

What did John the Baptist mean by the “kingdom of heaven,” and why was it necessary to repent?

Why do you think Matthew mentions John’s clothing and eating habits? According to 2 Kings 1:8 and Zec. 13:4, who else wore camel’s hair and a leather belt?

Why do you think people were coming out to see John? Why do you think they were responding positively to his message? Would you have responded positively?

For what did John criticize the Pharisees and Sadducees in vs. 9-10?

Personal Sharing: The word “baptize” means to completely saturate. Considering that, what does vs. 11 mean to you personally? What does it look like to be baptized with the Holy Spirit?

Why do you think Jesus’ baptism “fulfilled all righteousness?” What was the significance of the Holy Spirit descending and lighting on Jesus?

Who led Jesus after his baptism? Into where? For what purpose? How do you reconcile that with James 1:13?

What were the underlying desires that the devil was appealing to in these temptations?

turning the stone to bread -

jumping off the highest point of the temple and landing unharmed –

having all the kingdoms of the world –

Personal Sharing: Do you think the devil audibly spoke these temptations, or just whispered them into Jesus’ thoughts? How did Jesus resist the temptation each time? How do you resist temptation? Can you recall a time when you experienced the effectiveness of God’s Word in fighting temptation?

What is “the good news of the kingdom” that Jesus preached?

Why do you think Jesus healed people as he preached?

Personal Sharing: If you were in the crowds, would you ask him to heal you of something?

Sermon Notes

Date: _____ Presenter: _____ Text: _____