

THE GOSPEL

11718

OF JESUS CHRIST Born Of The HOLY SPIRIT

JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE PEOPLE FOR THEIR CHRIST

LUKE 3:7 "Then he said to the multitude that came to be Baptized of him, O Generation of vipers, who warned you to flee from the Wrath To Come? (**Multitude**: ochlos, okh'-los = a throng, rabble, riot, press. Came forth **to be Baptized**. It doesn't say 'came to Repent' they just wanted **to be Baptized of him**. **O Generation**: offspring, produce. **of Vipers**: echidna, ekh'-id-nah = an adder or other poisonous snake. **Who has warned**: hypodeiknymi, hoop-od-ike'-noo-mee = to exhibit under the eyes, exemplify, instruct, warn. **you to flee**: pheugo, fyoo'-go = to run away from, escape. **From The Wrath**: orge, or-gay' = vengeance, abhorrence, wrath. **To Come**: mello, mel'-lo = to intend, what is expected, about to be, to suffer something. But they wanted to be Baptized without Repenting of their sins. While Baptism was to be a Sign that they Had Repented.

3:8 "Bring forth therefore Fruit Worthy of Repentance, and don't begin to say within yourselves, 'we have Abraham as our Father: for I say unto you, That GOD Is Able of these stones to raise up children of Abraham. (**Bring forth**: poieo, poyeh'-o = to make or do something worthy of showing Repentance. Fruits showing their Repentance is what was expected. An outward sign of an Inward cleansing of the heart, so they would be ready to receive their Christ and obey Him. Those who have hated GOD and

each other, are like a generation of Vipers in GOD's eyes. The only avenue of Escape from Wrath is through Repentance and Obedience To JESUS Christ. **We have Abraham as our Father**: John cut that prop away from the Jews by letting them know Creator GOD could rouse stones into children of Abraham, if HE wanted to. Abraham is not their Savior.

3:9 "And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which does not bring forth good Fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. (not even our roots can Save us).

3:10-11 "And the people asked him, what shall we do then? He answered, he that has 2 coats, let him share with him who has none; and he that has meat, let him do likewise. (the sharing of food and clothes with the needy).

3:12 "Then came also Publicans to be Baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? (**Publicans**: telones, tel-o'-nace = tax collectors, collector of public revenue. Coming to be Baptized, but did they Repent? No, but they decided to praise John by calling him **Master**: didaskalos, did-as'-kalos = an instructor, doctor, teacher. That was only a title for JESUS, and was used 40 times in addressing HIM during His Ministry.

3:13 "And he said to them, Exact

no more (taxes) than that which is appointed you. (no over-taxation to pad the pockets).

3:14 "And the Soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, 'And what shall we do? And he said unto them, do no violence to anyone, neither accuse anyone falsely; and be content with your wages. (no false accusations).

JOHN'S TESTIMONY OF CHRIST:

3:15-17 "And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he was the Christ, or not; John answered, saying unto them all, 'I indeed Baptize you with water; but ONE mightier than I comes, the latchet of Whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: HE Shall Baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire: Whose fan is in His hand, and HE will thoroughly Purge His Floor, And Will Gather The Wheat Into HIS Garner; but the chaff HE Will Burn With Fire Unquenchable. (**The Christ**: Christos = The Anointed ONE, The Messiah **JESUS Christ**. **Christ** is mentioned **569** times in the Bible. **HE** Baptizes With The HOLY SPIRIT And Fire; to purify the heart by clearing out the sinful dross within.

3:18 "And many other things (John) in his exhortation preached he unto the people.