

~JOHN 1 (1063)

[English equivalent of Jehohanan, meaning, Yehowah Has Shown Favor, Yehowah Has Been Gracious]

- Miraculous Birth
- Beginning Of His Ministry
- Purpose Of His Work
- John Introduces The Lamb Of God
- Closing Days Of His Ministry
- John's Baptism Ends

• **John the Baptizer**, son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, the forerunner of Jesus. Both of John's parents were of the priestly house of Aaron. Zechariah was a priest of the division of Abijah.

- In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there happened to be a certain priest named Zechariah of the division of Abijah, and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. (Luke 1:5)
- They both were righteous before God because of walking blamelessly in accord with all the commandments and legal requirements of Yehowah. (Luke 1:6)

• Miraculous Birth.

- In the year **3 B.C.E**, during the assigned time of service of the division of Abijah, it became Zechariah's turn to enjoy the rare privilege of offering incense in the sanctuary.
- As he stood before the altar of incense, the angel Gabriel appeared with the announcement that he would have a son, who was to be called **John**.
- This son would be a lifetime Nazirite, as Samson had been. He was to be great before Yehowah, to go before Him to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. **John's** birth would be by a miracle of God, since Zechariah and Elizabeth were both of advanced age.
- But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they both were well along in years. (Luke 1:7)
- Now as he was acting as priest in the assignment of his division

before God. (**Luke 1:8**)

- According to the solemn practice of the priestly office it became his turn to offer incense when he entered into the sanctuary of Yehowah. (**Luke 1:9**)
- And all the multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of offering incense. (**Luke 1:10**)
- To him Yehowah's angel appeared, standing at the right side of the incense altar. (**Luke 1:11**)
- But Zechariah became troubled at the sight, and fear fell upon him. (**Luke 1:12**)
- However, the angel said to him; Have no fear, Zechariah, because your supplication has been favorably heard, and your wife Elizabeth will become mother to a son to you, and you are to call his name **John**. (**Luke 1:13**)
- And you will have joy and great gladness, and many will rejoice over his birth. (**Luke 1:14**)
- For he will be great before Yehowah. But he must drink no wine and strong drink at all, and he will be filled with Holy Spirit right from his mother's womb. (**Luke 1:15**)
- And many of the sons of Israel will he turn back to Yehowah their God. (**Luke 1:16**)
- Also, he will go before him with Elijah's spirit and power, to turn back the hearts of fathers to children and the disobedient ones to the practical wisdom of righteous ones, to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. (**Luke 1:17**)
- When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, she was visited by her relative Mary, then pregnant by Holy Spirit. As soon as she heard her relatives greeting, Elizabeth's unborn child leapt in her womb, and filled with Holy Spirit, she acknowledged that the child to be born to Mary would be her Lord.
- In her sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent forth from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth. (**Luke 1:26**)

- **And, look! Elizabeth your relative has also herself conceived a son, in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her, the so-called barren woman. (Luke 1:36)**
- **So Mary rose in these days and went into the mountainous country with haste, to a city of Judah. (Luke 1:39)**
- **And she entered into the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. (Luke 1:40)**
- **Well, as Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the infant in her womb leaped, and Elizabeth was filled with Holy Spirit. (Luke 1:41)**
- **And she called out with a loud cry and said; Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! (Luke 1:42)**
- **So how is it that this privilege is mine, to have the mother of my Lord come to me? (Luke 1:43)**
- **For, look! As the sound of your greeting fell upon my ears, the infant in my womb leaped with great gladness. (Luke 1:44)**
- **Happy too is she that believed, because there will be a complete performance of those things spoken to her from Yehowah. (Luke 1:45)**
- **At the birth of Elizabeth's child, the neighbors and relatives wanted to call it by its fathers name, but Elizabeth said; No, indeed! but he shall be called John.**
- **Then its father was asked what he wanted the child to be called. As the angel had said; Zechariah had been unable to speak from the time of Gabriel's announcement to him, so he wrote on a tablet. John is its name. Then Zechariah's mouth was opened so that he began to speak. At this all recognized that the hand of Yehowah was with the child.**
- **And Zechariah said to the angel; How am I to be sure of this? For I am aged and my wife is well along in years. (Luke 1:18)**
- **In reply the angel said to him; I am Gabriel, who stands near before God, and I was sent forth to speak with you and declare**

the Good News of these things to you. (Luke 1:19)

