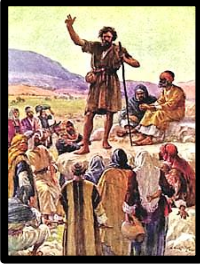




# FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors Dennis & Diane Gordon

## JESUS IS LORD #3 FOLLOWING THE WAY OF GODS WORD



GOD'S OLD COVENANT WAS IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAW, THE NEW COVENANT IS IN HIS BLOOD, SHED ONCE FOR ALL. OUR GOD HAS NOT CHANGED AND HIS LAW IS THE SAME, BUT IS NOW IN OUR HEARTS, SO WE CAN FOLLOW HIS WAY.

*Matthew 3:15* "And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer (allow) it to be so now: for thus it becometh us TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS. Then he suffered (allowed) him. "

*Acts 24:14* "But this I confess unto thee, that AFTER THE WAY WHICH THEY CALL HERESY, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets. "

*Jeremiah 31:33* "But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I WILL PUT MY LAW IN THEIR INWARD PARTS, AND WRITE IT IN THEIR HEARTS; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. "

**1. INTRODUCTION:** Last week we learned that fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, and that the Gospel of God begins with repentance. This week we follow Jesus as He fulfills God's law by being baptized - not to do away with baptism, but to fulfill the law of righteousness by following 'THE WAY' that God established from the beginning. Jesus showed us also by repeating God's word from the law, to Satan, that standing firmly in the whole Word of God, will protect us from the deception of Satan's lies.

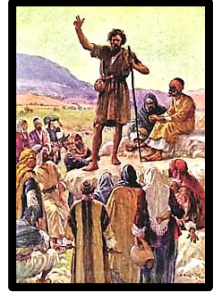
### ORDER OF SERVICE:

1. Light Candles & Pray
2. Children's Songs & Story
3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring
4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song'
5. Adult Fellowship Break
6. Worship Song Set
7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer
8. Blessing Songs & Benediction

## **2. THE PROPHETS FORETOLD THAT THE MESSIAH WOULD FOLLOW THE LAW = THE WAY OF THE LORD.**

John the Baptist was preaching in the wilderness **IN FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS** who foretold Jesus' coming.

*“Matthew 3:1-4 “In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judæa, <sup>2</sup> and saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. <sup>3</sup> For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>4</sup> And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey...”*



*Isaiah 8:16 & 20 “BIND UP THE TESTIMONY, SEAL THE LAW among my disciples.... <sup>20</sup> TO THE LAW AND TO THE TESTIMONY: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”*

The prophet Isaiah foretold the promise that the the same Law of God, called ‘The Testimony’ bound up in the Ark of God, will be sealed up in the hearts of Jesus’ true disciples. Jeremiah confirmed God’s promise:

*Jeremiah 31:33 “But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I WILL PUT MY LAW IN THEIR INWARD PARTS, AND WRITE IT IN THEIR HEARTS; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.”*

These specific prophecies were looking forward to our day, when false teachers claiming to be ministers of God are not speaking according to God’s word. **When you hear a preacher teach that God’s Testimony in His Commandments was not written for us today, remember God’s warning** in His word that **identifies those who deny the Law of God’s Testimony found in the prophets, as false preachers to avoid.**

We follow the example of Paul, who followed God no matter the cost:

*Acts 24:14 “But this I confess unto thee, that AFTER THE WAY WHICH THEY CALL HERESY, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets.”*

### **3. THE WAY OF THE LORD IS STILL HIS WAY TODAY.**

Following the Law of God, was called following “The Way” of the Lord.

*Genesis 18:19 “For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and **they shall keep THE WAY of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.**”*

God chose Abraham because he kept “**The Way**” of the Lord. The New Testament confirms “**The Way**” of the Old Testament. The disciples received Jesus because He taught **the way of God** that they knew to be true.



