

“Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Matthew 3:2

# John the Baptist

(LK) Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

# John the Baptist

(MT) In those days John the Baptist (MK) came baptizing in the wilderness (MT) of Judea.

(LK) And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, (MT) saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, (LK) saying: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.’”

# John the Baptist

(LK) “Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

(MT) Now John himself was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

# John the Baptist

(MK) Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, (MT) and all the region around the Jordan went out to him (MK) and here all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

(MT) But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, (LK) he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him,

# Israel During the Time of Jesus



- Ruled by Herod Archelaus, later by Roman Governor Pontius Pilate
- Ruled by Herod Antipas
- Ruled by Philip
- Cities of the Decapolis



# John the Baptist

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# John the Baptist

(MT) “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

# John the Baptist

(LK) So the people asked him, saying, “What shall we do then?” He answered and said to them, “He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise.” Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than what is appointed for you.”

# John the Baptist

(LK) Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, “And what shall we do?” So he said to them, “Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages.”

# John the Baptist

(LK) Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not, John answered, (MK) and he preached, (LK) saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water (MT) unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry, [and] (MK) whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose.”

# John the Baptist

(MK) I indeed baptized you with water, but (LK) He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.” And with many other exhortations he preached to the people.”

# John the Baptist

(MK) It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee (MT) to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him.

# John the Baptist

(LK) When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized. (MT) When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, (LK) while He prayed, (MT) the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw (MK) the heavens parting and the (LK) Holy Spirit (MT) of God descending (LK) in bodily form like a dove (MT) and alighting upon Him.

# John the Baptist

(MT) And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying,  
(LK) “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well  
pleased.”

# John the Baptist

(JN) John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’”

And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

No one has seen God at any time.

The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”

# John the Baptist

(LK) Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age.