

Series "Behold Your King"
"The Ambassador Of The King"
Matthew 3:1-17
Part-5

All four Gospels record the ministry of John the Baptist

- *Matt 3:1-17*
- *Mark 1:1-13*
- *Luke 3:1-22*
- *John 1:19-36*

We will look at 4 areas in our study

1. Verses – 1-3 A Man With A Message
2. Verses – 4-10 A Man With Courage
3. Verses – 11-12 A Man With Humility
4. Verses – 13-17 A Man With Obedience

1. Verses – 1-3 A Man With A Message

- *Matt 3:1*
- *Matt 2:23*
- *Luke 3:23*

John the Baptist - Luke's Gospel gives the details of the birth of John. That his birth was announced by an angel. His parents were advanced in age. His own father Zacharias did not believe that he would even have a son. John was 6 months older than Jesus. John's mother Elizabeth was a relative of Mary.

John was that crucial link of OT prophet and NT. He was the voice that broke the 400 years of silence. The ground was hard so John came in with a spiritual sledgehammer, spiritual pick to break up the hard ground!

Why the wilderness? Because this symbolized the condition of the people. The nation was spiritually barren, and religion had led them into the wilderness. The wilderness was a place of separation, when they left Egypt.

- *Matt 3:2*

repent - ""to change one's mind and act on that change." "To turn around." It is to change your direction to God's direction. Grieve over

condition, mind, will, and emotions. To agree with God to see Him as right and self as wrong!

Kingdom of heaven – “Ruling and reigning with Jesus Christ the King right now, when we repent and yield to Him.” We can live like a King!

Baptism of John – Was not the same as our baptism today. It was a dedication baptism. It was an outward of an inward commitment. It was holiness in preparation for the Kings coming.

- *Matt 3:3*

- *Isa 40:3-4*

The high places, the peaks - speak of the prideful would be brought down by repentance.

The low places, valleys - speaks of the depressed, those of shattered dreams would find comfort.

The crooked places - the lies, hypocrisy would be made straight.

2. Verses – 4-10 A Man With Courage

- *Matt 3:4*

- *Mal 4:5-6*

“spirit and power of Elijah” (• *Luke 1:16-17*)

garment of camel's hair • *2 Kin. 1:8*

- *Lev 11:22-23*

- *Matt 3:5*

Why were the people coming?

- *Matt 3:6*

baptized - "to dip, or die, to submerge."

1. Circumcision - to be in covenant relationship with God.
2. Offer sacrifice, to show the need of blood to be covered.
3. Baptized to symbolize death to the old life.

- *Mark 1:4*

baptism of repentance - "Baptism of repentance," not a "Baptism for repentance." This baptism was saying that I agree with the message, they said I have a need of cleansing.

- *Matt 3:7*

many of the Pharisees - Separatists ("to separate" non-priests). They believed in separation from all that was unclean, including all sinful people. Dead bodies.

and Sadducees – The liberals of Jesus day. They did not believe in the supernatural, miracles, visions, resurrection.

- *Matt 3:8*

John assumes that with repentance there would be fruit!

- *2 Cor 5:17*
- *Matt 3:9*

Abraham was referred to as a rock: • *Isa. 51:1-2*

- *Matt 3:10*

John being a good teacher stressed the urgency of repentance!

3. Verses – 11-12 A Man With Humility

- *Matt 3:11*

"As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, Outward sign to an inward work. (External)

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Internal)

Spirit Baptism – • *1 Cor. 12:13*

Fire Baptism – speaks of the ongoing work of purification and cleansing.

Sanctifies Us - • *Mal. 3:1-2*

- *Matt 3:12*

Messiah's Superior Judgment: "And His winnowing fork

- *Prov 20:26* - A wise king winnows the wicked, And drives the threshing wheel over them.

unquenchable - asbestos, perpetual: not to be quenched, unquenchable. Ultimate judgment.

4. Verses – 13-17 A Man With Obedience

- *Matt 3:13*

- *Matt 3:14*

- *John 1:29*

- *Matt 3:15*

fulfill all righteousness." God's plan was for Jesus Christ the King to come in humility.

Baptism was Jesus being presented to Israel as their King

Baptism was Jesus identifying with humanity

Baptism was Jesus approved of John's baptism

Baptism meant Jesus would undergo the baptism of suffering
(Death, Burial & Resurrection)

- *Matt 3:16*

The Trinity - Holy Spirit Anointing Jesus: and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him,

- *Matt 3:17*

God The Father - and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, (Jesus Christ) in whom I am well-pleased."
(• *Isa 42:1-3*)

Application

1. A Man With A Message
2. A Man With Courage
3. A Man With Humility
4. A Man With Obedience