

Elijah Prepares the Way for Jesus

Matthew 3



- 1) God's New Covenant with All Nations is Here**
(Greatest prophet of the Old Testament is going to be announcing it.)
- 2) Repent and Be Baptized to Receive Forgiveness of Sins and the Holy Spirit**
(This is the narrow door and the path)
- 3) Fruit you bear will show whether you have repented.**
(If you are not fully converted you will not finish the race)

Matt 11: 7As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? **8**If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces.

9Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **10**This is the one about whom it is written:

" 'I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

11Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

12From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully taken and forceful men seize it.

13For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.

14And if you are willing to accept it, **He is the Elijah who was to come.**

15Whoever has ears, let them hear.

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

Matt3: 1In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea **2**and saying, “**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.**”
3This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’ ”

4John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

5People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. **6****Confessing their sins**, they were **baptized by him in the Jordan River.**

Luke 3: 2during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, **the word of God came to John son of Zechariah** in the wilderness. **3**He went into all the country around the Jordan, **preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.** **4**As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

**“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.**

**5 Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become
straight,
the rough ways smooth.**

6 And All people will see God’s salvation.’ ”

Repent

**Meta
Change**

**Noeó
Mind**

Repentance must be Genuine

Matt 3: **7** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

8 *Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.* **9** And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

10 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

Galatians 5: **19**The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; **20**idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions **21**and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.

I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, **23**gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.





2 Cor 3: **17** Now the Lord is the Spirit, and **where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.**

18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed into His image** with intensifying glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The Parable of the Sower

Matt 13: **18**“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

19When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

20The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. **21**But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

22The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

23But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. **This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”**

John 12; 24Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. **But if it dies, it produces many seeds.**

25Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. **26**Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.



Matt 3: **11**“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

12His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, **gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**”

Matt 25: **30** And cast the **unprofitable servant** into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The Baptism of Jesus

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. **14** But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

15 Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. **17** And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”



The Narrow and Wide Gates

Matt 7: **13**“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad (easy) is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

14But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

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