

THE GOSPEL

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OF JESUS CHRIST

Born Of The HOLY SPIRIT

JOHN THE BAPTIST, PREACHES REPENTANCE AND WATER BAPTISM

History, About 25 Years Later:

Matthew 3:1-2 " **In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, and saying, Repent ye: For The Kingdom Of HEAVEN Is At Hand.**

(**In those days**: jumps ahead to when JESUS Still Lived In Nazareth as a Man. John was 6 months older, and they both were close to 30 years old at the time. John probably started Preaching at least 6 months before JESUS Entered HIS Ministry. **Came**: paraginomai= To Appear Publically. **John the Baptist**: The Baptizer and Forerunner of JESUS Christ. **Preaching**: kay-roos'-so= **To Herald as a Public Crier**, The Divine Truth Of The Gospel.

And Providing Ceremonial Purification as a **Sign of Repentance** of Sin. Sin is Against The Holy LORD Creator. **Preaching**: Mentioned **51** times in the Bible; is what Sinners accuse many of; but it's Actually **Heralding Divine Truth with a Loud Voice**. People would have heard John's Voice from a great distance, and flock to him in great numbers by the River Jordan, in Israel, to be Baptized. **Kingdom of Heaven**: this would be **in the Heart**, and would continue with Christ's Building of HIS Church, and then HIS 1,000 Year Reign Upon the Earth, beginning in Jerusalem, where All nations will come).

3:3 "For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make HIS paths straight. (**Prophet**: Inspired Speaker.

Esaias: the Greek name of **Isaiah**: This name means 'Yah has Saved' talking about The **LORD**, Creator. **Wilderness of Judaea**: East of Jerusalem and along the Jordan River toward the Salt Sea. **Crying**: bo-ah'-o = To Shout, to hallo. **Repent**: Be Sorry and Turn Away from past Offences against GOD; And in Turn, to Live A Holy Life in Preparation to meet the Christ. **Prepare ye**: het-oy-mad'-zo= Make Ready Your Heart as a place for the **Lord**: kyrios, pronounced **koo'-ree-os**= Supreme In Authority, Controller, Master. The people were instructed to prepare for His Kingdom of Purity, by Turning from their Sins).

Isaiah 40:3 "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the **LORD**, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (This verse proves that the **LORD** Creator was Coming in the Person of **JESUS Christ**. JESUS was **not** just another man walking the Earth. He was **Lord**: Supreme In Authority).

3:4 "And this same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. (The similar raiment that Elijah wore. See 2 Kings 1:8. John came in the same Spirit as Elijah, the Prophet of Israel. John lived a humble but very disciplined life).

3:5 "Then went out to him Jeru-

salem, and all Judaea, and all the Region round about Jordan.

(Notice that Jerusalem & Judaea are not called Roman Palestine. Rome was just the Occupying invaders. Word of John got around, even in the Capital City, and Multitudes came to John in Repentance and were Baptized by him in Preparation for the coming of JESUS Christ).

3:6 "And they were Baptized of him in Jordan, Confessing their sins. (Water Baptism followed **Repentance** of Sins (mentioned 24 times in the Bible).

3:7-8 "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his Baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who has warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore **Fruits meet for Repentance**. (**Pharisee**: Separatists, exclusively religious. Following the Oral Law of Moses. **Sadducee**: elders in the Sanhedrin who did not believe in Angels, Spirits, the Resurrection of the dead, or any After-life. They were told to bring proof of their Repentance).

3:9 "And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham as our father: For I Say unto you, that GOD Is Able to raise up children unto Abraham from these stones. (Not Even Godly, Faithful Parents can Save us from our Sins. No one is Gran-Fathered In. Only The Savior Himself can Save; Everyone must have a Personal Relationship With JESUS CHRIST. Everyone must make use of their own Faith in GOD).