

## **John the Baptist Declares Jesus to be the Messiah**

**John 1:29-34**

**Acts 13:1-52**

## **John Declares Jesus to be the Christ**

### **Texts:**

#### **John 1:29-34,**

**29. The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

**30. “This is He on behalf of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’**

**31. “I did not recognize Him, but so that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing in water.”**

**32. John testified saying, “I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.**

**33. “I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, ‘He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.’**

**34. “I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God.”**

#### **Acts 13:1-52,**

**1. Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.**

**2. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.**

**3. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.**

**4. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.**

**5. And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.**

**6. And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:**

**7. Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.**

**8. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.**

**9. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him.**

**10. And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?**

**11. And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.**

**12. Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.**

**13. Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.**

**14. But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.**

**15. And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.**

**16. Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.**

**17. The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it.**

**18. And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness.**

**19. And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot.**

**20. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.**

**21. And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years.**

**22. And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave their testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.**

**23. Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus:**

**24. When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.**

**25. And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom think ye that I am? I am not he. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of his feet I am not worthy to loose.**

**26. Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.**

**27. For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him.**

**28. And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain.**

**29. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre.**

**30. But God raised him from the dead:**

**31. And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.**

**32. And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers,**

**33. God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.**

**34. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.**

**35. Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.**

**36. For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:**

**37. But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.**

**38. Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:**

**39. And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.**

**40. Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets;**

**41. Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.**

**42. And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.**

**43. Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.**

**44. And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.**

**45. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.**

**46. Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.**

**47. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.**

**48. And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.**

**49. And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.**

**50. But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.**

**51. But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.**

**52. And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.**

## **Commentary:**

**John 1:29, The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”**

I. Jesus came to John the day following and John declared him to be the “Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.”

A. ~~#~~The events occurred at a most opportune time.

B. ~~#~~The sacrificial lamb was central in Old Testament worship and, through the sacrifice of Christ, in the New Testament as well.

C. ~~#~~The Apostle John wrote these verses forever remembering this day. Before he had followed John the Baptist. Afterward he followed Jesus the Christ.

II. Jesus came to take away the sins of the world.

A. ~~#~~The **prime** reason for the coming of Christ was not to improve economic conditions, political conditions, agriculture, and such, but to save the world from sin!

B. ~~#~~These other things hopefully will be improved as a result of Christ’s teaching, but his primary job was to save the souls of mankind!

III. Sin is the worst enemy mankind can possibly have!

A. ~~#~~ **Timothy 1:15, It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.**

**B.# Timothy 2:6, Who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.**

**C.# Corinthians 6:20, For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.**

**D.# Peter 1:18, 19, Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.**

**John 1:30, “This is He on behalf of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’”**

I. John the Baptist was six months older than Jesus.

II. Christ’s ministry was to come after John’s ministry. One would decline and the other grow.

III. Jesus was before John in regard to his eternal existence. (John 1:15).

**John 1:31, “I did not recognize Him, but so that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing in water.”**

I. John and Jesus were cousins, but as they grew toward maturity John did not know that Jesus was the Messiah.

II. John did know that the Messiah would soon appear.

III. The following verses tell how John became convinced of the deity of Jesus.

**John 1:32, 33, John testified saying, “I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him. I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, ‘He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.’”**

I. John, at the baptism of Jesus, saw the Spirit descending in the form of a dove and lighting on Jesus.

II. God had revealed to John that the One on whom he saw the Spirit descending and abiding would be the One who would baptize in the Holy Spirit.

**A. Matthew 3:13-17, Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan coming to John, to be baptized by him. But John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I have need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answering said to him “Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he permitted Him. After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**

**John 1:34, “I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God.”**

I. John declared that what he had seen (the Spirit descending in the form of a dove) and the voice from heaven attesting to the divinity of Jesus were proof that Jesus was the long awaited Messiah.

II. It was this claim by Jesus himself that led to his death.

**III. John 19:6, 7, So when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out saying, “Crucify, crucify!” Pilate said to them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out to be the Son of God.”**

IV. The truth is, Jesus was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead.

**A. Acts 13:33, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.**

B.#t was God’s will these Jewish leaders were really fighting against.

1.# See Paul’s magnificent synagogue sermon recorded in **Acts 13:14-41, But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down. And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience. The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it. And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of**

**Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet. And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years. And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave their testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will. Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus: When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom think ye that I am? I am not he. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of his feet I am not worthy to loose. Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent. For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre. But God raised him from the dead: And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people. And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made**

**unto the fathers, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David. Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption: But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption. Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.**

## John Declares Jesus to be the Messiah

### Questions

1. John saw Jesus and said, "Behold, the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ who takes away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_."

2. God had told John, "He upon whom you see the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ upon him, this is the one who \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_."

3. John said, "\_\_\_\_\_ have seen and have \_\_\_\_\_ that this is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

4. The prime reason Jesus came into the world was not to improve \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ such, but to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.

5. These other things would be \_\_\_\_\_ as a result of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ but his primary \_\_\_\_\_ was to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ can possible have!

7. \_\_\_\_\_ than I, for he \_\_\_\_\_ me."

8. How did Jesus exist before John when John was six months older than Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. John \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus was the \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Jesus was crucified because he made Himself out to be the \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_.