

## BSF Scripture for Matthew Lesson #3

### FIRST DAY:

#### 1. Read the lesson notes and References

### SECOND DAY:

#### Read Matthew 3:1-4

##### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

[3:1] In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea [2] and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” [3] This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the desert,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.’”

[4] John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

#### Question 3a

**Malachi 4:5-6;** [5] “See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. [6] He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.”

**Luke 1:17;** [17] And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

**2 Kings 1:8;** [8] They replied, “He was a man with a garment of hair and with a leather belt around his waist.” The king said, “That was Elijah the Tishbite.”

**Mark 1:6;** [6] John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

**Matthew 17:9-13;** [9] As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

[10] The disciples asked him, “Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?”

[11] Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. [12] But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.” [13] Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptist.

#### Question 3b

**Isaiah 40:1-5;** Isaiah [40:1] Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

[2] Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and proclaim to her  
that her hard service has been completed,  
that her sin has been paid for,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

[3] A voice of one calling:  
“In the desert prepare

the way for the LORD;  
make straight in the wilderness  
a highway for our God.

[4] Every valley shall be raised up,  
every mountain and hill made low;  
the rough ground shall become level,  
the rugged places a plain.

[5] And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all mankind together will see it.  
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

### THIRD DAY

#### Read Matthew 3:5-10

[5] People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. [6] Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

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[7] But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? [8] Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. [9] And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. [10] The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

### Question 6

**Acts 3:19; 20:21; 26:20;** [19] Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

[21] I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

**James 5:16;** [16] Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

**1 John 1:9;** [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

### Question 7

**Joel 2:13;** [13] Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

**Matthew 3:8;** [8] Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

**Acts 26:20;** [20] First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.

**Romans 2:4;** [4] Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

**2 Corinthians; 7:10-11;** [10:1] By the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you—I, Paul, who am “timid” when face to face with you, but “bold” when away! [2] I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world. [3] For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. [4] The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. [5] We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. [6] And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.

[7] You are looking only on the surface of things. If anyone is confident that he belongs to Christ, he should consider again that we belong to Christ just as much as he.

## FOURTH DAY

### Read Matthew 3:11-12

[11] “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. [12] His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

### Question 9

**John 15:26; 16:13-14;** [26] “When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

[13] But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. [14] He will bring glory

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to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.

**Romans 8:9;** [9] You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

**2 Corinthians 13:14;** [14] May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Galatians 4:6;** [6] Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba, Father.*”

### Question 10

**Ezekiel 36:25-27;** [25] I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. [26] I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. [27] And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

**John 7:37-39; 16:13;** [37] On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “*If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. [38] Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.*” [39] By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

[13] *But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*

**Acts 1:5, 7-8;** [5] For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

[7] He said to them: “*It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*”

## FIFTH DAY

### Read Matthew 3:13-17

#### **The Baptism of Jesus**

[13] Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. [14] But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

[15] Jesus replied, “*Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.*” Then John consented.

[16] As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. [17] And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

### Question 13a

**John 1:32-34;** [32] Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. [33] I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ [34] I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God.”

### Question 13b

**Luke 3:21-22;** [21] When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened [22] and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

## SIXTH DAY

**Review Matthew 3 See above scriptures in days 2-5**