*Matthew 22:16 “And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest **THE WAY OF GOD** in truth....”*

God has given us many promises, and God’s promise in His covenant has not changed, only the blood of the covenant (and old blood ordinances) has changed. **When we keep THE WAY of the Lord, it is then that God brings His promises upon us.**

*Matthew 3:9-10 “And **think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father:** for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. <sup>10</sup> And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore **every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.**”*

It was and is not enough in any age of time, to be born into a Godly family, **but each must choose for himself to follow THE WAY of the Lord,** to be saved and to receive the promise of God. God’s criteria for identifying those who are saved is by the identifying mark that they follow “The Way” of the Lord, keeping His Commandments by Faith.

*Revelation 14:12 “**Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.**”*

John the Baptist cried out the same warning of old, that is repeated again in Revelation, that God knows and identifies His own at His coming, as those who are found faithfully still keeping “**The Way**” of the Lord.

#### **4. JOHN'S PURPOSE WAS TO ESTABLISH THE BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE, PICTURING THE DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

Remember that John the Baptist and the Lord Jesus recognized each other in the wombs of their mothers, Mary and Elizabeth! John was conceived and lived out the purpose of his life to prepare the way of the LORD! Jesus was God conceived in flesh to live out the purpose of His human life to save His people from their sins, as God made visible.

*Acts 20:27-28* “For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. <sup>28</sup> Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”

Jesus was obedient to His call as a human Son, to be baptized, as a picture of His impending death, burial and resurrection, that was foreordained to come to pass before He came into the world.

*1 Peter 1:18-20* “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold.... <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: <sup>20</sup> who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.”

This plan of salvation ordained before the foundation of the world, was the righteousness that Jesus came to fulfill, and to show us “**The Way**”.

*Matthew 3:13-15* “Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. <sup>14</sup> But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? <sup>15</sup> And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer (allow) it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered (allowed) him.”

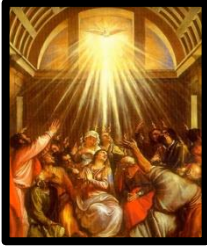


Jesus fulfilled “the Way of the LORD” by being baptized to show the way of redemption in Him.

*Romans 6:3-4* “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

## **5. GOD WILL EITHER FILL AND IMMERSE YOU IN HIS HOLY SPIRIT AND GATHER YOU UP TO HEAVEN, OR YOU WILL BE BURNED WITH FIRE AT HIS COMING**

*Matthew 3:11-12 “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy*



*to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:***

*<sup>12</sup>Whose fan is in his hand, and **he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**”*



John speaks of two fires. When Jesus comes, we do not want to be left behind to be burned up by the fire that cleanses the earth of sin! But how wonderful to have the all-consuming **fire of God’s Holy Spirit, that causes your heart to burn with a passion to tell of the wonderful works of Jesus!** When the disciples in the book of Acts were baptized in the Holy Spirit, they spoke of the wonderful works of God in the languages of those who heard them.

**Acts 2:8-11 “How hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?.....we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.”**

The baptism in the Holy Ghost is a good fire to have, that gives you the light and knowledge of the wonderful works of God in your heart! As a human Son, Jesus was both filled and immersed in the presence and power of the Spirit of the Eternal Father God! Like Jesus, with the light of God’s Holy Spirit filling and immersing you in Himself, you will have power to proclaim the wonderful works of God and be pleasing to Him.

**Matthew 3:16-17 “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: <sup>17</sup>and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**

God’s word does not say that the Holy Spirit is a dove, but that Jesus saw the Holy Spirit descending like a dove descends, gently coming upon Him, like in the same way that God’s Holy Spirit will come upon you!

## **6. THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL LEAD YOU INTO TESTING TO STRENGTHEN YOU IN YOUR FAITH.**

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into testing to strengthen Him for the ministry of salvation to a world that was lost in sin. Testing clarifies on which side of the fence each one of us stands. Testing can reveal a heart that is not committed to the Lord, that will destroy a person when they are tested because they are unable to get off the throne of self and worship only God; or testing will reveal a heart that is committed to live only for God no matter what loss they may have to bear, because Jesus is all that matters!

