

The Beginning of the Gospel

Mark 1:1-11

The beginning of the Gospel (1)

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Recipients	Jews	Romans	Gentiles	All people
Presents Jesus as	King of the Jews	Servant	Perfect Man	Son of God
Genealogy	To Abraham, father of the Jews	None; Who cares about a servant's ancestors?	To Adam, father of all people	None; God has no beginning
Begins with	Genealogy of Jesus	Ministry of John the Baptizer	Birth of Jesus	Eternity past

The Gospel is the good news about Jesus

Jesus is the Son of God (1). This was attested by Scripture (2-3), proclaimed by John (4-8), and confirmed by the Father (11).

The Gospel begins with a forerunner (2-8)

John the Baptizer's ministry was according to God's plan (2-3)

John's ministry was to prepare people for the coming Messiah (4-8)

John's message: "Separate yourself from a sinful culture, repent, and live a life focused on God."

Baptism of John & Jesus

	John	Jesus
Audience	Seekers	Believers
Medium	Water	Holy Spirit
Evidence	Outward sign	Inward reality
Significance	Ceremonial	Supernatural
	Temporary	Permanent
Purpose	Preparation	Power

The Gospel begins with a baptism (9-11)

Jesus' baptism was:

An act of obedience, showing he was in agreement with God's plan

An act of identification with the nation of Israel

An act of dedication to his messianic task

Three things made Jesus' baptism unique from all the others:

The heavens opened

The Spirit descended on Jesus in the form of a dove

God's voice sounded his approval of Jesus