### **LUKE**

Introduction

**Luke 1:1** Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, <sup>3</sup> it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write *it* out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.

Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

**Luke 1:5** In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. <sup>7</sup> But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.

**Luke 1:8** Now it happened *that* while he was performing his priestly service before God in the *appointed* order of his division, <sup>9</sup> according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. <sup>10</sup> And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering. <sup>11</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> Zacharias was troubled when he saw *the angel*, and fear gripped him. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. <sup>14</sup> "You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. <sup>15</sup> "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. <sup>16</sup> "And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup> "It is he who will go *as a forerunner* before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

**Luke 1:18** Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this *for certain?* For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years." <sup>19</sup> The angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup> "And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time."

**Luke 1:21** The people were waiting for Zacharias, and were wondering at his delay in the temple. <sup>22</sup> But when he came out, he was unable to speak to them; and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he kept making signs to them, and remained mute. <sup>23</sup> When the days of his priestly service were ended, he went back home.

**Luke 1:24** After these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying, <sup>25</sup> "This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked *with favor* upon *me*, to take away my disgrace among men."

Jesus' Birth Foretold

**Luke 1:26** Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was very perplexed at *this* statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; <sup>33</sup> and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> "And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> "For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, "Behold, the bondslave of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

**Luke 1:39** Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, <sup>40</sup> and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup> And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed *are* you among women, and blessed *is* the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> "And how has it *happened* to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me? <sup>44</sup> "For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. <sup>45</sup> "And blessed *is* she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."

The Magnificat

**Luke 1:46** And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord,

- And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.
- "For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondslave; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed.
- "For the Mighty One has done great things for me; And holy is His name.
- "AND HIS MERCY IS UPON GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM.
- "He has done mighty deeds with His arm;
  He has scattered *those who were* proud in the thoughts of their heart.
- "He has brought down rulers from *their* thrones,
  - And has exalted those who were humble.
- "HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS; And sent away the rich empty-handed.
- "He has given help to Israel His servant, In remembrance of His mercy,
- As He spoke to our fathers,

  To Abraham and his descendants forever."

**Luke 1:56** And Mary stayed with her about three months, and *then* returned to her home.

John Is Born

Luke 1:57 Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she gave birth to a son. <sup>58</sup> Her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her.

Luke 1:59 And it happened that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to call him Zacharias, after his father. <sup>60</sup> But his mother answered and said, "No indeed; but he shall be called John." <sup>61</sup> And they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who is called by that name." <sup>62</sup> And they made signs to his father, as to what he wanted him called. <sup>63</sup> And he asked for a tablet and wrote as follows, "His name is John." And they were all astonished. <sup>64</sup> And at once his mouth was opened and his tongue *loosed*, and he *began* to speak in praise of God. <sup>65</sup> Fear came on all those living around them; and all these matters were being talked about in all the hill country of Judea. <sup>66</sup> All who heard them kept them in mind, saying, "What then will this child *turn out to* be?" For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him.

### Zacharias's Prophecy

Luke 1:67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:
 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
 For He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people,

- And has raised up a horn of salvation for us
  In the house of David His servant —
- As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old —
- Salvation FROM OUR ENEMIES,
  And FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US;
- To show mercy toward our fathers, And to remember His holy covenant,
- The oath which He swore to Abraham our father,
- To grant us that we, being rescued from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear,
- In holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.
- "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; For you will go on BEFORE THE LORD TO PREPARE HIS WAYS;
- To give to His people *the* knowledge of salvation By the forgiveness of their sins,
- Because of the tender mercy of our God,
  With which the Sunrise from on high will visit us,
- TO SHINE UPON THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH,

To guide our feet into the way of peace."

**Luke 1:80** And the child continued to grow and to become strong in spirit, and he lived in the deserts until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

#### **JOHN**

The Deity of Jesus Christ

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. <sup>5</sup> The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

The Witness John

**John 1:6** There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light.

**John 1:9** There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He

came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

The Word Made Flesh

**John 1:14** And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### **MATTHEW**

The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

**Matt. 1:1** The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Matt. 1:2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. <sup>3</sup> Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram. <sup>4</sup> Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon. <sup>5</sup> Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse. <sup>6</sup> Jesse was the father of David the king.

