

# Today's Bible Verses

4 NOVEMBER 2018

Today's 4 verses are Proverbs describing the dismal lot of the fool and the foolish.

"A fool does not delight in understanding, but only wants to show off his opinions."  
Proverbs 18:2 (1 of 4 for Dec 4)

"A fool's lips lead to strife, and his mouth provokes a beating."  
Proverbs 18:6 (2 of 4 for Dec 4)

"A fool's mouth is his devastation, and his lips are a trap for his life."  
Proverbs 18:7 (3 of 4 for Dec 4)

"The one who gives an answer before he listens — this is foolishness and disgrace for him."  
Proverbs 18:13 (4 of 4 for Dec 4)

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(ALL VERSES ARE EXCERPTED FROM THE HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE, HCSB.)

The Bible verses in the box above are this day's verses which I selected for my daily posting on both [FACEBOOK](#) and [TWITTER](#).

SEE ALSO:

[ChristOurPassover.org](http://ChristOurPassover.org)

ADDITIONAL VERSES BIBLE STUDY:

**A New Series!**

**THIS SERIES DEDICATED TO MY WIFE, ADRIANNE**

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CHRISTIAN  
**Baptism**  
βάπτισμα

There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to one hope at your calling — one Lord, one faith, **one baptism**, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:4–6

## PART 2

### HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE

### COMMENTARY

#### **Zechariah's Prophecy about his son, John**

And child, you will be called  
a prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord  
to prepare His ways,  
to give His people knowledge of salvation  
through the forgiveness of their sins.  
Because of our God's merciful compassion,  
the Dawn from on high will visit us  
to shine on those who live in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The child grew up and became spiritually strong, and  
he was in the wilderness until the day of his public  
appearance to Israel.

God's word came to John the son of Zechariah in the  
wilderness.

LUKE 1:76-80,3:2

John himself had a camel-hair garment with a leather  
belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and  
wild honey.

MATTHEW 3:4

John wore a camel-hair garment with a leather belt  
around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey.

MARK 1:6

John came **baptizing** in the wilderness and preaching  
a **baptism** of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.  
The whole Judean countryside and all the people of  
Jerusalem were flocking to him, and they were  
**baptized** by him in the Jordan River as they  
confessed their sins.

MARK 1:4-5

In those days John the **Baptist** came, preaching in  
the Wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent,  
because the kingdom of heaven has come near!"  
Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the  
vicinity of the Jordan were flocking to him, and they  
were **baptized** by him in the Jordan River as they  
confessed their sins.

MATTHEW 3:1-2,5-6

He went into all the vicinity of the Jordan, preaching a  
**baptism** of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

We do not know all that much about John the Baptist (some call him John the Immerser), prior to his call by God to begin his ministry of baptism. We know about how his parents, Zechariah and Elizabeth, were told of his coming birth [Luke 1:5-25], and of how Zechariah was made unable to speak until John's birth because of his initial unbelief [Luke 1:57-80]. And we know that when Elizabeth was pregnant with John, she was visited by her cousin Mary (Mariam or Miriam), who was at that time pregnant with Jesus. When Mary (and Jesus) entered the room, we are told that John "leaped" in Elizabeth's womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit [Luke 1:39-45].

Luke appears to have done quite a bit more research into the time before John's ministry and the ministry of Jesus the Christ. His Gospel contains much more detail about this period than the other three. Among the things we find there and nowhere else is the prophecy made by John's father about the future Baptist at his birth.

That prophecy tells us things we have come to know, like that John will be a prophet of the Most High, and that (as Isaiah predicted) he will "go before the Lord and prepare His ways." It was to be his duty to educate the people of Judea about salvation through forgiveness of sins, which was a new concept that Messiah was to bring to the world.

In these early glimpses of John's life, Luke tells us that he became "spiritually strong" and would be living in the wilderness until God's call to him.

These early passages also describe John's rather striking appearance, in a way that no one would do even about Jesus Himself. We must assume that his clothes and choice of diet was as unusual to the Gospel writers as it seems to us today.

At the time his ministry of baptism begins, John emerges from the wilderness and before long "the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem" were making their way to hear his message and – ultimately – to be baptized in "repentance for the forgiveness of sins."

