



## **NEWSCAST 12. A VOICE FROM THE WILDERNESS**

.... After the death of Herod the Great, the kingdom was split into three different areas — each ruled by one of Herod’s three sons. The area of Judaea was ruled by his son Archelaus, Galilee by Herod Antipas and Gaulanitis by Herod Philip (see map).

However, Archelaus ruled Judaea so incompetently, that after ten years, the Romans removed him and initiated direct rule from Rome though one of their own governors instead.

Pontius Pilate came out from Rome in 26 A.D. as the latest of these governors.

This was a time of fervent expectations that God would act — bringing the Messiah and a new era of sovereignty and peace. Many were disillusioned with the religious establishment in Jerusalem and went to the desert to prepare themselves for the coming of the Messiah. One of these, a prophet from the desert called John the Baptist set up a ministry baptizing in the River Jordan. John announced that he was preparing the way for God to come among the people and it was John who actually baptized Jesus.

### **Biblical references:**

**Matthew Chapter 3;**

**Luke Chapter 3;**

**Mark Chapter 1 v. 1 – 8;**

**John Chapter 1 v. 19 – 28.**