- But, look! You will be silent and not able to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their appointed time. (Luke 1:20)
- The time now became due for Elizabeth to give birth, and she became mother to a son. (Luke 1:57)
- And the neighbors and her relatives heard that Yehowah had magnified his mercy to her, and they began to rejoice with her. (Luke 1:58)
- And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the young child, and they were going to call it by the name of its father, Zechariah. (Luke 1:59)
- But its mother answered and said; No, indeed! But he shall be called **John**. (Luke 1:60)
- At this they said to her; There is no one among your relatives that is called by this name. (Luke 1:61)
- Then they went asking its father by signs what he wanted it to be called. (Luke 1:62)
- And he asked for a tablet and wrote. **John** is its name. At this they all marveled. (Luke 1:63)
- Instantly his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed and he began to speak, blessing God. (Luke 1:64)
- And fear fell upon all those living in their neighborhood, and in the whole mountainous country of Judea all these things began to be talked around. (Luke 1:65)
- And all that heard made note of it in their hearts, saying; What really will this young child be? For the hand of Yehowah was indeed with it. (Luke 1:66)

•• Beginning Of His Ministry

- **John** spent the early years of his life in the hill country of Judea, where his parents lived. He went on growing and getting strong in

spirit, and he continued in the deserts until the day of showing himself openly to Israel.

- **So Mary rose in these days and went into the mountainous country with haste, to a city of Judah. (Luke 1:39)**
- **And the young child went on growing and getting strong in spirit, and he continued in the deserts until the day of showing himself openly to Israel. (Luke 1:80)**
- **According to Luke, John began his ministry in the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar. John would have been then about 30 years old. Though there is no record that John engaged in priestly service at the temple, this was the age for priests to enter into full duty.**
- **And the young child went on growing and getting strong in spirit, and he continued in the deserts until the day of showing himself openly to Israel. (Luke 1:80)**
- **From thirty years old upward to fifty years old, all those going into the service group to do the work in the tent of meeting. (Numbers 4:3)**
- **Augustus died on August 17, 14 C.E, and Tiberius was named emperor by the Roman Senate on September 15, thus his 15th year would run from the latter part of 28 C.E. to August or September of 29 C.E.**
- **Since Jesus, also at the age of about 30, presented himself for baptism in the autumn, John, six months older, must have begun his ministry at least by the spring of 29 C.E.**
- **In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was district ruler of Galilee, but Philip his brother was district ruler of the country of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was district ruler of Abilene. (Luke 3:1)**
- **in the days of chief priest Annas and of Caiaphas, God's declaration came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. (Luke 3:2)**
- **So he came into all the country around the Jordan, preaching**

baptism in symbol of repentance for forgiveness of sins. (Luke 3:3)

- Furthermore, Jesus himself, when he commenced his work, was about thirty years old, being the son, as the opinion was, of Joseph, son of Heli. (Luke 3:23)
- **John** began his preaching in the Wilderness of Judea, saying; Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near.
- In those days **John** the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea. (Matthew 3:1)
- Saying; Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near. (Matthew 3:2)
- He wore clothing of camel hair and a leather girdle around his loins, similar to the dress of the prophet Elijah. **John's** food consisted of insect locusts and wild honey.
- So they said to him; A man possessing a hair garment, with a leather belt girded about his loins. Immediately he said; It was Elijah the Tishbite. (2 Kings 1:8)
- But this very **John** had his clothing of camels hair and a leather girdle around his loins, his food too was insect locusts and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)
- Now **John** was clothed with camels hair and with a leather girdle around his loins, and was eating insect locusts and wild honey. (Mark 1:6)
- He was a teacher and was, accordingly, called Rabbi by his disciples.
- So they came to **John** and said to him; Rabbi, the man that was with you across the Jordan, to whom you have borne witness, see, this one is baptizing and all are going to him. (John 3:26)

.. Purpose Of His Work

- **John** preached baptism for forgiveness of sins for those repenting, confining his baptism to Jews and proselytes to the Jews religion.