So resonant and effective was John's message about the necessity of

“What then should we do?” the crowds were asking him.  
He replied to them, “The one who has two shirts must share with someone who has none, and the one who has food must do the same.”  
Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?”  
He told them, “Don’t collect any more than what you have been authorized.”  
Some soldiers also questioned him: “What should we do?”  
He said to them, “Don’t take money from anyone by force or false accusation; be satisfied with your wages.”  
Now the people were waiting expectantly, and all of them were debating in their minds whether John might be the Messiah.

LUKE 3:3,10-15

confession and repenting of sins that Luke records an extended set of questions and John’s answers about it. “What should we do?” Even tax collectors and soldiers, considered among the most corrupt officials of the age, came to find how they should change. John’s message as written in Luke’s Gospel was simple, straightforward, and indisputably both Torah-based and solidly Christian. Share what you have been given with those who do not have as much. Be honest. Be satisfied with what you have been given.

Another part of John’s message was the need for repentance because the “Kingdom of Heaven has come near.” And as they people heard more about that, they began to wonder if John was the Messiah they and their religious leaders had been expecting.

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## MORE ON THIS BIBLE STUDY OF BAPTISM

*Now I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, all passed through the sea, and **all were baptized** into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ.*

1 Corinthians 10:1–4

The rite (sacrament) of baptism is one of the most fundamental and unique tenets of Christianity there is. And yet, its origins are shrouded in mystery. Where did it come from? Did it begin with the ministry of John the Baptist? If not, from where did he get it? Some have said it is a modification of the Jewish tradition of *tevilah*, or full-body immersion for religious dedication purposes. But since scholars cannot agree on when that began, it is difficult to know whether Christian baptism inspired the *tevilah*, or vice versa, or neither.

As has been our practice all along, this **Additional Verses Bible Study** will focus solely on Scripture (OT and NT, where applicable) to learn what is said there about the subject we are studying – in this case, baptism. There are 43 single verses or extended passages in which some form of the Greek word *baptisma* is found, and we will examine every one of them.

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## USAGE OF THE NAME OF GOD IN THESE STUDIES

As I do in all my Daily and Additional Verses, whenever an OT passage contains the four-letter Name of God יהוה (transliteration: YHVH or YHWH), I change the translation from The LORD to Yahweh. (Yahweh seems to be the most common transliteration of the name, but I have recently come across some persuasive arguments that the name was originally Yehovah.)

I don’t do this for reasons of doctrine (or because I think my prayers won’t be heard if I don’t pronounce God’s name correctly!) – but simply

because in the original Hebrew, **the word is a proper name**. (See Exodus 3:15 below.)

And as such, I believe to read the text in a way that uses a proper name (and not a title, like Lord) conveys more accurate information. Paul told us that “All Scripture is inspired by God,” and so why wouldn’t we want to read it the way He inspired it? While it is true that the correct pronunciation of YHWH has been lost, “Yahweh” is probably our era’s most commonly used equivalent.

*God also said to Moses, “Say this to the Israelites: Yahweh, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever; this is how I am to be remembered in every generation.”*

Exodus 3:15

*All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 (HCSB)

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***The additional verses which are below the Daily Verses will only appear in these emails (which are also posted on some websites).*** The current series (began 31 October 2018) of these “Additional Verses” takes the Scriptural words from the great choral work *Messiah* by Handel and uses them as a springboard to examine the context of the birth, ministry, character, death, and Kingdom of Jesus the Christ.

***If you know of others who would like to receive these Daily Verses emails – free of charge***, of course – just have them send me their email address. I will never allow anyone but me to see or to use the email addresses entrusted to me, and I will use them only for the purpose of these Daily Verses. Promise.

–GBP2

### **How Did All of This Get Started?**

*In early 2017, I wrote a computer app that “knows” all 66 books and 1189 chapters which the Bible comprises. When run, it selects a totally random chapter in the Bible, and keeps track of the ones that have been selected. That way, I can work my way through all 1189 chapters, without the app ever giving me a duplicate.*

*I first used this for Bible study, and later decided that choosing one or more verses from each chapter would make a good series of Facebook posts.*

*I began posting them on December 8, 2017, and have been doing it daily ever since. I later added them to my Twitter account, and am now sending them by email, for those who prefer to get them this way.*

### **TO UNSUBSCRIBE:**

If you do not wish to receive these daily emails, please feel free any time to hit “Reply” and tell me. I know that mailbox clutter is greatly annoying, and that is certainly not my intention for this!



Research for this publication was assisted by Faithlife Corporation's [Logos Bible Software 7](#).

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from the [Holman Christian Standard Bible \(HCSB\)](#).  
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