

Who would I be if I was born there?



Who would I be if I was born there?





*Who would I be if I was
born then and into that?*

His beginning in family

Luke 1:5 In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah ("Yahweh remembers"), who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth ("the oath of God"). was also a descendant of Aaron.

6 Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly.



Born into significance



Born into significance



Luke 1:15 for he will be great in the sight of the Lord...

16 Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God.

17 And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Forerunner

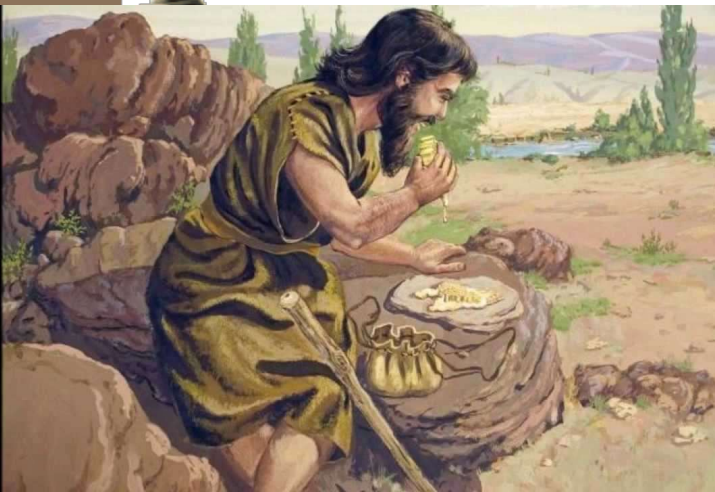


Named by God: You are to give him the name John.

Purposed by God: He will prepare the people for the Lord

Presented by God:

Forerunner



Named by God:
Purposed by God:
Presented by God: Nazarite

His Faith

Luke 3:2...the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.

John 1:6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John.

7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.

8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

His Faith

CHRIST	JOHN
was	came
the Word	a man
God Himself	sent by God
the life & light	testify to the light
the one to be	that all men might
received	believe

John 1:1-12

His Faith

Expressed in his message

**Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand (Matt 3:1)*

**Prophetic Mark 1:2 It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"—*

3 "a voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"



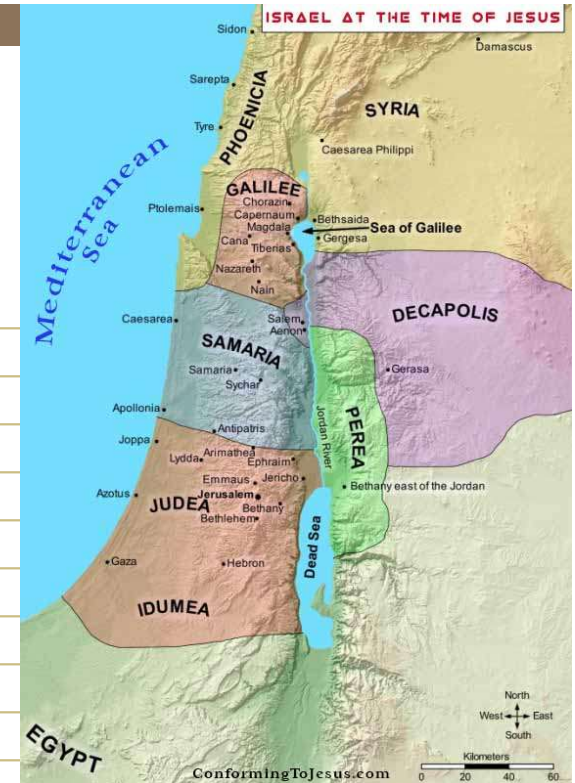
His Faith

Expressed in his message

**Preparatory*

*Mark 1:4 And so John came,
baptising in the desert region and
preaching a baptism of repentance
for the forgiveness of sins.*

*5 The whole Judean countryside and
all the people of Jerusalem went out
to him. Confessing their sins, they
were baptised by him in the Jordan
River.*



His Faith

Expressed in his message

**Baptism of repentance?*

Rites of purification

Gentile conversion w ceremonial bath

By John

repentance

*sinful Jew same requirement as
pagan Gentile*

changed life

salvation in the One to come



His Faith

Expressed in his message



***Preparatory** Matt 3:9 *The axe 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."

10 *"What should we do then?" the crowd asked.*

11 *John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same."*

12 *Tax collectors also came to be baptised. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"*

13 *"Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them.*

14 *Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely— be content with your pay."*

15 ¶ *The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ.*

16 *John answered them all, "I baptise you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*

17 *His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."*

His Fame



Mark 1:5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the Jordan River.

His Fame



Jesus: Matt 11:11 I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

His Faithfulness

*Before the authorities
Jews of Jerusalem
Priests and Levites
Pharisees*



His Faithfulness

*Alert for the coming
of the Lord*



John 1:32 Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him.

33 I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.'

His Faithfulness



*Recognized Him
when He came*

Directed his disciples to Jesus

His Faithfulness



Luke 3:21 When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened

22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

His Faithfulness



Luke 3:18 And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

19 But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done,

20 Herod added this to them all:

He locked John up in prison.

Matt 14 John beheaded by Herod.

Who then am I?

Called personally by God to be His, my response?

My life traced out by His Spirit

Faithfulness in obedient discipleship

Humbly witnessing to the Lamb of God so others will live in Him