- The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ. (**Mark 1:1**)
- Just as it is written in Isaiah the prophet. Look! I am sending forth my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way. (**Mark 1:2**)
- Listen! someone is crying out in the wilderness, Prepare the way of Yehowah, you people, make his roads straight. (**Mark 1:3**)
- **John** the baptizer turned up in the wilderness, preaching baptism in symbol of repentance for forgiveness of sins. (**Mark 1:4**)
- Consequently all the territory of Judea and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem made their way out to him, and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, openly confessing their sins. (**Mark 1:5**)
- After **John**, in advance of the entry of that One, had preached publicly to all the people of Israel baptism in symbol of repentance. (**Acts of Apostles 13:24**)
- **John's** being sent was a manifestation of God's loving-kindness toward the Jews. They were in covenant relationship with Yehowah but were guilty of sins committed against the Law covenant.
- John brought to their attention that they had broken the covenant, and he urged honesthearted ones to repentance. Their water baptism symbolized this repentance. Then they were in line to recognize the Messiah.
- Paul said; **John** baptized with the baptism in symbol of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 19:4**)
- All sorts of persons came to **John** to be baptized, including harlots and tax collectors.
- For **John** came to you in a way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and the harlots believed him, and you, although you saw this, did not feel regret afterwards so as to believe him. (**Matthew 21:32**)

- There also came to the baptism Pharisees and Sadducees, against whom **John** directed a scathing message of denunciation and to whom he spoke of the judgment that was near at hand.
- He did not spare them, calling them offspring of vipers and pointing out that their reliance on fleshly descent from Abraham was of no value.
- When he caught sight of many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to the baptism, he said to them; You offspring of vipers, who has intimated to you to flee from the coming wrath? (**Matthew 3:7**)
- So then produce fruit that befits repentance. (**Matthew 3:8**)
- And do not presume to say to yourselves, As a father we have Abraham. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. (**Matthew 3:9**)
- Already the ax is lying at the root of the trees, every tree, then, that does not produce fine fruit is to be cut down and thrown into the fire. (**Matthew 3:10**)
- I, for my part, baptize you with water because of your repentance, but the one coming after me is stronger than I am, whose sandals I am not fit to take off. That one will baptize you people with Holy Spirit and with fire. (**Matthew 3:11**)
- His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will completely clean up his threshing floor, and will gather his wheat into the storehouse, but the chaff he will burn up with fire that cannot be put out. (**Matthew 3:12**)
- **John** taught those coming to him that they should share things and not commit extortion, that they should be satisfied with their provisions and harass no one.
- And the crowds would ask him; What, then, shall we do? (**Luke 3:10**)
- In reply he would say to them; Let the man that has two undergarments share with the man that has none, and let him that has things to eat do the same. (**Luke 3:11**)

- But even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they said to him; Teacher, what shall we do? (Luke 3:12)
- He said to them; Do not demand anything more than the tax rate. (Luke 3:13)
- Also, those in military service would ask him; What shall we also do? And he said to them; Do not harass anybody or accuse anybody falsely, but be satisfied with your provisions. (Luke 3:14)
- He also taught his baptized followers how to pray to God.
- Now on the occasion of his being in a certain place praying, when he stopped, a certain one of his disciples said to him; Lord, teach us how to pray, just as John also taught his disciples. (Luke 11:1)
- At this time the people were in expectation and all were reasoning in their hearts about John; May he perhaps be the Christ? John denied that he was and declared that the One to follow him would be far greater.
- Now as the people were in expectation and all were reasoning in their hearts about John; May he perhaps be the Christ? (Luke 3:15)
- John gave the answer, saying to all; I, for my part, baptize you with water, but the one stronger than I am is coming, the lace of whose sandals I am not fit to untie. He will baptize you people with Holy Spirit and fire. (Luke 3:16)
- His winnowing shovel is in his hand to clean up his threshing floor completely and to gather the wheat into his storehouse, but the chaff he will burn up with fire that cannot be put out. (Luke 3:17)
- When priests and Levites came to him in Bethany across the Jordan, they asked if he was Elijah or if he was, The Prophet, and he confessed that he was not.
- Now this is the witness of John when the Jews sent forth priests and Levites from Jerusalem to him to ask him; Who are you? (John 1:19)

