

## PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCED JESUS

6

**CATECHETICAL TEXTBOOK SERIES OF THE SYRO - MALABAR CHURCH** 

#### **LESSON 2**

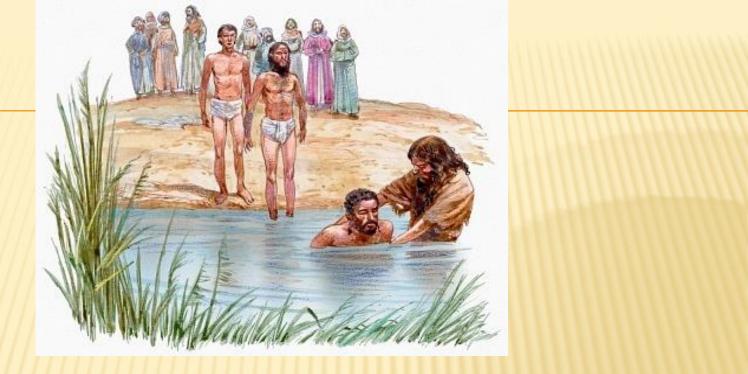
### THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD



#### JOHN THE BAPTIST



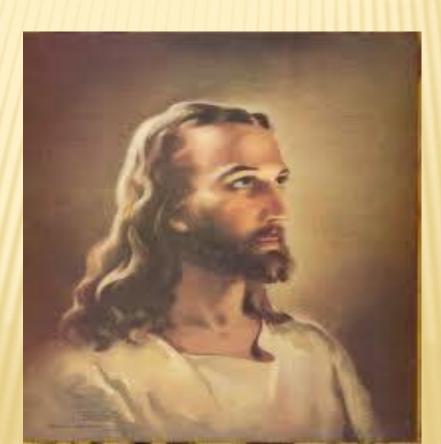
John the Baptist was the son of Zacharias and Elisabeth, a cousin of Mary the mother of Jesus. John was called by God and sent to prepare the people to receive the Saviour Jesus Christ.



# John the Baptist was giving the baptism of repentance on the bank of River Jordan.

#### **BAPTISM OF JESUS**

# The son of God without blemish of sin , wants to baptize from John



" I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me"?

Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness"

WHEN JESUS HAD BEEN BAPTIZED, JUST AS HE CAME UP FROM THE WATER, THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED TO HIM .

عيد الغطاس المجيد

رب واحد

إيمان واحد

معمودية

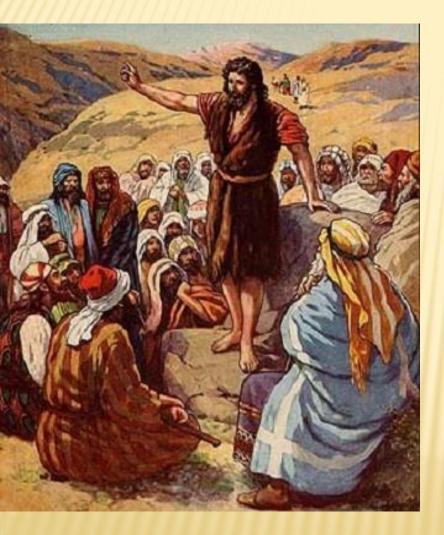
واحدة

(أف ٤ : ٥)

The heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. A voice from heaven said

This is my son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt.3:13-17)

### WITNESS OF JOHN

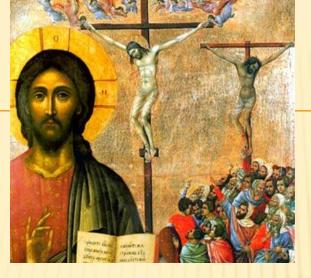


"Here is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."

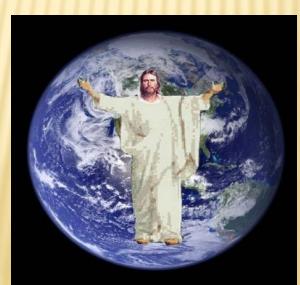
#### JOHN TESTIFIED



" I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and testified that this is the Son of God'.

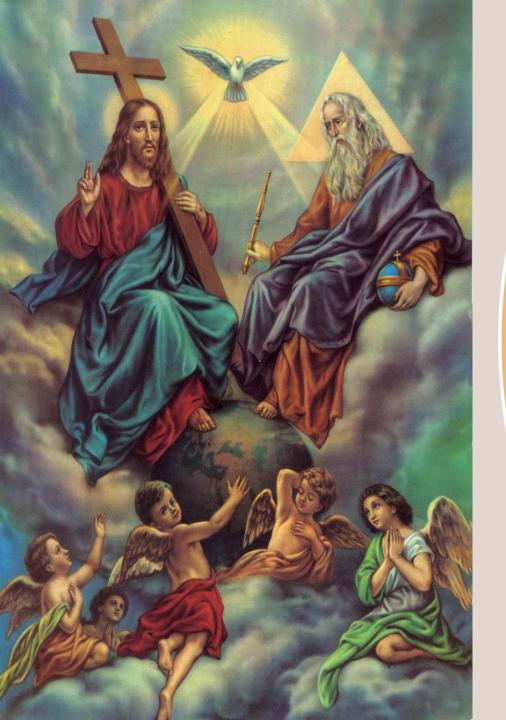


#### Baptism of Jesus points the sacrifice he was to offer on Calvary in atonement for the sins of mankind, and his glorious resurrection.



