

John The Baptist

February 10, 2008

John's parents were part of the faithful remnant of Israel

Luke 1:6 And they [Zacharias and Elisabeth] were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments [moral laws] and ordinances [ceremonial laws] of the Lord blameless.

An Edomite ruled over Judaea

Luke 1:5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea

, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.

The days of John was a time of darkness in Israel

Luke 1:79 To give light to them that sit in darkness

and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

John had a miracle birth

Luke 1:13, 18 But the angel [Gabriel] said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. 18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? **for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.**

A unique child

Luke 1:15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord

, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.

The hand of the Lord was with him

Luke 1:66 And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And **the hand of the Lord was with him.**

John separated himself from Israel

Luke 1:80 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

John's attire spoke a message

Matthew 3:4 And the same **John** had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins ; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

2 Kings 1:8 And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins . And he said, It is **Elijah** the Tishbite.

John was called the prophet of the Highest

Luke 1:76 And thou, child, shalt be called **the prophet of the Highest**: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

The greatest of all the prophets

Luke 7:28 "For I say to you, among those **born of women** there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

A man sent from God

John 1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was **John**.

The predicted messenger of the Christ

Malachi 3:1 Behold, I (Jehovah) will send **my messenger**, and **he shall prepare the way before me** : and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

Mark 1:2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Isaiah 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, **Prepare ye the way of the LORD** , make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Matthew 3:3 For **this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah** , saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

The word of God came unto John

Luke 3:1-2 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, 2 Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, **the word of God came unto John** the son of Zacharias **in the wilderness**.

The message of the kingdom

Matthew 3:1-2 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for **the kingdom of heaven is at hand**.

Preparation

Matthew 3:3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, **Prepare ye the way of the Lord**, make his paths straight.

Luke 1:17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; **to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.**

Water baptism

Mark 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

God sent John to baptize with water

John 1:33 "I did not know Him, but **He who sent me to baptize with water**

said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

Conditional baptism

Luke 3:7-8 Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? **8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father**
: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

Repentance

Luke 3:3 And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

Luke 1:16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.

The leaders of Israel rejected John's message

Luke 7:30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.

John warned of the wrath to come

Matthew 3:10-12 And now also **the axe is laid unto the root of the trees**

: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is **hewn down, and cast into the fire**.
. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and **he will thoroughly purge his floor**, and gather his wheat into the garner; but **he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**

John's message did not focus on himself

John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

John pointed people to Christ

John 1:29 The next day **John seeth Jesus coming** unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God**, which taketh away the sin of the world.

A friend of the bridegroom

John 3:29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but **the friend of the bridegroom**

erefore is fulfilled.

John recognized the greatness of Christ

Mark 1:7 And preached, saying, There cometh **one mightier than I** after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

He bore record that Jesus was the Son of God

John 1:32,34 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. 34 And I saw, and **bare record that this is the Son of God.**

The humility of John

Matthew 3:13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. 14 But John forbad him, saying, **I have need to be baptized of thee,** and comest thou to me?

John was put in prison for rebuking Herod's sins

Luke 3:19-20 But Herod the tetrarch, **being reproved by him** [present tense] for Herodias his brother Philip's wife, and **for all the evils which Herod had done**, 20 Added yet this above all, that **he shut up John in prison.**

Speaking against the evil of an unlawful marriage cost John

Mark 6:17-18 For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison **for Herodias' sake**, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. 18 For John had said unto Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife.

Divorce and Remarriage is unlawful

Mark 10:11-12 And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. 12 And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.

Herod and Herodias wanted to kill John

Mark 6:18-19 For John had said unto Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife. 19 Therefore **Herodias had a quarrel against him, and would have killed him;** but she could not:

Matthew 14:5 And when **he** [Herod] **would have put him to death**, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.

John's question to Christ

Matthew 11:2-3 Now when **John** had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 And said unto him, **Art thou he that should come.** or do we look for

another?

Jesus pointed John to the evidence

Matthew 11:4-5 Jesus answered and said unto them,

Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see

: 5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 And **blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me**

Jesus publicly praises John

Luke 7:24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind? 25 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously appavelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts. 26 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet. 27 This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. 28 For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women **there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist**: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.

The beheading of John

Matthew 14:6-11 But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. 7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. 8 And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, **Give me here John Baptist's head**

in a charger. 9 And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her. 10 And he sent, and **beheaded John in the prison**

. 11 And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother.

Hebrews 11:38 ?Of whom the world was not worthy??