David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah. <sup>7</sup> Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa. <sup>8</sup> Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah. <sup>9</sup> Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. <sup>10</sup> Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah. <sup>11</sup> Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

**Matt. 1:12** After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. <sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor. <sup>14</sup> Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud. <sup>15</sup> Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob. <sup>16</sup> Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.

**Matt. 1:17** So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

# Conception and Birth of Jesus

Matt. 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. <sup>20</sup> But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US." <sup>24</sup> And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took *Mary* as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.

### Jesus' Birth in Bethlehem

Luke 2:1 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. <sup>2</sup> This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, <sup>5</sup> in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Luke 2:8** In the same region there were *some* shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; <sup>11</sup> for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> "This *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

**Luke 2:15** When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds *began* saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

Jesus Presented at the Temple

**Luke 2:21** And when eight days had passed, before His circumcision, His name was *then* called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

Luke 2:22 And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "EVERY *firstborn* MALE THAT OPENS THE WOMB SHALL BE CALLED HOLY TO THE LORD"), <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, "A PAIR OF TURTLEDOVES OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS."

Luke 2:25 And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

- "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word;
- For my eyes have seen Your salvation,
- Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
- A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel."

**Luke 2:33** And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him.  $^{34}$  And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this *Child* is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed  $-^{35}$  and a sword will pierce even your own soul – to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

**Luke 2:36** And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with *her* husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with

fastings and prayers.  $^{38}$  At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Visit of the Magi

**Matt. 2:1** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet:

'AND YOU, BETHLEHEM, LAND OF JUDAH,
ARE BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG THE LEADERS OF JUDAH;
FOR OUT OF YOU SHALL COME FORTH A RULER
WHO WILL SHEPHERD MY PEOPLE ISRAEL."

Matt. 2:7 Then Herod secretly called the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found *Him*, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him." <sup>9</sup> After hearing the king, they went their way; and the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over *the place* where the Child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned *by God* in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way.

The Flight to Egypt

Matt. 2:13 Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord \*appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him."

Matt. 2:14 So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt. <sup>15</sup> He remained there until the death of Herod. *This was* to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON."

Herod Slaughters Babies

Matt. 2:16 Then when Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he became very enraged, and sent and slew all the male children who were in Bethlehem and all its vicinity, from

two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the magi. <sup>17</sup> Then what had been spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

"A VOICE WAS HEARD IN RAMAH,
WEEPING AND GREAT MOURNING,
RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN;
AND SHE REFUSED TO BE COMFORTED,
BECAUSE THEY WERE NO MORE."

**Matt. 2:19** But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord \*appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, and said, <sup>20</sup> "Get up, take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for those who sought the Child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup> So Joseph got up, took the Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Then after being warned *by God* in a dream, he left for the regions of Galilee, <sup>23</sup> and came and lived in a city called Nazareth. *This was* to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Return to Nazareth

**Luke 2:39** When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

Visit to Jerusalem

**Luke 2:41** Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when He became twelve, they went up *there* according to the custom of the Feast; <sup>43</sup> and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But His parents were unaware of it, <sup>44</sup> but supposed Him to be in the caravan, and went a day's journey; and they *began* looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for Him. <sup>46</sup> Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. <sup>48</sup> When they saw Him, they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You." <sup>49</sup> And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's *house*?" <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them. <sup>51</sup> And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all *these* things in her heart.

Luke 2:52 And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

The Preaching of John the Baptist

Matt. 3:1 Now in those days John the Baptist \*came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>3</sup> For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said,

"THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS,

'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD.

MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!"

<sup>4</sup> Now John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan; <sup>6</sup> and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins.

