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| **John 3:19-34** |
| **19**And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” **20**He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” **21**And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” **22**So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” **23**He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight[[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+1&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26057h)] the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”  **24**(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) **25**They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” **26**John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, **27**even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” **28**These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.  **29**The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! **30**This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ **31**I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” **32**And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. **33**I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ **34**And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.” |

**23. The forerunner's picture of the Messiah before seeing Him**

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| **Mat 3:11-12** | **Mark 1:7-8** | **Luke 3:15-18** |
| 11 "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.  12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." | 7 And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.  8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." | 15 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ,  16 John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.  17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."  18 So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. |

**24. Jesus baptized by John in the Jordan**

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| **Mat 3:13-17** | **Mark 1:9-11** | **Luke 3:21-23** |
| 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.  14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"  15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.  16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;  17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." | 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.  10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.  11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." | 21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened,  22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."  23 Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli, |