

him not: but that He should be made manifest to Israel, for this cause came I baptizing with water." "And I saw and bare witness that this was the Son of God."

2.

*The Baptism of Jesus served to Declare His Identification with the Cause of Humanity.*

At the Jordan Christ made common cause with mankind. That was a motley crowd which gathered to the baptism of John. Jerusalem and Judea had emptied their myriad into the Jordan valley until even John was amazed by the multitude of types represented. There was an *omnium gatherum* of every sort of sinner which the country contained. It represented the human world. When, therefore, Jesus stepped into the stream, it was as though He said, "I am for men; these are My brethren; whatsoever concerns them concerns Me."

It is a noteworthy fact that Jesus began His public ministry upon a full flood of sympathetic feeling for sinful humanity. It was not as a doctrinaire with a pet theory to expound; not as a partizan espousing the cause of a class; not