The Biblical Antecedents & Significance Of Christian Baptism

Toah's survival of the flood (1 Peter 3.20-21) and Israel's crossing of the Red Sea (1 Corinthians 10.1-2) provided historical reference points for The The the twin biblical motifs in baptism of "judgment upon sin" and of "separa-Crucifixion Fellowship of tion from past life, for divine service." Thus, the Aaronic priests were bap-Christ's of tized to separate them from private life, and to priestly service, i.e, to become Suffering Jesus those who would reenact God's judgment upon sin by the offering of sacrifices (Exodus 29.4). Likewise, Jesus was baptized to end His private life of preparation, and in consecration to His public life of priestly service as the ultimate recipient of God's judgment upon sin. The Commemorates The **Baptismal** The Israel Consecration Crossing **Baptism** Christian Flood of The Aaronic The Red of **Baptism** Mirrored Commemorated Foreshadowed of Defined **JESUS** Noah Sea Priests Israel Crossing Jordan The water baptism of Jesus was s Israel had to be taken through Foreshadowed John **I** His consecration for priestly Athe Sea (and then across Jor-Baptizing Recalled Set the stage for service and foreshadowed His dan) to serve God as a kingdom of At Jordan baptism of suffering (Luke 12.50). priests (Exodus 19.6), so Jonah had The Jesus' baptism thus set the pattern to be taken through the Sea to ful-Mirrored Submersion for Christian baptism as a consecrafill his calling as a prophet. Jonah's tion (separation from past life) to of burial in the Sea was a judgment upon priestly service in God's Kingdom Jonah his rebellion, a judgment that foreshadowed the judgment which (Hebrews 10.19-25), and as a comwould fall upon Jesus (cf. Jonah 2.3-6; Psalm 42.7; 88.7), who unlike mitment to suffer whatever was Jonah would suffer for the rebellion of others, but who like Jonah necessary for the Kingdom's sake would emerge from the "tomb" in three days to fulfill a divine des-(Philippians 3.10; Colossians 1.24). tiny (Matthew 12.40; Luke 11.30).