

Jesus' Baptism

Based on Luke 3:1-3, 10-22; Matthew 3:7-9, 13-15

Jesus grew to be a young man. God sent a spokesman ahead of him to prepare the way for the people to receive the Promised Savior, Jesus.

After some time, a message from God came to a man named John who was living out in the **wilderness**.

Then John went from place to place telling people that they should be **baptized** to show that they had **turned from their sins** and **turned to God** to be forgiven.

Some religious leaders came to hear John, and he said, "You snakes! Who warned you to flee from God's wrath? Prove by the way you live that you have turned to God. Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are the descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing. God can change these stones here into descendants of Abraham."

Then the crowd asked, "What should we do?" John replied, "If you have two coats, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry."

Even corrupt tax collectors came to be baptized and asked, "Teacher, what should we do?" "Show your honesty," he replied. "Make sure you collect no more taxes than the government requires you to."

"What should we do?" asked some soldiers. John replied, "Don't extort money, and don't accuse people of things you know they didn't do. And be content with your pay."

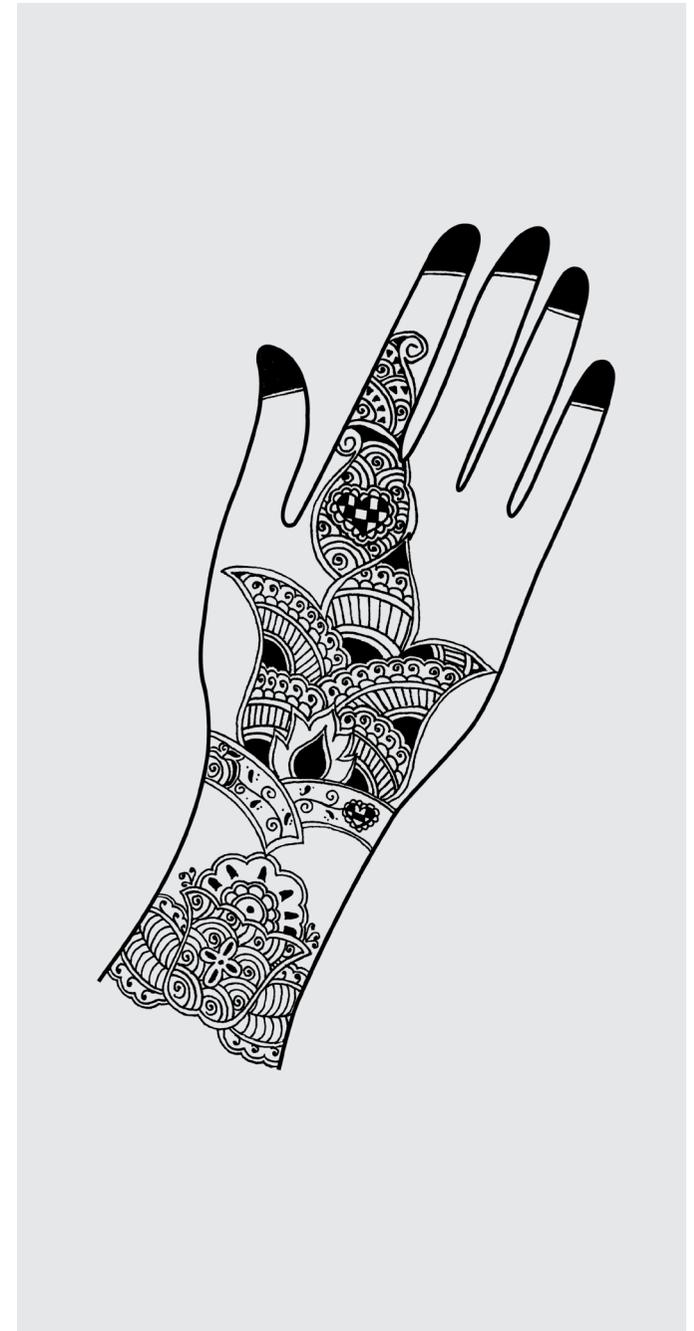
Everyone was expecting the Promised Savior to come soon, and they were eager to know if John was him. John answered their questions by saying, "I baptize with water; but someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I am not even worthy to be his slave. He will baptize you with **God's Spirit** and with fire."