- And he confessed and did not deny, but confessed; I am not the Christ. (**John 1:20**)
- And they asked him; What, then? Are you Elijah? And he said; I am not. Are you The Prophet? And he answered; No! (**John 1:21**)
- Therefore they said to him; Who are you? that we may give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself? (**John 1:22**)
- He said; I am a voice of someone crying out in the wilderness, make the way of Yehowah straight, just as Isaiah the prophet said. (**John 1:23**)
- Now those sent forth were from the Pharisees. (**John 1:24**)
- So they questioned him and said to him; Why, then, do you baptize if you yourself are not the Christ or Elijah or The Prophet? (**John 1:25**)
- **John** answered them, saying; I baptize in water. In the midst of you one is standing whom you do not know. (**John 1:26**)
- The one coming behind me, but the lace of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie. (**John 1:27**)
- These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where **John** was baptizing. (**John 1:28**)
- **John** performed no miracles, as had Elijah.
- So he went off again across the Jordan to the place where **John** was baptizing at first, and he stayed there. (**John 10:40**)
- And many people came to him, and they began saying; **John**, indeed, did not perform a single sign, but as many things as John said about this man were all true. (**John 10:41**)
- And many put faith in him there. (**John 10:42**)
- Yet he came with the spirit and power of Elijah. He performed a powerful work in turning the hearts of fathers to children and the disobedient ones to the practical wisdom of righteous ones.

- He fulfilled the purpose for which he had been sent, to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. Indeed, many of the sons of Israel he turned back to Yehowah their God.
- And many of the sons of Israel will he turn back to Yehowah their God. ([Luke 1:16](#))
- Also, he will go before him with Elijah's spirit and power, to turn back the hearts of fathers to children and the disobedient ones to the practical wisdom of righteous ones, to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. ([Luke 1:17](#))
- He went before Yehowah's representative, Jesus Christ.

• John Introduces The Lamb Of God

- In the autumn of **29 C.E.**, Jesus came to **John** to be baptized. John at first objected, knowing his own sinfulness and the righteousness of Jesus. But Jesus insisted. God had promised John a sign so that he could identify the Son of God.
- Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to **John**, in order to be baptized by him. ([Matthew 3:13](#))
- In the course of those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by **John**. ([Mark 1:9](#))
- Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus also was baptized and, as he was praying, the heaven was opened up ([Luke 3:21](#))
- Even I did not know him, but the very One who sent me to baptize in water said to me, Whoever it is upon whom you see the spirit coming down and remaining, this is the one that baptizes in Holy Spirit. ([John 1:33](#))
- When Jesus was baptized, the sign was fulfilled, **John** saw God's spirit coming down upon Jesus and heard God's own voice declaring Jesus to be His Son. Evidently no others were present at Jesus baptism.
- After being baptized Jesus immediately came up from the water, and, look! The heavens were opened up, and he saw descending like a dove God's spirit coming upon him. ([Matthew 3:16](#))

- Look! Also, there was a voice from the heavens that said; This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved. (**Matthew 3:17**)
- In the course of those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by **John**. (**Mark 1:9**)
- And immediately on coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being parted, and, like a dove, the spirit coming down upon him. (**Mark 1:10**)
- And a voice came out of the heavens; You are my Son, the beloved. I have approved you. (**Mark 1:11**)
- **John** also bore witness, saying; I viewed the spirit coming down as a dove out of heaven, and it remained upon him. (**John 1:32**)
- Even I did not know him, but the very One who sent me to baptize in water said to me, Whoever it is upon whom you see the spirit coming down and remaining, this is the one that baptizes in Holy Spirit. (**John 1:33**)
- And I have seen it, and I have borne witness that this one is the Son of God. (**John 1:34**)
- If I alone bear witness about myself, my witness is not true. (**John 5:31**)
- Also, the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. You have neither heard his voice at any time nor seen his figure. (**John 5:37**)
- For about 40 days after his baptism, Jesus was in the wilderness. On His return, **John** pointed Jesus out to his disciples as the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.
- The next day he beheld Jesus coming toward him, and he said; See, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world! (**John 1:29**)
- The following day Andrew and another disciple, probably **John** the son of Zebedee, were introduced to the Son of God.
- Again the next day **John** was standing with two of his disciples.

