

MATTHEW 3; July 23; John the Baptist Preached Repentance

ANALYSIS:

1. What was the message John the Baptist preached? _____

2. Who went to John to be baptized? _____
3. What did John require of the Pharisees and the Sadducees who came to his baptism? _____
4. How was John's and Jesus' baptisms different? _____

5. What supernatural signs took place at Jesus' baptism?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Being a prophet of the LORD, John the Baptist was bold, frank and discerning. He questioned the sincerity of the Pharisees and Sadducees. He demanded they prove to him their repentance by fruit in their lives. He warned them of judgment to come.

Are you living up to your profession of obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ? What, if anything, have you let slip? What will you correct today?

The word "generation" (singular and plural) has occurred 6 times in the first 3 chapters of Mathew (1:1, 17; 3:7). Do you see that the word means "the people now living," that is, those living at that time? This definition is very important to correctly understand Jesus' prophecy in Matt 23:36 and 24:34. For a detailed study see "This Generation" under Sermons on 7/6/2011 at LetGodBeTrue.com

HELP:

1. Repent ye: for the kingdom of God is at hand (v 2).
2. People from Jerusalem, all Judea, all the region round about Jordan and the Pharisees and Sadducees (vs 5-6).
3. Bring forth fruits meet for repentance (v 8).
4. John baptized with water unto repentance, Jesus would baptize with the Holy Ghost and with fire (v 11).
5. The heavens were opened unto him, the Spirit of God descended like a dove, and lighted upon him: a voice from heaven, said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (vs 16-17).