

John 1 part 5

We have seen the doctrine of Christ's pre-existence, His deity, that He is the Creator, life and light of men, that John the Baptist was His witness bearer. John was not Christ, not *that* Prophet, and not Elijah in the flesh (Although Jesus says that John was the fulfilment of Malachi 4:5 [Matthew 11:13,14]). John says he is the one crying in the wilderness. We pick up where we left off in v.24.

I. THE CONTEXT OF JOHN'S BAPTISM – v.24-28

- טבל - To dip, plunge, immerse
- Used in 2nd Kings 5 when Elisha told Naaman to "wash" himself 7 times in the Jordan river.
- **Genesis 1:10** - ¹⁰ And God called the dry *land* Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that *it was good*.
- **Exodus 7:19** - ¹⁹ And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and *that* there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in *vessels of wood*, and in *vessels of stone*.
- **Leviticus 11**
 - A ray of hope in a tunnel of darkness
- **Mikveh Background – Used for ritual purification**
- **1 Chronicles 29:15**

For we *are* strangers before thee, and sojourners, as *were* all our fathers: our days on the earth *are* as a shadow, and *there is* none abiding.
- **Jeremiah 14:8**

O the hope of Israel, the saviour thereof in time of trouble, why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land, and as a wayfaring man *that* turneth aside to tarry for a night?
- **Jeremiah 17:13**

O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, *and* they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters.

II. THE LAMB OF GOD – v.29-30

- **Genesis 22**

And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, **My father:** and he said, **Here am I, my son.**
וַיֹּאמֶר יִצְחָק אֶל־אֲבִרְהָם אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר אָבִי וַיֹּאמֶר הֲנִנִי בְנִי
And he said, **Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?**
וַיֹּאמֶר הֲנֵה הָאֵשׁ וְהָעֵצִים וְאַיִה הַשֶּׁה לְעֹלָה:
And Abraham said, **My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering**
וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִרְהָם אֱלֹהִים יִרְאֶה־לּוֹ הַשֶּׁה לְעֹלָה בְנִי

- **“Taketh away the sin of the world” –V.29**
- **“This is He” – V.30**
 - “Prepare ye the way of the **LORD**”
 - “Make strait in the desert a highway for **our God**”
- **“He was before me”-V.30**
 - **When was John conceived/born?**
 - 6 Months Earlier – Luke 1:24-26
 - Jesus is from Eternity past – Micah 5:2

III. WHY WAS JOHN BAPTIZING? – v.31

1. As a sign of repentance – Matthew 3:5-12

- ⁵ Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, ⁶ And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: ⁹ And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. ¹⁰ And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. ¹¹ I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire: ¹² Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

2. To manifest the coming of Messiah to Israel –v.31

IV. JOHN ON THE SCENE – Matthew 3

- **V. 15 – Why was Jesus baptized?**

And Jesus answering said unto him, *Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.* Then he suffered him.

- The same reason He was circumcised.
- It was in a way his formal “Inauguration” into earthly ministry
- He was validating what John was doing

V. JOHN’S VALIDATION OF JESUS – v. 32-34

- The Spirit descended on Jesus “like a dove”
- The same is He who baptizes with the Holy Ghost
- This is the Son of God
 - ¹⁶ And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: ¹⁷ And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.