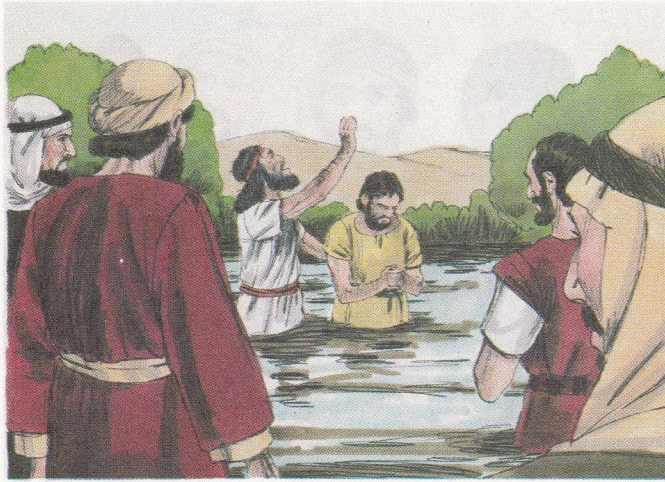
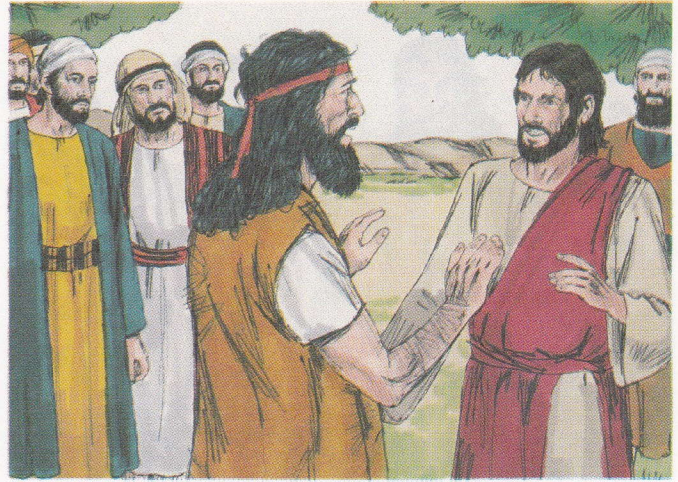


# Jesus' Baptism and Temptation



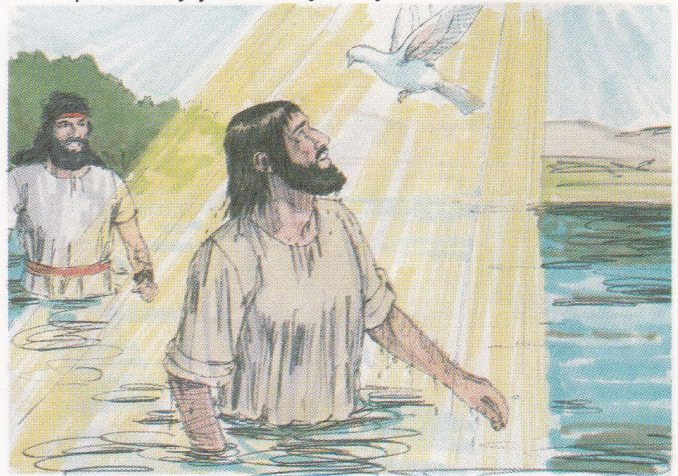
**1** When John the Baptist began to preach near the Jordan River, great crowds came to hear him. Those who believed what John preached were baptized by him in the river.



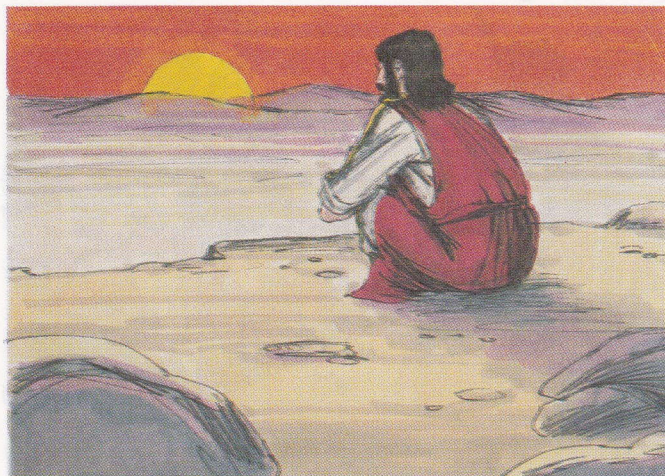
**2** Jesus was one of those who came to John to be baptized. But John was surprised when he saw Jesus. He tried to stop Jesus, saying, "I need to be baptized by you! Why do you come to me?"



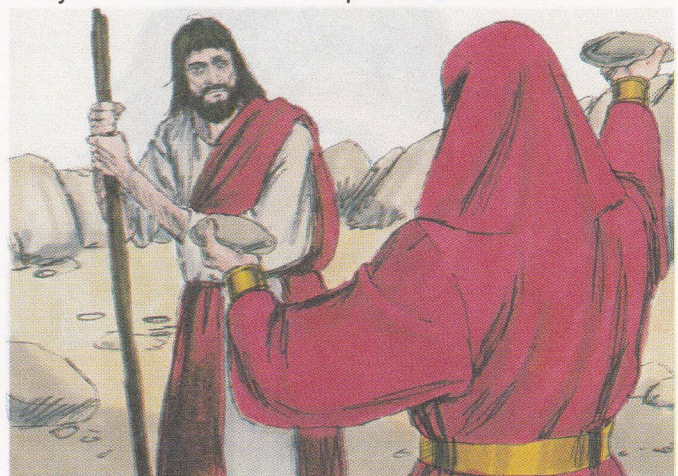
**3** Jesus answered John, "Let it be so, for this is what God wants us to do." So John baptized Jesus.



