

MARK

CHAPTER 1

John the Baptist Prepares the Way (1:1–1:8)

- 1 This is the Good News about **Jesus** the Messiah, the Son of God.^a It began
- 2 just as the prophet **Isaiah** had written: “Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way.^b”
 - 3 He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the LORD’s coming! Clear the road for him!’^c”
 - 4 This messenger was **John** the Baptist. He was in the wilderness and preached that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven.
 - 5 All of *Judea*, including all the people of *Jerusalem*, went out to see and hear **John**. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the *Jordan River*.
 - 6 His clothes were woven from coarse camel hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. For food he ate locusts and wild honey.
 - 7 **John** announced: “Someone is coming soon who is greater than I am —so much greater that I’m not even worthy to stoop down like a slave and untie the straps of his sandals.
 - 8 I baptize you with^d water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!”

The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus (1:9–1:15)

- 9 One day **Jesus** came from *Nazareth* in *Galilee*, and **John** baptized him in the *Jordan River*.
- 10 As **Jesus** came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him^e like a dove.
- 11 And a voice from heaven said, “You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.”
- 12 The Spirit then compelled **Jesus** to go into the wilderness,
- 13 where he was tempted by Satan for forty days. He was out among the wild animals, and angels took care of him.
- 14 Later on, after **John** was arrested, **Jesus** went into *Galilee*, where he preached God’s Good News.^f

15 “The time promised by God has come at last!” he announced. “The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!”

The First Disciples (1:16–1:20)

16 One day as **Jesus** was walking along the shore of the *Sea of Galilee*, he saw **Simon**^g and his brother **Andrew** throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living.

● 17 **Jesus** called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!”

18 And they left their nets at once and followed him.

19 A little farther up the shore **Jesus** saw **Zebedee**’s sons, **James** and **John**, in a boat repairing their nets.

20 He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, **Zebedee**, in the boat with the hired men.

Jesus Casts Out an Evil Spirit (1:21–1:28)

21 **Jesus** and his companions went to the town of *Capernaum*. When the Sabbath day came, he went into the synagogue and began to teach.

● 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority—quite unlike the teachers of religious law.

23 Suddenly, a man in the synagogue who was possessed by an evil^h spirit cried out,

24 “Why are you interfering with us, **Jesus** of *Nazareth*? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

25 But **Jesus** reprimanded him. “Be quiet! Come out of the man,” he ordered.

26 At that, the evil spirit screamed, threw the man into a convulsion, and then came out of him.

● 27 Amazement gripped the audience, and they began to discuss what had happened. “What sort of new teaching is this?” they asked excitedly. “It has such authority! Even evil spirits obey his orders!”

28 The news about **Jesus** spread quickly throughout the entire region of *Galilee*.

Jesus Heals Many People (1:29–1:34)

29 After **Jesus** left the synagogue with **James** and **John**, they went to **Simon** and **Andrew**’s home.

30 Now **Simon**’s mother-in-law was sick in bed with a high fever. They told **Jesus** about her right away.