Matt. 3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> "Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; <sup>9</sup> and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> "The axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

**Matt. 3:11** "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> "His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

The Baptism of Jesus

Matt. 3:13 Then Jesus \*arrived from Galilee at the Jordan *coming* to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> But John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answering said to him, "Permit *it* at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he \*permitted Him. <sup>16</sup> After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* lighting on Him, <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

MARK

Preaching of John the Baptist

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark 1:2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY;

- THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT."
- <sup>4</sup> John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And all the country of Judea was going out to him, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> John was clothed with camel's hair and *wore* a leather belt around his waist, and his diet was locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And he was preaching, and saying, "After me One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to stoop down and untie the thong of His sandals. <sup>8</sup> "I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Baptism of Jesus

Mark 1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him; <sup>11</sup> and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

Mark 1:12 Immediately the Spirit \*impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.

Jesus Preaches in Galilee

Mark 1:14 Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Mark 1:16 As He was going along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." <sup>18</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. <sup>19</sup> Going on a little farther, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who were also in the boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went away to follow Him.

Mark 1:21 They \*went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and *began* to teach. <sup>22</sup> They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup> Just then there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, <sup>24</sup> saying, "What business do we have with each other,

Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are — the Holy One of God!" <sup>25</sup> And Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup> Throwing him into convulsions, the unclean spirit cried out with a loud voice and came out of him. <sup>27</sup> They were all amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." <sup>28</sup> Immediately the news about Him spread everywhere into all the surrounding district of Galilee.

### Crowds Healed

Mark 1:29 And immediately after they came out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law was lying sick with a fever; and immediately they \*spoke to Jesus about her. <sup>31</sup> And He came to her and raised her up, taking her by the hand, and the fever left her, and she waited on them.

Mark 1:32 When evening came, after the sun had set, they *began* bringing to Him all who were ill and those who were demon-possessed. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city had gathered at the door. <sup>34</sup> And He healed many who were ill with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He was not permitting the demons to speak, because they knew who He was.

Mark 1:35 In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left *the house*, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there. <sup>36</sup> Simon and his companions searched for Him; <sup>37</sup> they found Him, and \*said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You." <sup>38</sup> He \*said to them, "Let us go somewhere else to the towns nearby, so that I may preach there also; for that is what I came for." <sup>39</sup> And He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out the demons.

Mark 1:40 And a leper \*came to Jesus, beseeching Him and falling on his knees before Him, and saying, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." <sup>41</sup> Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and \*said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." <sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed. <sup>43</sup> And He sternly warned him and immediately sent him away, <sup>44</sup> and He \*said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." <sup>45</sup> But he went out and began to proclaim it freely and to spread the news around, to such an extent that Jesus could no longer publicly enter a city, but stayed out in unpopulated areas; and they were coming to Him from everywhere.

### John the Baptist Preaches

**Luke 3:1** Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>

And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins;

- as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.
- 5 'EVERY RAVINE WILL BE FILLED,
  AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL WILL BE BROUGHT LOW;
  THE CROOKED WILL BECOME STRAIGHT,
  AND THE ROUGH ROADS SMOOTH:
- 6 AND ALL FLESH WILL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD."

**Luke 3:7** So he *began* saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> "Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> "Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

**Luke 3:10** And the crowds were questioning him, saying, "Then what shall we do?" <sup>11</sup> And he would answer and say to them, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise." <sup>12</sup> And *some* tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, "Collect no more than what you have been ordered to." <sup>14</sup> *Some* soldiers were questioning him, saying, "And *what about* us, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not take money from anyone by force, or accuse *anyone* falsely, and be content with your wages."

**Luke 3:15** Now while the people were in a state of expectation and all were wondering in their hearts about John, as to whether he was the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> "His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

**Luke 3:18** So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people. <sup>19</sup> But when Herod the tetrarch was reprimanded by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the wicked things which Herod had done, <sup>20</sup> Herod also added this to them all: he locked John up in prison.

