

Title: A voice crying in the wilderness
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Word

The beginning of the gospel

Mark 1:1-8

¹ The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the Prophets, "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You." ³ "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD, make His paths straight.'" ⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵ Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. ⁸ I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The reality of spiritual warfare

Matthew 11:11-12

¹¹ "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

The conception, birth, life and ministry of John the Baptist

1. A Miraculous conception

Luke 1:7; 13

⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years.

¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.

2. A celebrated birth

Luke 1:14

And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.

3. A consecrated life

Luke 1:15

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.

4. A consecrated life

Luke 1:16-17

¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

The fulfilment of prophecy

Malachi 4:5-6

⁵ Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.

The seconds coming of Jesus

Revelation 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Activating the prophetic voice:

1. Ask for the miraculous conception in your heart.
2. Nurture the celebration and joy of the birthing process.
3. Surrender to the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
4. Pray, prophesy, proclaim, preach to prepare others for eternity.

Ministry

1. You need to prepare yourself for when Jesus returns.
2. You would like to have the prophetic voice activated or reactivated in your heart.