***Matthew 4:1-4** “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. <sup>2</sup>And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. <sup>3</sup>And **when the tempter came to him**, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. <sup>4</sup>But **he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**”*



When Satan comes to tempt us, and he will, he always comes to attack our most weak and vulnerable spot. Your most vulnerable spot may be riches, personal relationships, or your faith. Is your faith founded on trusting fallible men, or is your faith founded upon your trust in God’s word? It is easier to trust in men who are so sure they are right even though they ignore a few scriptures they have to explain away, but God’s word says to only trust in Him.

***Romans 3:3-4** “For what if some did not believe? **shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?** <sup>4</sup>**God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar;** as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.”*

We may be shaken when tested, and not feel sure at all that we do not want what Satan has to offer, but we can make the devil flee from us by telling the devil what God’s word says: **It is written!**

## **7. WHEN YOU ARE SHAKEN, RESIST THE DEVIL BY SAYING “IT IS WRITTEN” & HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU**

*Matthew 4:5-11* “Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

Satan still does his best work high up in churches! He looks for the most powerful of God’s people at the top to convince of his lies, because when these powerful men of God who are trusted by God’s people turn into false teachers, they lead thousands of disciples away from the LORD.

*Matthew 4:6-9* “And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said unto him, *It is written again*, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. <sup>8</sup> Again, *the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain*, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; <sup>9</sup> and saith unto him, *All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*”



Preachers without real reverence for God’s word have no weapon to use against Satan’s lies, so they are easily deceived into embracing the same soul-destroying lie that has worked for Satan from the beginning. In the bargain, these false teachers receive the riches that Satan promised.

*Matthew 4:10-11* “Then saith Jesus unto him, *Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.* <sup>11</sup> Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.”

When circumstances seem beyond repair, rejoice in the Lord because He gives you His word to speak **that has power to destroy all power of the enemy!** Tell the devil, “**It is written!**”, and he will flee!

*James 4:7* “Submit yourselves therefore to God. *Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*” *Luke 10:19-20* “Behold, *I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.* <sup>20</sup> *Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.*”

## **8. NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES SUMMARIZE GOD'S LAW, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT GOD'S 10 COMMANDMENT LAW IS WRITTEN IN OUR HEARTS.**

**Jeremiah 31:33** *“But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, **I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts;** and will be their God, and they shall be my people.”*

**Matthew 3:10-12** *“Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, **THOU SHALT WORSHIP THE LORD THY GOD, AND HIM ONLY SHALT THOU SERVE....**”<sup>12</sup> Therefore **ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER YE WOULD THAT MEN SHOULD DO TO YOU, DO YE EVEN SO TO THEM:** for this is the law and the prophets.”*

Because God's Law is now written in the hearts of those who love Him, we do not need the schoolmaster of the old works of the Law to make us conform to the 10 Commandments that were never done away, but can be summarized to the simplicity of loving God and loving others from a loving sincere heart.

GOD	MAN
1: Do not worship any other gods	5: Honour your father & mother
2: Do not make any idols	6: Do not murder
3: Do not misuse the name of God	7: Do not commit adultery
4: Keep the Sabbath holy	8: Do not steal
	9: Do not lie
	10: Do not covet

**LOVE GOD**    **LOVE OTHERS**

**Matthew 22:36-40** *“Master, which is the great commandment in the law?”<sup>37</sup> Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.**”<sup>38</sup> This is the first and great commandment.<sup>39</sup> And the second is like unto it, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**”<sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”*

With a closer reading of these Scriptures, you see that Jesus did not ever make the 10 Commandments of none affect, but He showed us that His Commandments are a simple outline of how to love God and love others!

