

CHAPTER 3 Jan. 2 Jul. 3

John the Baptist Baptizes Jesus

And in those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying: ² Repent! For the kingdom of heaven is at hand. ³ For this is he that was spoken of through Isaiah the prophet, saying: The voice of one crying in the wilderness - Make ready the way of the Lord. Make his paths straight. ⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather girdle about his loins and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him. ⁶ And they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them: You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the anger to come? ⁸ Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ And think not to say within yourselves: We have Abraham as our father, for I say to you, that God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ And even now the axe lies at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that does not bring forth good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ I indeed baptize you in water to repentance, but he that comes after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to carry. He shall baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire; ¹² whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly cleanse his threshing-floor and he will gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn up with unquenchable fire. ¹³ Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan, to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ But John would have stopped him, saying: I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me? ¹⁵ But Jesus answering said to him: Permit it now, for thus it becomes us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he permitted him. ¹⁶ And Jesus when he was baptized immediately came up out of the water, and the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and coming to rest on him. ¹⁷ And a voice came from the heavens, saying: This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.