
as the carpenter from Nazareth.
He rose from it
as the anointed Son —
the King whose identity
would anchor
every step that followed.