(John 1:35)

- And as he looked at Jesus walking he said; See, the Lamb of God! **(John 1:36)**
- And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. **(John 1:37)**
- Then Jesus turned and, getting a view of them following, he said to them; What are you looking for? They said to him; Rabbi, **Which means, when translated, Teacher.** Where are you staying? **(John 1:38)**
- He said to them; Come, and you will see. Accordingly they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, it was about the tenth hour. **(John 1:39)**
- Andrew the brother of Simon Peter was one of the two that heard what **John** said and followed Jesus. **(John 1:40)**
- Thus **John** the Baptizer, as a faithful doorkeeper to the Israelite sheepfold, began to turn his disciples over to the fine shepherd.
- Most truly I say to you, he that does not enter into the sheepfold through the door but climbs up some other place, that one is a thief and a plunderer. **(John 10:1)**
- But he that enters through the door is shepherd of the sheep. **(John 10:2)**
- The doorkeeper opens to this one, and the sheep listen to his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **(John 10:3)**
- I am the fine shepherd, the fine shepherd surrenders his soul in behalf of the sheep. **(John 10:11)**
- While Jesus disciples did baptizing in Judean country, **John** was also baptizing in Aenon near Salim.
- After these things Jesus and his disciples went into Judean country, and there he spent some time with them and did baptizing. **(John 3:22)**

- But **John** also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was a great quantity of water there, and people kept coming and being baptized. (**John 3:23**)
- For **John** had not yet been thrown into prison. (**John 3:24**)
- When a report came to **John** that Jesus was making many disciples, John did not become jealous but replied; This joy of mine has been made full. That one must go on increasing, but I must go on decreasing.
- So they came to **John** and said to him; Rabbi, the man that was with you across the Jordan, to whom you have borne witness, see, this one is baptizing and all are going to him. (**John 3:26**)
- In answer **John** said; A man cannot receive a single thing unless it has been given him from heaven. (**John 3:27**)
- You yourselves bear me witness that I said; I am not the Christ, but, I have been sent forth in advance of that one. (**John 3:28**)
- He that has the bride is the bridegroom. However, the friend of the bridegroom, when he stands and hears him, has a great deal of joy on account of the voice of the bridegroom. Therefore this joy of mine has been made full. (**John 3:29**)
- That one must go on increasing, but I must go on decreasing. (**John 3:30**)

.. Closing Days Of His Ministry

- This statement of **John's** proved to be true. After a year or more of active ministry, **John** was forcibly taken out of the field. He was thrown into prison by Herod Antipas because **John** had reproved Antipas for his adulterous marriage to Herodias, whom he had taken away from his brother Philip.
- Antipas, nominally a Jewish proselyte accountable to the Law, was afraid of **John**, knowing him to be a righteous man.
- For Herod himself had sent out and arrested **John** and bound him in prison on account of Herodias the wife of Philip his brother, because he had married her. (**Mark 6:17**)

- For **John** had repeatedly said to Herod; It is not lawful for you to be having the wife of your brother. (**Mark 6:18**)
- But Herodias was nursing a grudge against him and was wanting to kill him, but could not. (**Mark 6:19**)
- For Herod stood in fear of **John**, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man, and he was keeping him safe. And after hearing him he was at a great loss what to do, yet he continued to hear him gladly. (**Mark 6:20**)
- But Herod the district ruler, for being reprovved by him concerning Herodias the wife of his brother and concerning all the wicked deeds that Herod did. (**Luke 3:19**)
- Added also this to all those deeds, he locked **John** up in prison. (**Luke 3:20**)
- When **John** was in prison he heard of Jesus performing powerful works, including resurrecting a widows son at Nain. Desiring verification from Jesus himself, he sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus;
- Are you the Coming One, or are we to expect a different one? Jesus did not answer directly, but before **John's** disciples he healed many persons, even casting out demons.
- Then he told the disciples to report that the blind, deaf, and lame were being healed and that the Good News was being preached. Thus, not by mere words, but by the testimony of Jesus works, John was comforted and reassured that Jesus was truly the Messiah or Christ.
- But **John**, having heard in jail about the works of the Christ, sent by means of his own disciples. (**Matthew 11:2**)
- And said to him; Are you the Coming One, or are we to expect a different one? (**Matthew 11:3**)
- In reply Jesus said to them; Go your way and report to **John** what you are hearing and seeing. (**Matthew 11:4**)
- The blind are seeing again, and the lame are walking about, the lepers are being cleansed and the deaf are hearing, and the dead are being raised up, and the poor are having the Good News

declared to them. (**Matthew 11:5**)

