



John the Baptist: Jesus Freak

Matthew 3:1-2,4: In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea² and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."⁴ John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

Luke 3:7-8,10-14: John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance...¹⁰ "What should we do then?" the crowd asked. ¹¹ John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same."¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"¹³ "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. ¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay."

Luke 3:19-20: But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done,²⁰ Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

Matthew 3:5-6: People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

John 1:19-27: Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was.²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."²¹ They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No."²² Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent²⁵ questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"²⁶ "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know.²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie."

John 1:29: The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.