

THE FORERUNNER AND BAPTISM OF JESUS

Matthew 3; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22; John 1:15-34

No further details of Jesus' life are given after the description of His youth until He was nearly grown. Read the following to discover what happened just before He reached the age when He was considered fully grown:

A. The Appearance of John the Baptist: Read Matthew 3:1-6; Luke 3:1-14

1. Where had John the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth grown up? (See Luke 1:80)

2. What did he wear? Matthew 3:4a

3. What did he eat? Matthew 3:4b

4. What two things did he begin to do after he was fully grown? Matthew 3:1, 6a

5. What was the main theme of John's message to the people? Luke 3:3b

6. What did he say that the people should do? Luke 3:8a

7. What three groups of people were among those who came to hear John?

a. Luke 3:10 (See also Matthew 3:7) _____

b. Luke 3:12 _____

c. Luke 3:14 _____

8. Notice how John suited his message to the exact needs of each group.

B. The Effect of John's Work: Read Luke 3:15-18; John 1:19-28

1. What attitude was aroused in the hearts of people because of John's work? Luke 3:15a

2. Who did they think he might be? Luke 3:15b

3. When he confessed that he was not, then who did they think he must be? John 1:21a, b

4. Who did John say he was? John 1:23

5. For what purpose did John say he came? John 1:31

C. The Climax of John's Work: Read Matthew 3:13-17

1. Where was Jesus when John began his work? Matthew 3:13

2 Bible Discoveries: New Testament Survey Series by Sarah Overstreet Midyett
The Life of Christ: Infancy through His Ministry

2. When Jesus came asking to be baptized by John, how did John feel? Matthew 3:14

3. Why was Jesus baptized? Matthew 3:15

4. What two things happened when Jesus came up out of the water?

a. Matthew 3:16_____

b. Matthew 3:17_____

5. What three divine Persons were present on this occasion? (*THINK!*)

6. Because of this event, what did John later tell the people about Jesus? John 1:32-34

7. What did John later say about the relationship between himself and Jesus? John 3:30

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Was the purpose of John's coming? (See B-5 above)

2. What is *my* chief purpose in life? What should it be? (See Revelation 4:11b)
