

Matthew 3: 1-17

Baptism of Jesus

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when John saw Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Don’t rely on being children of Abraham, for God can make children of Abraham from the stones. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the tree; every tree that doesn’t bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

With water, I baptize those who repent, but one who is more powerful is coming. I’m not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

The Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan River, to be baptized by him. John protested saying, “I should be baptized by you.”

But Jesus answered him, “Allow this to be, for it is God’s will.”

And when Jesus had been baptized and came up from the water, the heavens opened to him and the Spirit of God descended like a dove alighting upon him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

After this Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted 40 days and 40 nights, so he was famished. The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

But Jesus answered, “It is written,
One does not live by bread alone,
But by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

He will command his angels concerning you
And on their hands, they will bear you up
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Jesus said to him, “Again, it is written, do not put the Lord your God to test.”

Again, the devil took him to a high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written
Worship the Lord your God,
And serve only him!

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels appeared and waited on him.