

John Prepared The Way

Matthew 3: 1 – 12



Key Concept

Following Jesus requires confession, repentance, and yielding to the work of the Holy Spirit.

John the Baptist is born to prepare the way for the Messiah (Luke 1:57-80)

Jesus is tempted in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13)

John the Baptist calls people to repentance in preparation for Jesus (Matt 3:1-12)

Jesus, the Son of God, is born and grows in favor with God and Man (Luke 2:1-52)

John baptizes Jesus in the Jordan River (Matt 3:13-17)



JORDAN

Jordan River

Amman

Jerusalem

ISRAEL

Dead Sea

**Baptism Site
"Bethany
Beyond the
Jordan" (Al-
Maghtas)**



Red Sea

100 miles

Al-Maghtas: The Site of John the Baptist's Ministry and the Baptism of Jesus



•(T/F) The Holy Spirit did not appear until God empowered Joseph to interpret dreams?

False: Holy Spirit has always existed Heb 9:14

•What prophet foretold John the Baptist?

Isaiah – 40:3 *“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord;”*

•(T/F) Present day Christians choose to be baptized for the same reason John was baptizing and preaching in the wilderness?

False – John’s baptism was for repentance in anticipation of Jesus. Ours is a proclamation.

•What is the primary difference of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament and the New Testament?

(Old Testament) The Holy Spirit came upon specific individuals temporarily for a special task / empowerment

•When does the Bible first reference the Holy Spirit?

The 2nd verse in the Bible (Genesis 1:2)

•What three actions are still true today that John called people to do?

- 1) Repent of their sins**
- 2) Produce “fruit” / evidence of true faith**
- 3) Live a transformed life in service to Him**

•John the Baptize was preaching in the wilderness to prepared the way specifically for what?

Jesus’ ministry and revelation as the Messiah.