

OUT OF THE WILDERNESS:

John the Baptist – More of Him, Less of Me
Select Scriptures regarding John the Baptist's Life
March 31st, 2019
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JOHN THE BAPTIST

John's Background

- Son of ELIZABETH and Zacharias – Luke 1:5-25
- John's father was a PREIST – Luke 1:5
- He was prophesied about by and ANGEL before his birth – Luke 1:12-20
- Elijah and John the Baptist are CONNECTED in Scripture
- John was born to point people to MESSIAH
- John was born for a SELFLESS purpose
MORE OF HIM, LESS OF ME
- John's parents were very OLD when he was born – Luke 1:7
- Elizabeth was Mary's RELATIVE – Luke 1:36
- John JUMPED inside Elizabeth's womb when Mary visited – Luke 1:44
- Even in the womb, John was POINTING to Jesus as the Messiah

John's Ministry

It was a ministry from the WILDERNESS

- Living WILD – Matthew 3:4, Mark 1:6
- WORD OF GOD came to him – Luke 3:2

John obeyed the Word of God and...

1. Prepared the way for MESSIAH – Matthew 3:1-3, Mark 1:1-3
2. Pointed to Christ HUMBLY – John 1:24-27

MORE OF HIM, LESS OF ME

3. Called for REPENTANCE – Matthew 3:1-2

4. BAPTIZED People

- John's baptism signified CLEANSING.
- Baptism, at that time, was usually used when a Gentile wanted to convert to JUDAISM.
- But John preached this baptism of repentance to the JEWS, in preparation for Christ.
- This baptism foreshadowed the ULTIMATE CLEANSING through Jesus' blood.

When confronted with the PROXIMITY of God and His holiness, are we moved to repent?

5. INTRODUCED others to Jesus – John 1:29-34

MORE OF HIM, LESS OF ME

God CONFIRMED the message – Luke 3:22

Later John was asked about Jesus' ministry and Jesus' growing popularity... - John 3:26-30

MORE OF HIM, LESS OF ME

This brings JOY!

WHAT ABOUT US?

CHRIST'S RETURN IS NEAR!

1. Have we REPENTED?
2. If you are in the wilderness, are you still LISTENING to God?
3. Are we POINTING people to Jesus?
4. Are our lives more about HIM or more about US?

OTHER NOTES: