

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
He will prepare your way.

3 A voice of One crying out in the wilderness:  
Prepare the way for the Lord;  
make His paths straight!

4 John came baptizing, in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. 6 John wore a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He proclaimed, "One who is more powerful than I am is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of His sandals. 8 I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. 10 As soon as He came up out of the water, 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."

12 Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. 13 He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and the angels were serving Him.