



Introduction

The river Jordan in which John baptised Jesus (v 9).

After his baptism, Jesus starts his teaching and healing. The miracles back up his claim that his message is from God.



Questions

1. What was the purpose of John's baptism?
2. What did the people do as they were baptised?
3. Why did Jesus rise a long time before dawn and go to a deserted place?



Summary Points

- **v 1** The focus of Mark's message is that Jesus is the Christ and Son of God (see theme)
- **v 2 and 3** The Old Testament (Malachi 3 v 1 and Isaiah 40 v 3) foretold the coming of John who would prepare the way for Jesus
- **v 4 to 8** John, as the forerunner of Jesus, comes baptising (see theme) in the river Jordan
- **v 9 to 15** After Jesus is baptised by John, he receives the Spirit. He is then tempted by Satan. Jesus starts his mission to preach the Good News of God's Kingdom
- **v 16 to 20** Jesus chooses Peter, Andrew, James and John to be his disciples
- **v 21 to 45** Jesus preaches in the synagogues throughout Galilee (see map). He shows he is no ordinary person by healing those who are ill and by casting out demons

Timeline AD 30 (see below)



Themes

Titles of Jesus - Son of God

A selection of verses showing that Jesus is called the Son of God.

God tells David, the second king of Israel, that he will have a special descendant who will also be Son of God:

1 Chronicles 17 verses 11 to 13

This promise is confirmed by the angel Gabriel who tells Mary that she will give birth to David's special descendant:

Luke 1 verses 30 to 32

In response to her question Gabriel explains to Mary that the conception of her child will be through the power of God and consequently he will be the Son of God:

Luke 1 verse 35



Jesus himself claims to be the Son of God in discussions with the Jewish leaders:

John 10 verse 36

The apostle Paul summarises the important place that Jesus, as Son of God, has in God's purpose:

Romans 1 verses 1 to 5

Baptism - a first century practice

Strong's Concordance tells us that to baptise comes from a word meaning to make fully wet. The word is used concerning ships sinking and with reference to a piece of cloth being dyed.

Baptisms recorded in the Bible imply that it is a full immersion.

John the Baptist chooses a place to baptise where there was much water:

John 3 verse 23

Mark tells us that John baptises people in the river Jordan:

Mark 1 verse 5

When Jesus is baptised we are told that he went up from the water:

Matthew 3 verse 16

When an Ethiopian official is baptised, the record says that they went down into and came up out of the water:

Acts 8 verse 38 and 39



Israel in New Testament times

Map showing places in Israel in New Testament times including Galilee.



? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q1: v 4, Q2: v 5, Q3: v 35



Bible timeline

