

Baptism and temptation of Jesus – from Mark

From Mark 1.9-15

Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the River Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; I am very pleased with you.'

And immediately the Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness. He was alone in the wilderness and Satan tempted him for 40 days. There was no one else there, just the wild beasts and the angels. The angels waited on him.

When Jesus came out of the wilderness, he discovered that John had been arrested and put in prison. It wouldn't be easy, but Jesus knew what he had to do. So he began to proclaim the good news of God in Galilee.

'The time has come,' said Jesus. 'The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe in the good news.'