Jesus Is Baptized

**Luke 3:21** Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

### Genealogy of Jesus

Luke 3:23 When He began His ministry, Jesus Himself was about thirty years of age, being, as was supposed, the son of Joseph, the son of Eli, <sup>24</sup> the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, <sup>25</sup> the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Hesli, the son of Naggai, <sup>26</sup> the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda, <sup>27</sup> the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, <sup>28</sup> the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, <sup>29</sup> the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, <sup>30</sup> the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, <sup>31</sup> the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, <sup>32</sup> the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon, <sup>33</sup> the son of Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, <sup>34</sup> the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, <sup>35</sup> the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Heber, the son of Shelah, <sup>36</sup> the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, <sup>37</sup> the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, <sup>38</sup> the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

### The Temptation of Jesus

Matt. 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." <sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD."

Matt. 4:5 Then the devil \*took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple,

and \*said 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,

SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE."

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST."

**Matt. 4:8** Again, the devil \*took Him to a very high mountain and \*showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; <sup>9</sup> and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus \*said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY." <sup>11</sup> Then the devil \*left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to Him.

Jesus Begins His Ministry

- Matt. 4:12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee; <sup>13</sup> and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup> *This was* to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet:
- "THE LAND OF ZEBULUN AND THE LAND OF NAPHTALI, BY THE WAY OF THE SEA, BEYOND THE JORDAN, GALILEE OF THE GENTILES —
- "THE PEOPLE WHO WERE SITTING IN DARKNESS SAW A GREAT LIGHT, AND THOSE WHO WERE SITTING IN THE LAND AND SHADOW OF DEATH, UPON THEM A LIGHT DAWNED."

Matt. 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

*The First Disciples* 

Matt. 4:18 Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> And He \*said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. <sup>21</sup> Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Ministry in Galilee

**Matt. 4:23** Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.

**Matt. 4:24** The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds followed Him from Galilee and *the* Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and *from* beyond the Jordan.

**Luke 4:1** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness <sup>2</sup> for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.""

**Luke 4:5** And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. <sup>7</sup> "Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY."

**Luke 4:9** And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here;

for it is written,

'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,'

and,

'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP,

SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE."

<sup>12</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "It is said, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST."

Luke 4:13 When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.

Jesus' Public Ministry

**Luke 4:14** And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district. <sup>15</sup> And He *began* teaching in their synagogues and was praised by all.

**Luke 4:16** And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME,

BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES,

AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND,

TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED,

TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

Luke 4:20 And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. <sup>21</sup> And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> And all were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His lips; and they were saying, "Is this not Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup> And He said to them, "No doubt you will quote this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we heard was done at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." <sup>24</sup> And He said, "Truly I say to you, no prophet is welcome in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> "But I say to you in truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land; <sup>26</sup> and yet Elijah was sent to none of them, but only to Zarephath, *in the land* of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup> "And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup> And all *the people* in the synagogue were filled with rage as they heard these things; <sup>29</sup> and they got up and drove Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city had been built, in order to throw Him down the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But passing through their midst, He went His way.

Luke 4:31 And He came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and He was teaching them on the Sabbath; <sup>32</sup> and they were amazed at His teaching, for His message was with authority. <sup>33</sup> In the synagogue there was a man possessed by the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> "Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are — the Holy One of God!" <sup>35</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst *of the people*, he came out of him without doing him any harm. <sup>36</sup> And amazement came upon them all, and they *began* talking with one another saying, "What is this message? For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits and they come out." <sup>37</sup> And the report about Him was spreading into every locality in the surrounding district.

### Many Are Healed

**Luke 4:38** Then He got up and *left* the synagogue, and entered Simon's home. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Him to help her. <sup>39</sup> And standing over her, He rebuked the fever, and it left her; and she immediately got up and waited on them.

Luke 4:40 While the sun was setting, all those who had any *who were* sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them. <sup>41</sup> Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.

**Luke 4:42** When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place; and the crowds were searching for Him, and came to Him and tried to keep Him from going away from them. <sup>43</sup> But He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose."

Luke 4:44 So He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

## The First Disciples

Luke 5:1 Now it happened that while the crowd was pressing around Him and listening to the word of God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret; <sup>2</sup> and He saw two boats lying at the edge of the lake; but the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> And He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little way from the land. And He sat down and *began* teaching the people from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered and said, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say *and* let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets *began* to break; <sup>7</sup> so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw *that*, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For amazement had seized him and all his companions because of the catch of fish which they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also *were* James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

### The Leper and the Paralytic

Luke 5:12 While He was in one of the cities, behold, *there was* a man covered with leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." <sup>13</sup> And He stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." And immediately the leprosy left him. <sup>14</sup> And He ordered him to tell no one, "But go and show yourself to the priest and make an offering for your cleansing, just as Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." <sup>15</sup> But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear *Him* and to be healed of their sicknesses. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus Himself would *often* slip away to the wilderness and pray.

**Luke 5:17** One day He was teaching; and there were *some* Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting *there*, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and *from* Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was *present* for Him to perform healing. <sup>18</sup> And *some* men *were* carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed; and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him. <sup>19</sup> But not finding any *way* to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle *of the crowd*, in front of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> Seeing their faith, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you." <sup>21</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this *man* who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?" <sup>22</sup> But Jesus, aware of their reasonings, answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts? <sup>23</sup> "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins have been

forgiven you,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? <sup>24</sup> "But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins," — He said to the paralytic — "I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home." <sup>25</sup> Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. <sup>26</sup> They were all struck with astonishment and *began* glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen remarkable things today."

*Call of Levi (Matthew)* 

Luke 5:27 After that He went out and noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me." <sup>28</sup> And he left everything behind, and got up and *began* to follow Him.

**Luke 5:29** And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and other *people* who were reclining *at the table* with them. <sup>30</sup> The Pharisees and their scribes *began* grumbling at His disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered and said to them, "*It is* not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> "I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Luke 5:33 And they said to Him, "The disciples of John often fast and offer prayers, the *disciples* of the Pharisees also do the same, but Yours eat and drink." <sup>34</sup> And Jesus said to them, "You cannot make the attendants of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? <sup>35</sup> "But *the* days will come; and when the bridegroom is taken away from them, then they will fast in those days." <sup>36</sup> And He was also telling them a parable: "No one tears a piece of cloth from a new garment and puts it on an old garment; otherwise he will both tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. <sup>37</sup> "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled out, and the skins will be ruined. <sup>38</sup> "But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. <sup>39</sup> "And no one, after drinking old *wine* wishes for new; for he says, 'The old is good *enough*."

**John 1:15** John \*testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me." <sup>16</sup> For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.

The Testimony of John

**John 1:19** This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent to him priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup> And he confessed and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup> They asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" And he \*said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup> Then they said to him, "Who are you, so that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup> He said, "I am A VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY OF THE LORD,' as Isaiah the prophet said."

John 1:24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup> They asked him, and said to him, "Why then are you baptizing, if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them saying, "I baptize in water, *but* among you stands One whom you do not know. <sup>27</sup> "*It is* He who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup> These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

John 1:29 The next day he \*saw Jesus coming to him and \*said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> "This is He on behalf of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.' <sup>31</sup> "I did not recognize Him, but so that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing in water." <sup>32</sup> John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him. <sup>33</sup> "I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, 'He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> "I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God."

Jesus' Public Ministry, First Converts

John 1:35 Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and \*said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> And Jesus turned and saw them following, and \*said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?" <sup>39</sup> He \*said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they came and saw where He was staying; and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John *speak* and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He \*found first his own brother Simon and \*said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which translated means Christ). <sup>42</sup> He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

John 1:43 The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He \*found Philip. And Jesus \*said to him, "Follow Me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip \*found Nathanael and \*said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and *also* the Prophets wrote — Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Philip \*said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and \*said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael \*said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel." <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered and said to

him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And He \*said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."