**4** As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and alighting upon him. A voice from heaven said, "This is my own dear Son. I am pleased with him."



**5** Right away the Spirit of God led Jesus into the desert. For forty days and nights he ate nothing at all. Then the devil came to see if he could cause Jesus to sin.

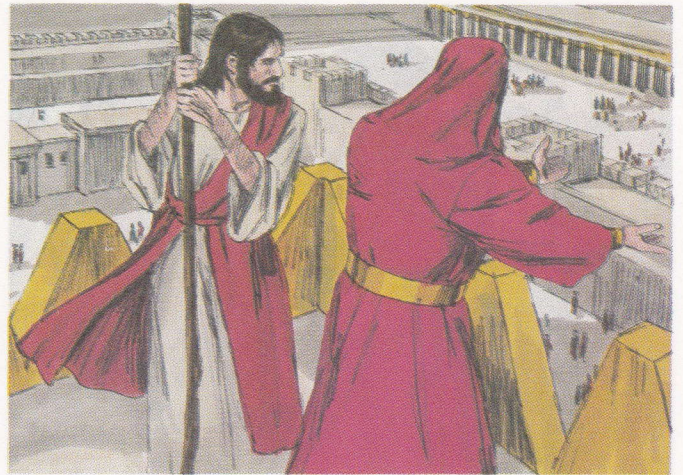


**6** Because Jesus had not eaten for so long, he was very hungry. So the devil said to him, "If you really are the Son of God, turn these stones into bread."

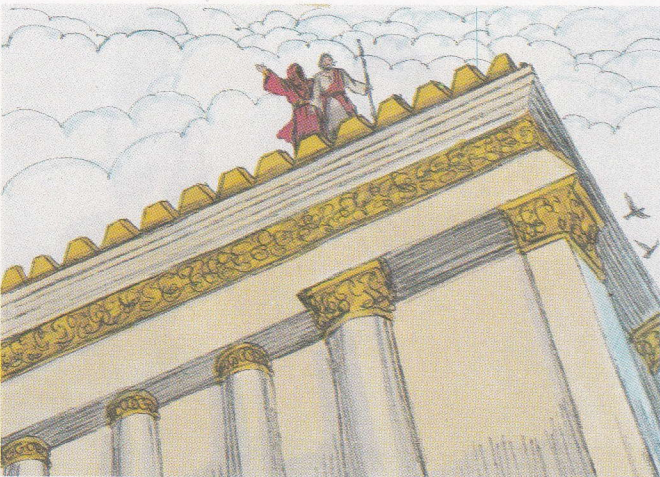




**7** Jesus replied, "The Scriptures say, 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that God speaks.'"



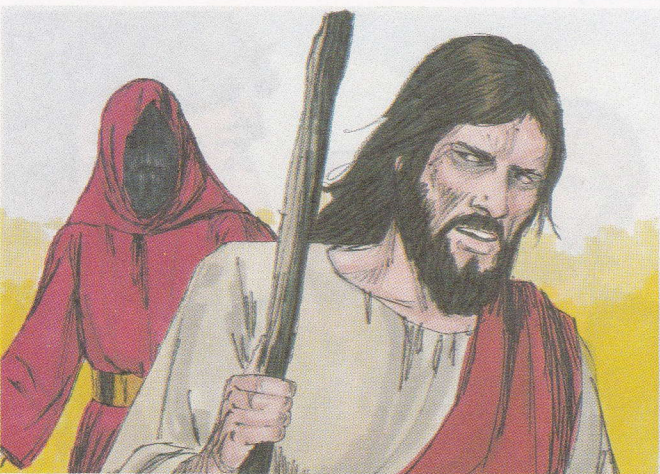
**8** Then the devil took Jesus to the top of the Temple. "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. The Scriptures say, 'His angels will not let you strike your foot against a stone.'"



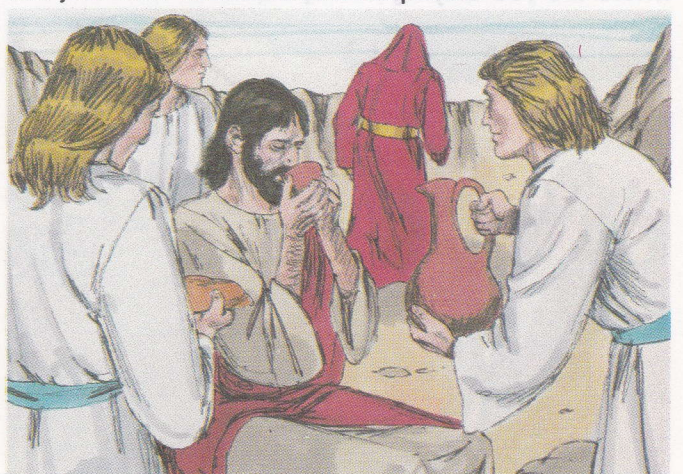
**9** Jesus answered, "The Scriptures *also* say, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test!'"



**10** Then the devil took him to a very high mountain. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. "All this will be yours," the devil said, "if you will just bow down and worship me."



**11** But Jesus replied, "Get away from me, Satan. The Scriptures say, 'Worship the Lord your God and serve no one but him.'"



**12** Then the devil left him and angels came and cared for him.