

John the Baptist

I. OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES CONCERNING JOHN THE BAPTIST

Isaiah 40:3-5

Matthew 3:3

Mark 1:3

John 1:22,23

Luke 3:4-6

Malachi 3:1

Matthew 11:10

Mark 1:2

Luke 7:27

Malachi 4:5,6

Matthew 11:14

Luke 1:17

II. THE CHILDHOOD OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Luke 1:1-25, 39-45, 56-80

- A. Zechariah and Elizabeth Luke 1:5-10
 - 1. Descendants of Aaron
 - 2. Upright in the sight of God
 - 3. They had no children
 - 4. They were well along in years
 - 5. Zechariah fulfilled his duty to burn incense in the Temple

- B. Gabriel Informs Zechariah concerning John Luke 1:11-17
 - 1. Do not be afraid
 - 2. Your prayer has been heard
 - 3. Elizabeth shall bear you a son
 - 4. Name him John
 - 5. He will be:
 - a. a joy and delight to you
 - b. many will rejoice in his birth
 - c. great in the sight of the Lord
 - 6. He is never to take wine or fermented drink
 - 7. He will be filled with the Spirit from birth
 - 8. He will bring many of Israel back to God
 - 9. He will go before the Lord in the Spirit and power of Elijah
 - a. to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children
 - i. the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous
 - b. to make ready a people prepared for the Lord

- C. Gabriel Rebukes Zechariah Luke 1:18-23
 - 1. Zechariah doubts Gabriel's promises
 - 2. Gabriel identifies himself
 - 3. Zechariah will be unable to speak until John is born
 - 4. When Zechariah left the Temple
 - a. he could not speak
 - b. he made signs
 - c. they realized he had seen a vision

- D. At Zechariah and Elizabeth's House Luke 1:23-25, 39-45, 56
1. Elizabeth became pregnant Luke 1:23-25
 2. She remained in seclusion for five months
 3. She praised the Lord
 - a. the Lord has done this for me
 - b. He has shown his favor
 - c. He has taken away my disgrace
 4. Mary visited Elizabeth Luke 1:39-45, 56
 - a. hurried to spend time with Elizabeth
 - b. greeted Elizabeth
 - i. the baby leapt in Elizabeth's womb
 - ii. Elizabeth was filled with the Spirit
 - iii. Elizabeth blessed Mary
 - c. Mary stayed with Elizabeth for three months
- E. John is Born Luke 1:57-80
1. The birth Luke 1:57,58
 2. The naming Luke 1:59-66
 - a. relatives and friends wanted to name him Zechariah
 - b. Elizabeth said no, he is to be called John
 - c. Zechariah wrote: His name is John
 - d. Zechariah's tongue was loosed; he began to praise God
 - e. people throughout the hill country were amazed
 3. Zechariah prophesied Luke 1:67-79
 - a. concerning the Christ Luke 1:68-75
 - b. concerning John Luke 1:76-79
 - i. called prophet of the Lord
 - ii. prepare the way of the Lord
 - iii. give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of sins
 4. The childhood Luke 1:80
 - a. grew
 - b. became strong
 - c. lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly

III. The Preaching of John the Baptist

Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8; Luke 3:1-18; Luke 11:1

A. Repent

1. The Kingdom of God is near Matthew 3:1
2. A baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins Luke 3:3
3. To the Pharisees and Sadducees Matthew 3:7-10; Luke 3:7-9
 - a. You brood of vipers. Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. Your birthright will not save you. Every tree that does not produce fruit will be cut down and cast in the fire.
4. When asked “how?” Luke 3:10-14
 - a. to the crowd: The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.
 - b. to the tax collectors: Don’t collect any more than you are required to.
 - c. to the soldiers: Don’t extort money. Don’t accuse people falsely. Be content with your pay.

B. The Christ is coming after me

1. Isaiah 40:3
2. He is more powerful than I
3. He is more worthy than I
4. He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire
5. He will gather the wheat and burn the chaff

IV. John Baptizes Jesus

A. Matthew 3:13-17 (Mark 1:9-11)

1. John's statement: Tried to deter him saying, "I need to be baptized by you and do you come to me?"
2. Jesus' statement: "Let it be so now, it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness."

In order for Jesus to fulfill all righteousness he had to:
identify with lost sinners
humble himself to the task given by the Father

3. The Father's statement:
 - a. Heaven opened
 - b. The Spirit descended like a dove lighting on him
(the anointing of The Anointed One)
 - c. The Father said, "This is my son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

B. Luke 3:21-23

1. Jesus prayed during his baptism Luke 3:21
2. Jesus began his ministry at the age of thirty by being baptized Luke 3:23

V. John's Testimony About Jesus

A. John 1:6-8

1. John was sent from God
2. John was not the light
3. John came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him all men might believe.

B. John 1:15

This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me."

- C. John 1:19-23 To priests and levites sent from Jerusalem
1. I am not the Christ
 2. I am not Elijah
 3. I am not the prophet (Deuteronomy 18:18)
 4. I am the voice crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'
- D. John 1:24-28 To the Pharisees
1. I baptize only with water
 2. Among you stands one you do not know
 3. He is the one who comes after me
 4. I am not worthy to untie the thongs of his sandals
- E. John 1:29-34 When John saw Jesus coming toward him.
1. Look the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
 2. This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'
 3. I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing was that he might be revealed to Israel.
 4. I saw the Spirit come down as a dove and remain on him.
 5. I would not have known him except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'
 6. I have seen and testify that this is the Son of God.
- F. John 1:35-36
1. Look the Lamb of God
 2. When the two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus.

- G. John 3:23-30 When people began to leave John and go to Jesus
 - 1. A man can only receive what God has given him from heaven
 - 2. I have testified I am not the Christ but am sent ahead of him.
 - 3. The bride belongs to the bridegroom
 - 4. The friend who attends the bridegroom rejoices to hear his voice. That joy is mine and is now complete.
 - 5. He must become greater, I must become less.

- H. John 5:33-36
 - 1. John has testified to the truth
 - 2. John was a lamp that burned and gave light
 - 3. I have testimony weightier than that of John

- I. John 10:40-42
 - 1. Though John never performed a miraculous sign, all that John said about this man was true.
 - 2. In that place many believed in Jesus

VI. The Imprisonment of John the Baptist

A. The Timing of John's Imprisonment

Luke 3:19,20

Matthew 4:12 Mark 1:14

John 4:1-3

B. Questions from Prison

- 1. Why do your disciples not fast?

Matthew 9:14,15

Mark 2:18-20

Luke 5:33-35

2. Are you the one who was to come?
Matthew 11:2-6
Luke 7:18-23
3. The beheading of John the Baptist
Matthew 14:1-12
Mark 6:14-29

VII. The Testimony of Jesus Concerning John the Baptist

- A. To the crowds Matthew 11:7-19; Luke 7:24-35
 1. John is more than a prophet
 2. John fulfilled Malachi 3:1
 3. There has not risen anyone greater...
 4. He is the Elijah who was to come
 5. Parable of children in the marketplace
- B. To the disciples
Matthew 17:11-13
Mark 9:11-13
- C. To the scribes and Pharisees
 1. John 5:31-40
 2. When his authority was challenged
Matthew 21:23-27
Mark 11:27-33
Luke 20:1-8

VIII. References to John the Baptist in Acts

Acts 1:5
1:21-22
13:24
18:24-28
19:1-7