



**John the Baptizer Tells the
World About Jesus
Matthew 3: 1-12**

September 12, 2021

Roman Roads in A.D. 14

-  Roman Empire
-  Roman road







Verse 1 - 2

John's message – *REPENT!*

John did not allow his popularity to go to his head



John knew his place – a “*witness*”

John 1: 7

What Jesus thought of John:

Matthew 11: 11

“ . . . among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist”

What did John do?

*He told the people about **Jesus!***

- 1) It was not about his looks
(wild-eyed)
- 2) It was not about being
politically correct
- 3) John used his words and so
must we

***“Preach the Gospel at all times
and if necessary, use words.”***

(Francis of Assisi)

**People are not saved by looking at
your life**

**They are saved by *believing the
Gospel* that has been shared with
them**

What was John's message?

REPENT!

Repent = "*metanoeo*" = a change
of heart toward God;
a change of mind

SOS America and all humanity:

REPENT!!

**John's job, *our job*, in a world running
from the True God -**

PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD!!

Have an attitude of a lineman –
“I WILL NOT BE MOVED!”



Verse 4 - 6

John's popularity



**John did not
fit the mold of
a “religious”
person**

CALLING ALL CHRISTIANS!

Be careful judging by appearance!

This is *COMMON!!*

Verse 7 - 10

John was not politically correct



Baducei



The Pharisees and Sadducees did not like one another, yet united to stop Jesus at all costs

John did not mince words to the religious who were keeping people from Jesus

“BROOD OF VIPERS!” – REPENT!

Today, social media would
“CENSOR” him

Anyone keeping people from the
True Jesus must be exposed –
Ephesians 5: 11

Jesus tells it like it is:

“Therefore, every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire”

This is a scary statement!

No fruit = *no genuine salvation*

John had a *“what’s going on?”*
moment

All will cross the *“what’s going on?”*
river





In a moment of duress, John
questioned if Jesus was the
Messiah –

Matthew 11: 2-6

Verse 11 - 12

John's water baptism

VS

Jesus' Holy Spirit Baptism

John's baptism was a baptism of repentance in preparation for Messiah

This baptism was an outward sign of commitment to *Jehovah, the True God!*

Doing something religious *means nothing if* it is not associated with an inward change!

A proper view of believing is essential!

Believing = “*pisteuo*” = commit to, place trust in, rely on Jesus as your Savior

It's PERSONAL!

Jesus' baptism would be with the Holy Spirit and fire:

- 1) The Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost in the form of *“tongues of fire”*
- 2) From Pentecost on, believers are baptized into the body of Christ at salvation

1 Corinthians 12: 13

*“For by one Spirit we were all
baptized into one body”*

Aorist tense = one time in the past

Passive voice = the subject
receives the action of the verb

This is not done by the person,
but by God!

3) The baptism of the Holy Spirit gives the believer the power to DO! - Acts 1: 8

4) For Jesus rejectors, they will receive a baptism of the ***FIRE OF JUDGMENT***

Judgment is clear when John speaks of a *“winnowing fan”*

What is a winnowing fan?

Throwing the wheat into the air, separating the wheat from the chaff - SEPARATION



**The chaff will be burned with unquenchable
fire (*unending fire, eternal fire*)**

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

God's desire is that all mankind repent, to turn and live

Ezekiel 18: 23

The god of this age blinds the minds – 2 Corinthians 4: 4

The devil is a master divider; he divides families, friends, nations, teammates, etc.

One of Satan's master tools is **DISTRACTION**; distracting from the truth

Satan's goal is to keep people distracted, and **DECEIVED!**

How did John the Baptist deal with the deception of his era?

*He saw, judged, and acted;
he spoke the TRUTH!*

“One word of truth can dispel a world of lies” (Oz Guinness)

We are living in a world that are ***fans*** of Jesus

John was not a fan, but a ***FOLLOWER!***

World religions are ***fans*** of Jesus

They view Jesus as a prophet, a wise sage, and someone to learn from, like Buddha

Jesus is not looking for fans, but
FOLLOWERS!

Fans cheerlead and are in it for what they
can get – ***it's all about me!***

Followers follow, obey and serve the
Master – ***it's all about Jesus!***

There is a *huge difference* between **fans**
and **followers**

The Church in America is comprised
mainly of **fans**

Fans *never* deny themselves, take up their
cross or ***FOLLOW*** – **Luke 9: 23**

FOLLOWERS are not distracted, nor deceived, but *they speak the truth!*

Be a **FOLLOWER**, not a fan!

“My sheep hear My voice and I know them, and they follow Me”

John 10: 27

*Like John,
be a **Follower** and
introduce the world to
JESUS!!*