**Acts 20:28-30** *“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”<sup>29</sup> **For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.**”<sup>30</sup> **Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.**”*

Today wolves have come boldly into God's flock, falsely teaching His sheep that the Way of the LORD outlined in His 10 Commandments, is a sin, stealing away disciples, but we are warned not to listen to them.



## **9. WE FOLLOW “THE WAY” OF GOD’S WORD LIKE JESUS, BECAUSE NOT ONE LETTER WILL EVER PASS AWAY!**

*Matthew 3:1-2 “In those days came John the Baptist, preaching ... <sup>2</sup> and saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

The kingdom of heaven is at hand so we must prepare the way of the Lord for the salvation of souls! How? By following the way of the Lord that can only found in the pure word of God preserved for us forever!

*Psalms 12:6-7 “The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. <sup>7</sup> Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.”*

How do we know which Bible version is the pure word of God? Modern versions are translated from the various manuscripts of Westcott-Hort, which long ago were known to be corrupted, making it impossible to find the origin of any word; they also did not believe scriptures to be infallible and changed God’s words to fit their own private interpretation.

*See [The Life & Letters of Brook Foss Westcott](#)* The KJV, translated word for word from the Textus Receptus, the only translation the translators believed to be the very word of God, so the reader can search every word back to its original meaning, for God’s words will never pass away! [Luke 21:23](#)

*2 Corinthians 4:6 “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”*

*1 John 3:2 “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”*



So what shall we do? Prepare the way of the Lord in your heart! Read God’s word so you will know Him and His way, from His living word in your Bible! May we all be continually filled with His word and His Holy Spirit and until He comes! Then we shall see our Father God – in the face of our LORD Jesus Christ!

## **10. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU AND ME.**

1. God's Old Covenant Law was sealed in the blood of animals, requiring repeated works; God's New Covenant Law is sealed in the blood of Jesus Christ shed once for all, requiring faith.
2. God sealed the Testimony of His Law in His disciples, by writing His Law upon our hearts so we can know Him.
3. Obeying God's Law is called "The Way of the LORD".
4. John came to establish the baptism of repentance, as a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
5. God will either fill and immerse you in His Spirit and gather you to heaven, or you will be burned with fire at His coming.
6. The Holy Spirit will lead you into testing with God's purpose to strengthen you in your faith.
7. When you are shaken, resist the devil by saying from the Word of God, "It is written!" and Satan will flee from you.
8. God's 10 Commandment Law is the Testimony of who He is, and will never be passed away, but God's Law, summarized, is the two commandments: Love God, and Love others.
9. Follow "The Way" of God's word like Jesus, because He has preserved His Word forever!
10. We can trust God's whole word is true, because He promised that not one letter of His Law will ever pass away!

### **PRAY TOGETHER:**

**Our Dear Father**, thank you for your word that you promised to preserve for us forever, so that we might know you, and the truth of who you are that has not changed from the beginning of creation. Thank you, Jesus, that you have written your Law upon our hearts so we can know you, and follow your way, and serve you for all of our days. Help us to walk in humility and repentance, and not be shaken by anything the devil throws at us, because we have your pure word to show us the way, and to speak aloud with power to make the devil flee. Help us to prepare the way of salvation until you come, **in Jesus' name, Amen.**

## 11. CHILDREN'S STORY: When I See Jesus I See My Father God

Charley came home from church with a question that he did not understand, “*Dad, I believe Jesus is God, but if Jesus is God, then how could God talk to Him from Heaven?*” Dad replied, “*That is a very thoughtful question Charley, and God’s word always has just the answer we need.*”



There was a man named Philip who wondered the same thing and asked Jesus: *John 14:8-9* “*Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father....*”<sup>9</sup> *Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father.*”

Our God is easy to understand when you believe God’s word just as it is written: God’s word, the same breath of His mouth *Psalms 33:6* that He spoke to create everything in the world, **was made visible**, or manifest, in Jesus Christ. *1 Timothy 3:16* “*...God was manifest in the flesh....*”

All of who God is, came to us in baby Jesus so we could see Him! *Colossians 2:9* “*For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.*” *John 14:10* “*Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me...the FATHER THAT DWELLETH IN ME, he doeth the works.*” This is why Jesus told His disciples it was the Father living in Him who was doing the works, because He wants us to know that **the Father God always was and is fully in His Son**, our Lord Jesus Christ!