- And happy is he that finds no cause for stumbling in me. (**Matthew 11:6**)
- Now **John's** disciples reported to him about all these things. (**Luke 7:18**)
- So **John** summoned a certain two of his disciples and sent them to the Lord to say; Are you the Coming One or are we to expect a different one? (**Luke 7:19**)
- When they came up to him the men said; **John** the Baptist dispatched us to you to say; Are you the Coming One or are we to expect another? (**Luke 7:20**)
- In that hour he cured many of sicknesses and grievous diseases and wicked spirits, and granted many blind persons the favor of seeing. (**Luke 7:21**)
- Hence in answer he said to the two; Go your way, report to **John** what you saw and heard. The blind are receiving sight, the lame are walking, the lepers are being cleansed and the deaf are hearing, the dead are being raised up, the poor are being told the Good News. (**Luke 7:22**)
- And happy is he who has not stumbled over me. (**Luke 7:23**)
- After **John's** messengers had left, Jesus revealed to the crowds that John was more than a prophet, that he was, in fact, the one of whom Yehowah's prophet Malachi had written. He also applied the prophecy of
- Listen! Someone is calling out in the wilderness; Clear up the way of Yehowah, you people! Make the highway for our God through the desert plain straight. (**Isaiah 40:3**)
- To **John**, as **John's** father Zechariah had previously done.
- Look! I am sending my messenger, and he must clear up a way before me. And suddenly there will come to His temple the true Lord, whom you people are seeking, and the messenger of the covenant in whom you are delighting. Look! He will certainly come, Yehowah of armies has said. (**Malachi 3:1**)

- While these were on their way, Jesus started to say to the crowds respecting **John**; What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed being tossed by a wind? (**Matthew 11:7**)
- What, then, did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft garments? Why, those wearing soft garments are in the houses of kings. (**Matthew 11:8**)
- Really, then, why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and far more than a prophet. (**Matthew 11:9**)
- This is he concerning whom it is written: Look! I myself am sending forth my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way ahead of you! (**Matthew 11:10**)
- And Zechariah its father was filled with Holy Spirit, and he prophesied, saying; (**Luke 1:67**)
- But as for you, young child, you will be called a prophet of the Most High, for you will go in advance before Yehowah to make his ways ready. (**Luke 1:76**)
- When the messengers of **John** had gone away, he started to say to the crowds concerning **John**; What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed being tossed by the wind? (**Luke 7:24**)
- What, then, did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft outer garments? Why, those in splendid dress and existing in luxury are in royal houses. (**Luke 7:25**)
- Really, then, what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and far more than a prophet. (**Luke 7:26**)
- This is he concerning whom it is written: Look! I am sending forth my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way ahead of you. (**Luke 7:27**)
- Jesus Christ also explained to his disciples that **John's** coming was a fulfillment of the prophecy at;
- Look! I am sending to you people Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and fear-inspiring day of Yehowah. (**Malachi**

4:5)

- **And he must turn the heart of fathers back toward sons, and the heart of sons back toward fathers, in order, that I may not come and actually strike the earth with a devoting of it to destruction. (Malachi 4:6)**
- **That God would send Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and fear-inspiring day of Yehowah. Nevertheless, great as John was, Among those born of women there has not been raised up a greater than John the Baptist, he would not be one of the bride class who will share with Christ in his heavenly Kingdom rule.**
- **And there came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls which were full of the seven last plagues, and he spoke with me and said; Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lambs wife. (Revelation 21:9)**
- **So he carried me away in the power of the spirit to a great and lofty mountain, and he showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God (Revelation 21:10)**
- **And having the glory of God. Its radiance was like a most precious stone, as a jasper stone shining crystal-clear. (Revelation 21:11)**
- **And no more will there be any curse. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his slaves will render him sacred service. (Revelation 22:3)**
- **And they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. (Revelation 22:4)**
- **Also, night will be no more, and they have no need of lamplight nor do they have sunlight, because Yehowah God will shed light upon them, and they will rule as kings forever and ever. (Revelation 22:5)**
- **For, Jesus said; A person that is a lesser one in the kingdom of the heavens is greater than he is.**
- **Truly I say to you people, among those born of women there has not been raised up a greater than John the Baptist, but a person that is a lesser one in the kingdom of the heavens is greater than**

he is. (**Matthew 11:11**)