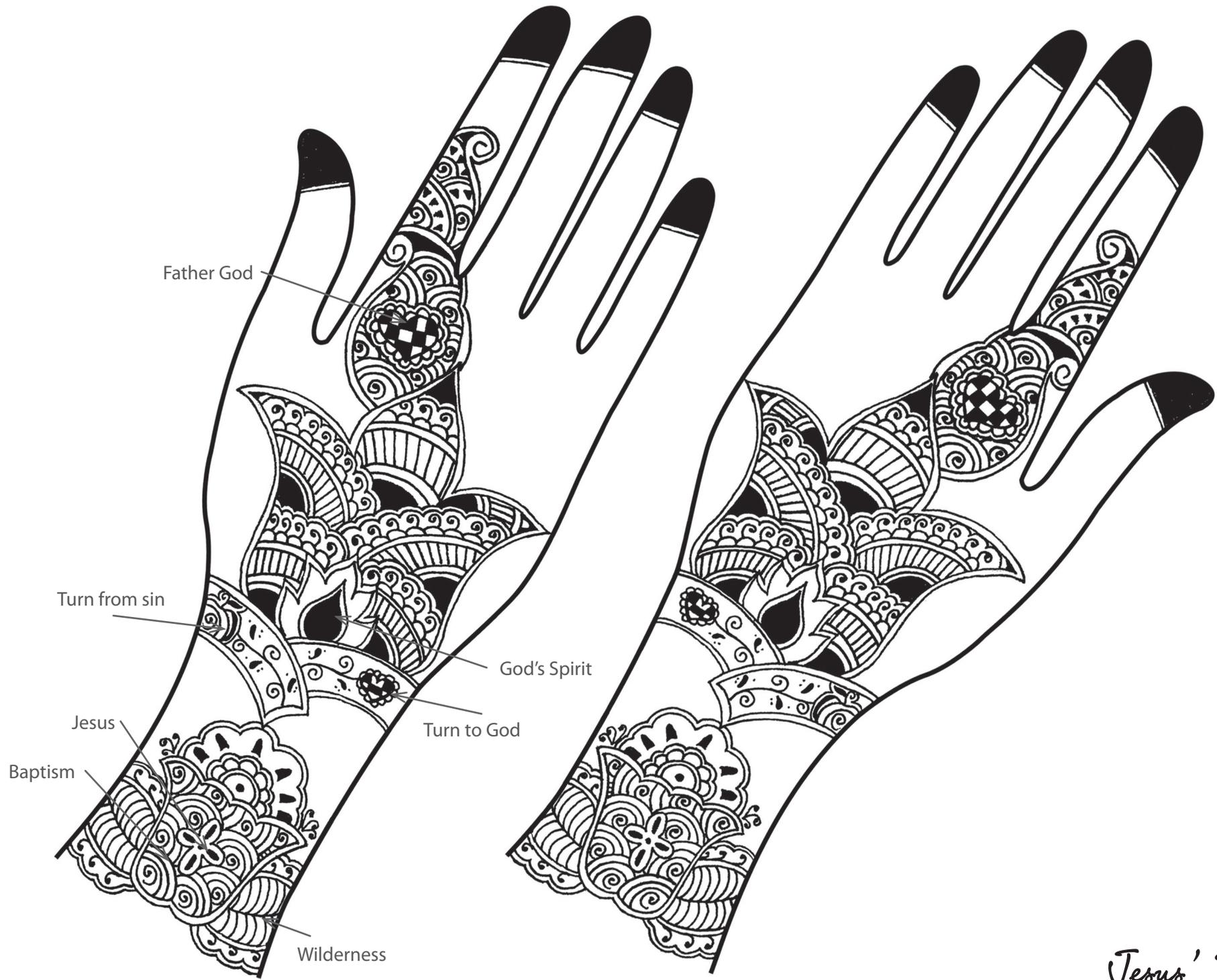
One day when the crowds were being baptized, **Jesus** himself came to be baptized by John even though Jesus had never sinned. But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him.

Afterwards, as he was praying, the heavens opened and God's spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. And **a voice from heaven** said, "You are my Son, I love you and I am very pleased with you."

Drawing Elements: Wilderness, Baptism, Turn from sin, Turn to God, God's Spirit, Jesus, Father God (voice from heaven)





Father God

Turn from sin

Jesus

Baptism

Wilderness

God's Spirit

Turn to God

Jesus' Baptism