

Nazarene - no specific passage worded like this, but probably ref to use of title "Branch" for Messiah, one of words for which is "nezer"

**Preparation for Jesus' Ministry (3:1-4:11)**

**Preaching of John the Baptist (3:1-12)**

Summary Message: repent for kingdom of heaven has arrived/come near

Fulfillment: Isa 40:3: note context: speaking comfort to Jerusalem; iniquity removed; preparation for the LORD's coming; glory of LORD revealed, all flesh will see it

Clothing: traditional prophetic dress? cp Asc Isa 2:7-11

Response: large crowds; even Pharisees and Sadducees came for baptism

**More Detail on Message:**

must live lives consistent with repentance  
baptism not enough?  
ancestry not enough  
already axe laid to root

**the Coming One:**

greater than John, not worthy to be his servant  
baptism w/ HS and w/ fire  
figure of winnowing, harvest

**Baptism of Jesus (3:13-17)**

John recognizes him  
as Messiah yet?  
or from childhood acquaintance?

Jesus' baptism to fulfill all righteousness

perhaps baptism as symbol of judgment

see Kline, By Oath Consigned

Jesus identifying with his people

**God's sign**

heaven opened  
HS descends like a dove  
voice from heaven:  
Son, beloved, well-pleased

**The Temptation of Christ (Matt 4:1-11)**

**Compare and Contrast with:**

Temptation of Adam and Eve in Garden  
Temptation of Israel in Wilderness