

You Are My Son

Mark 1:1-20

by Don Falkos

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God said through the prophet Malachi, "I will send my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare the way for you," and through the prophet Isaiah, "There is a voice calling in the desert, 'Get ready for the coming of the Lord.' "

John the Baptist was that voice. He lived in the desert and called for people to "turn back to God and be baptized."

Large numbers of people went out to John; they confessed their sins; and he baptized them. He said to the people, "The one who is coming after me is far more powerful than I am. I'm not even worthy to untie his sandals. I baptize you with water. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan River. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw the sky opening up and the Holy Spirit coming down to him in the form of a dove. Then a voice came from heaven. "You are my Son, whom I love. I am very pleased with you."

The Holy Spirit immediately led Jesus out into the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He was among wild animals, and angels took care of him.

After John had been arrested by Herod Antipas, Jesus went to Galilee proclaiming, "The time has come. The Kingdom of God is near. Turn from your sins and believe the good news."

One day Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee. He saw some fishermen, Simon and his brother Andrew, and called to them, "Follow me. I will teach you to fish for people." They immediately left their nets and followed him. A little farther along the beach he called to James and his brother John who also followed him.