- But from the days of **John the Baptist** until now the kingdom of the heavens is the goal toward which men press, and those pressing forward are seizing it. (**Matthew 11:12**)
- For all, the Prophets and the Law, prophesied until **John**. (**Matthew 11:13**)
- And if you want to accept it, he himself is Elijah who is destined to come. (**Matthew 11:14**)
- Let him that has ears listen. (**Matthew 11:15**)
- However, the disciples put the question to him; Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first? (**Matthew 17:10**)
- In reply he said; Elijah, indeed, is coming and will restore all things. (**Matthew 17:11**)
- However, I say to you that Elijah has already come and they did not recognize him but did with him the things they wanted. In this way also the Son of man is destined to suffer at their hands. (**Matthew 17:12**)
- Then the disciples perceived that he spoke to them about **John the Baptist**. (**Matthew 17:13**)
- I tell you, Among those born of women there is none greater than **John**, but a person that is a lesser one in the kingdom of God is greater than he is. (**Luke 7:28**)
- And all the people and the tax collectors, when they heard this, declared God to be righteous, they having been baptized with the baptism of **John**. (**Luke 7:29**)
- But the Pharisees and those versed in the Law disregarded the counsel of God to them, they not having been baptized by him. (**Luke 7:30**)
- Indirectly Jesus also defended **John** against the charge that John had a demon.
- With whom shall I compare this generation? It is like young

children sitting in the marketplaces who cry out to their playmates. (**Matthew 11:16**)

- **Saying; We played the flute for you, but you did not dance, we wailed, but you did not beat yourselves in grief. (**Matthew 11:17**)**
- **Correspondingly, **John** came neither eating nor drinking, yet people say; He has a demon. (**Matthew 11:18**)**
- **The Son of man did come eating and drinking, still people say; Look! A man gluttonous and given to drinking wine, a friend of tax collectors and sinners. All the same, wisdom is proved righteous by its works. (**Matthew 11:19**)**
- **With whom, therefore, shall I compare the men of this generation, and whom are they like? (**Luke 7:31**)**
- **They are like young children sitting in a marketplace and crying out to one another, and who say; We played the flute for you, but you did not dance, we wailed, but you did not weep. (**Luke 7:32**)**
- **Correspondingly, **John** the Baptist has come neither eating bread nor drinking wine, but you say; He has a demon. (**Luke 7:33**)**
- **The Son of man has come eating and drinking, but you say; Look! A man gluttonous and given to drinking wine, a friend of tax collectors and sinners! (**Luke 7:34**)**
- **All the same, wisdom is proved righteous by all its children. (**Luke 7:35**)**
- **Some time after this occasion, Herodias carried out her grudge against **John**. During Herod's birthday celebration the daughter of Herodias delighted Herod with her dancing, upon which Herod swore to her that he would give her whatever she asked.**
- **Influenced by her mother, she asked for the head of **John**. Herod, out of regard for his oath and for those present, granted her request.**
- ****John** was beheaded in prison and his head was delivered on a platter to the girl, who brought it to her mother. **John's** disciples later**

came and removed **John's** body and buried him, reporting the matter to Jesus.

- At that particular time Herod, the district ruler, heard the report about Jesus (**Matthew 14:1**)
- And said to his servants; This is **John the Baptist**. He was raised up from the dead, and this is why the powerful works are operating in him. (**Matthew 14:2**)
- For Herod had arrested **John** and bound him and put him away in prison on account of Herodias the wife of Philip his brother. (**Matthew 14:3**)
- For **John** had been saying to him; It is not lawful for you to be having her. (**Matthew 14:4**)
- However, although he wanted to kill him, he feared the crowd, because they took him for a prophet. (**Matthew 14:5**)
- But when Herod's birthday was being celebrated the daughter of Herodias danced at it and pleased Herod so much (**Matthew 14:6**)
- That he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. (**Matthew 14:7**)
- Then she, under her mother's coaching, said; Give me here upon a platter the head of **John** the Baptist. (**Matthew 14:8**)
- Grieved though he was, the king out of regard for his oaths and for those reclining with him commanded it to be given. (**Matthew 14:9**)
- And he sent and had **John** beheaded in the prison. (**Matthew 14:10**)
- And his head was brought on a platter and given to the maiden, and she brought it to her mother. (**Matthew 14:11**)
- Finally his disciples came up and removed the corpse and buried him and came and reported to Jesus. (**Matthew 14:12**)
- But a convenient day came along when Herod spread an evening