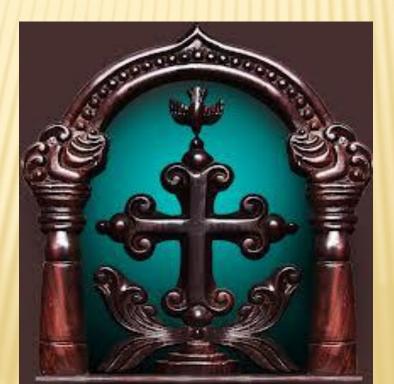
### HOLY TRINITY





**DURING THE BAPTISM** OF JESUS THE MYSTERY OF THE HOLY TRINITY WAS REVEALED. GOD THE SON WAS THERE TO BE BAPTIZED. GOD THE FATHER WAS PLEASED IN HIS SON AND DECLARED ALOUD THAT THIS WAS HIS BELOVED SON.

- The word `Christ' means `the anointed'.
- The mystery of the Holy trinity is the centre of our faith and our life.
- It works in our creation, salvation as well as sanctification.



## The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy spirit be with you all" (2 Cor. 13:13).



## ST. PAUL GREETS

#### THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY (DENEHA)

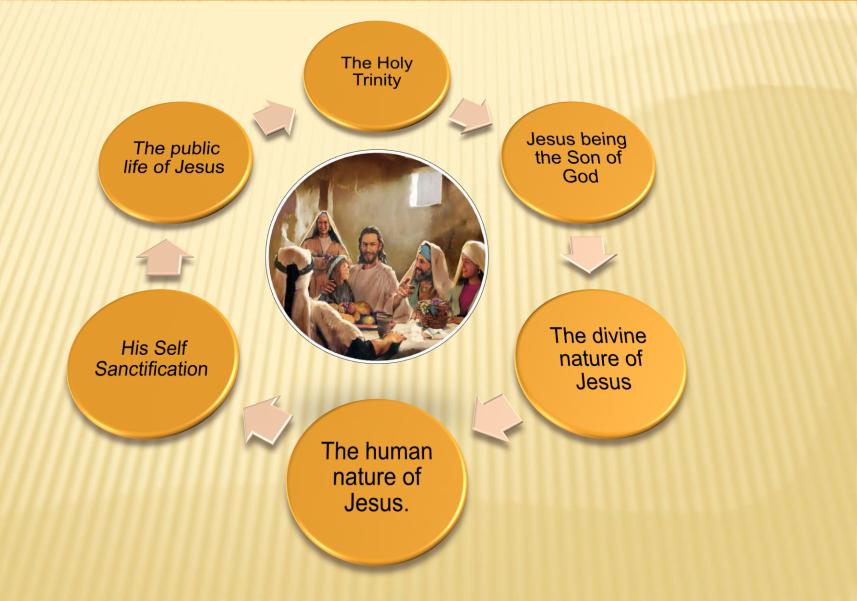


#### THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> In malayalam, this feast is also known as Rakkulipperunnal or Pindikuthipperunnal.

## **DENEHA PERIOD**

### THIS IS THE THIRD SEASON. DENEHA MEANS SUNRISE OR REVELATION.

## WE REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE





### THE CHURCH CELEBRATED FEASTS OF SAINTS ON FRIDAYS OF THE DENEHA PERIOD.

# THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE DENEHA SEASON IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF `ALL SOUL'S.





The People who live in darkness saw a great light' was fulfilled in Jesus (Mt. 4:16).

# JESUS AS THE LIGHT THAT CANNOT BE OVERCOME BY DARKNESS (JN.1:5-9). You are the light of the world



In the Syro-Malabar Church there was the tradition of decorating cores of banana plants (Pindi) with lights and singing El-payya (God is light) in the procession around the decorated lights of the feast of Deneha to remember Jesus, the light of the world. The feast of Deneha was called as pindikutthipperunnaal.

Our forefathers used to have ritual baths in selected ponds or pools on the feast of Deneha, to commemorate the baptism of Jesus. So Deneha was also known as Raakkulipperunnaal.



John the Baptist who recognized the Son of God, called Jesus `the lamp of God that takes away the sins of the world.' Let us experience, adore and proclaim Jesus as the strength and light of our life.

## LET US PRAY

O! Jesus, the beloved son of God, help us to proclaim you as our Lord and God.

## **READ THE WORD OF GOD:**

John 1:29:34



## WORD OF GOD FOR GUIDANCE

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness. (Jn. 8:12)

## LET US DO:

#### Read the passage from John 1: 35-49 and write the names of two disciples who followed Jesus after the witnessing of John the Baptist

## **MY DECISION**

Like St. John the Baptist I will also introduce Jesus to others.

## LET US FIND OUT THE ANSWER

- 1. What is the witness that John the Baptist gave about Jesus?
- 2. What does the Baptism of Jesus Signify?
- 3. How was the mystery of the Trinity revealed at the time of the baptism of Jesus?
- 4. Which are the two traditions that the Syro Malabar Church had in connection with the feast of Deneha or Epiphany?
- 5. What are the salvific events that we commemorate during the season of Epiphany?