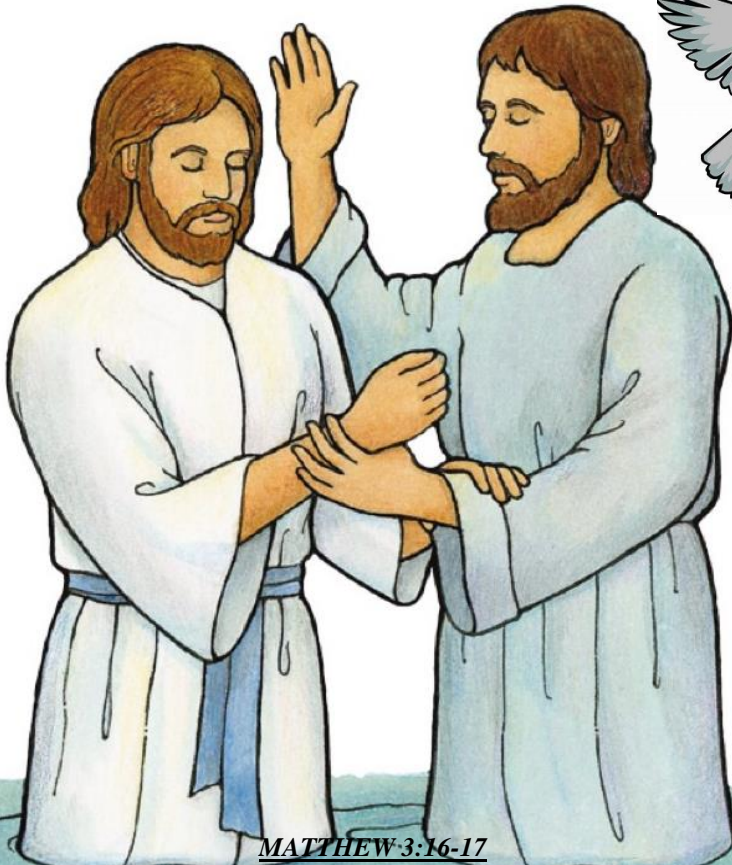
*Hebrews 1:1* tells us that in days of old **God spoke to His people in different ways**: through clouds, or fire, and through angels. **The angels were not 2<sup>nd</sup> persons of God**, but God spoke through them. Today God speaks to us through **His Son: His image**. Jesus said when we see Him we have seen the Father because **Jesus is God with skin on!** The invisible Father is still in Heaven while He lives in Jesus. Jesus had to be baptized **because He was also fully a man**, and God spoke to Jesus from Heaven and said, “*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*” Charley thought about that and said, “*I want to be pleasing to my Father God too, Dad, so that someday I will get to see Him - in the Lord Jesus!*”



**“THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASD.”**

**Directions:**

1. Enlarge & copy onto 8 ½ x 11 white card stock & cut out Cloud, Men, and Holy Spirit Dove.
2. Glue outside edges only of cloud to top of blue card stock, leaving middle open to hide dove.
3. Color Sunshine, and glue puffs of cotton balls to make fluffy clouds around edge of clouds.
4. Glue John baptizing Jesus to lower edge of blue card stock & glue dove to end of craft stick.
5. Lower the Holy Spirit dove through the cloud to descend onto Jesus as you read the verse.



**MATTHEW 3:16-17**

**“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: <sup>17</sup> and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**

**JESUS WILL BAPTIZE ME IN HIS HOLY SPIRIT  
HE WILL COME GENTLY TO ME LIKE A DOVE.**