meal on his birthday for his top-ranking men and the military commanders and the foremost ones of Galilee. (Mark 6:21)

- And the daughter of this very Herodias came in and danced and pleased Herod and those reclining with him. The king said to the maiden; Ask me for whatever you want, and I will give it to you. (Mark 6:22)
- Yes, he swore to her; Whatever you ask me for, I will give it to you, up to half my kingdom. (Mark 6:23)
- And she went out and said to her mother; What should I ask for? She said; The head of John the baptizer. (Mark 6:24)
- Immediately she went in with haste to the king and made her request, saying; I want you to give me right away on a platter the head of John the Baptist. (Mark 6:25)
- Although he became deeply grieved, yet the king did not want to disregard her, in view of the oaths and those reclining at the table. (Mark 6:26)
- So the king immediately dispatched a body guardsman and commanded him to bring his head. And he went off and beheaded him in the prison (Mark 6:27)
- And brought his head on a platter, and he gave it to the maiden, and the maiden gave it to her mother. (Mark 6:28)
- When his disciples heard of it they came and took up his corpse and laid it in a memorial tomb. (Mark 6:29)
- After John's death Herod heard of Jesus ministry of preaching, healing, and casting out demons. He was frightened, fearing that Jesus was actually John who had been raised from the dead.
- Thereafter he greatly desired to see Jesus, not to hear his preaching, but because he was not sure of this conclusion.
- At that particular time Herod, the district ruler, heard the report about Jesus. (Matthew 14:1)
- And said to his servants; This is John the Baptist. He was raised up from the dead, and this is why the powerful works are

operating in him. (**Matthew 14:2**)

- Now it got to the ears of King Herod, for the name of Jesus became public, and people were saying, **John the baptizer** has been raised from the dead, and on that account the powerful works are operating in him. (**Mark 6:14**)
- But others were saying; It is Elijah. Still others were saying; It is a prophet like one of the prophets. (**Mark 6:15**)
- But when Herod heard it he began to say; The **John** that I beheaded, this one has been raised up. (**Mark 6:16**)
- Now Herod the district ruler heard of all the things happening, and he was in great perplexity because of its being said by some that **John** had been raised up from the dead. (**Luke 9:7**)
- But by others that Elijah had appeared, but by still others that a certain one of the ancient prophets had risen. (**Luke 9:8**)
- Herod said; **John** I beheaded. Who, then, is this about whom I am hearing such things? So he was seeking to see him. (**Luke 9:9**)

.. **John's Baptism Ends**

- **John's baptism** continued until Pentecost day, **33 C.E.**, when the Holy Spirit was poured out. From that time on, baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit was preached.
- Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 28:19**)
- And everyone who calls on the name of Yehowah will be saved. (**Acts of Apostles 2:21**)
- Peter said to them; Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 2:38**)
- Those who thereafter were baptized in **John's baptism** had to be **rebaptized** in the name of the Lord Jesus in order to become receivers of Holy Spirit.

- In the course of events, while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul went through the inland parts and came down to Ephesus, and found some disciples. (**Acts of Apostles 19:1**)
- And he said to them; Did you receive Holy Spirit when you became believers? They said to him; Why, we have never heard whether there is a Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 19:2**)
- And he said; In what, then, were you baptized? They said; In **John's baptism**. (**Acts of Apostles 19:3**)
- Paul said; **John baptized** with the **baptism** in symbol of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 19:4**)
- On hearing this, they got **baptized** in the name of the Lord Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 19:5**)
- And when Paul laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. (**Acts of Apostles 19:6**)
- All together, there were about twelve men. (**Acts of Apostles 19:7**)