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John the Baptist who prepared the way of Jesus Christ

Matthew 3, Luke 1, John 1



For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God (Luke 1:15-16).

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'" And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey (Matthew 3:1-4).

He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light (John 5:35).

John the Baptist is the last prophet who prepared the way of our Lord Jesus Christ. He was born through the prayer of his father, Zacharias and his mother, Elizabeth, and according to the prophecy of the prophet, Isaiah. John's parents, Zacharias and Elizabeth, were righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord. Even from his mother's womb John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit and grew up as a Nazarite since he was young.

He dwelt in the wilderness of Judah and began to preach the word of God that came upon him. He ate locusts and wild honey in the wilderness and baptized people with the baptism of repentance in Jordan River. When he saw Jesus coming toward him he bore witness saying, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29)!" Moreover, he baptized Jesus with water and saw the Holy Spirit descending from heaven like a dove and remaining on Jesus. Afterwards, he was killed for rebuking Herod the tetrarch for taking Herodias, his brother's wife, as his. "Repent! The kingdom of heaven is at hand!" He boldly proclaimed the repentance of people. He was pure and righteous, preparing the way of the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah.



Fellowship



01. The Bible was not written for 400 years after Prophet Malachi. Nevertheless, sacrifices were still being offered in Jerusalem. What happened when the priest named Zacharias was burning incense in the temple (Luke 1:8-13)?



02. John the Baptist is one of the people who were born as a Nazarite (Samson, Samuel, John the Baptist). What is a Nazarite (Numbers 6)?



03. Just as John the Baptist was set aside as a Nazarite, Christians who have been saved have also been set aside. Write down what we should learn from John the Baptist and how we ought to live (Ephesians 5:14-21, Colossians 3:1-2).



04. What is the reason why John the Baptist came before Jesus (Luke 3:3, Romans 3:19-20, Galatians 3:24)?



05. When we are in the sins of our daily lives, repentance is required to recover our fellowship with Jesus (Revelation 3:19-20, 1John 1:9). What are the things that you should repent about now?

Memory Verse(s)

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe (John 1:6-8).

