

**Text:** Matthew 3

**Title:** Overview: Public Introduction of John the Baptist and Jesus

**Truth:** These notes provide a detailed outline of Matthew 3.

**Date/Location:** Sunday January 24, 2021 at FBC

## **I. John the Baptist, 3:1-12**

### **A. Preaching Repentance, 3:1-4**

1. The Method John used was Preaching.
2. The Content of John's Message was Repentance.  
Reason why repentance is critical: the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
3. In Fulfillment of Prophecy, Isaiah 40:3-5.
4. Description of John's garb and diet.

### **B. Baptizing the Repentant, 3:5-6**

1. Many people were responsive to his message.
2. They confessed their sins and were baptized in the Jordan.

### **C. Preaching Judgment, 3:7-10**

1. Pharisees and Sadducees are called out for their sin.
2. John called them, like everyone else, to repent and then bear fruit from that repentance.
3. John warned them about a false sense of security in their ancestry.
4. Judgment is imminent.
5. Good fruit indicates true repentance.

### **D. Pointing to Messiah, 3:11-12. Still in the context of judgment, but highlighting it by introducing the soon to arrive ultimate judge.**

1. John's baptism uses water as the medium to indicate an identification with his message of repentance.
2. The Messiah will come with two greater baptisms: one of the Spirit and one of fire.
3. A sorting process will occur in which the Lord will judge the world.
4. "Gathering the wheat into the barn" is an image that reflects salvation.
5. The chaff is a picture of those who reject the Messiah. Their "baptism with fire" is a picture of judgment.

## II. Jesus, 3:13-17

### A. Jesus is Baptized by John, 3:13-15

1. Jesus travels to the Jordan to be baptized.
2. John hesitates to baptize Jesus.
3. Jesus insists based on the need to fulfill all righteousness.

### B. Jesus is Affirmed by God, 3:16-17

1. The Spirit of God came down upon Jesus.
2. God the Father indicated His pleasure in Jesus. Nothing else in the world but Jesus was “very good” like Genesis 1:31.
3. The Trinity is very clear here.

## Conclusion

In this way, Matthew describes the introduction of John and Jesus, *and their message*, to the Jewish people and in turn to the world.

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