

# **The First 40 Days of Jesus' Ministry**

*"The Grand Narrative of Jesus" Series*

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*A new president is carefully scrutinized in his first 40 days in office to see if he will really follow thru on promises made...new employees at many businesses are put on "probation" their first 8 weeks (40 days) to see if they have what it takes to make the cut. "Let's see what you can do" is the challenge...will you sink or swim? Jesus had a 40 day "testing" period like no other...*

## **Jesus and John the Baptist, A Week Before Their "Appointment"**

### **Why Did Jesus Get Baptized?**

#### **Jesus was Lead by the Spirit into the Wilderness to be Tempted**

- *This should remind us of Genesis 3 when the "first Adam" failed*
- *If Satan can somehow get Jesus to take a "shortcut", Jesus' mission is over...*

### **The Three Tests**

- *"If you are the Son of God"*
- *(1) stone to bread (2) "jump!"...the angels will catch you!  
(3) worship Satan and avoid the pain*
- *How did Jesus respond? Did he engage in arguing? What was His answer?*

### **What Does This Mean to Me?**

- *How have you identified your life with the life of Jesus?*
- *The 40 days was just the beginning of over 3 years of trials and temptations – what does it mean to you that He stuck with it just so He could restore you to God?*