

THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, PART 2  
(Matthew 3:3-6)

- I. John's MISSION (Matt. 3:3)
  - A. It EQUATED Jesus with the OT YAHWEH
    - 1. Isaiah said he would make the way "straight" for YAHWEH, whom he called "our GOD"
    - 2. John came making the way "straight" for JESUS
  - B. It FULFILLED prophecy (cf. Isa. 40:3)
    - 1. He was the King's HERALD
    - 2. He made the proclamation "in the WILDERNESS"
    - 3. He called the people to prepare their HEARTS to RECEIVE the King
  
- II. John's APPEARANCE (Matt. 3:4)
  - A. His CLOTHING was ROUGH
    - 1. It was the garb of the POOR
    - 2. It was like the garb of ELIJAH (cf. 2 Kings 1:8)
  - B. His FOOD was MEAGER

C. His LIFESTYLE was a REBUKE

### III. John's IMPACT (Matt. 3:5-6)

A. People "were GOING" to him from a WIDE territory

1. They were coming from JERUSALEM
2. They were coming from "ALL JUDEA"
3. They were coming from "ALL the DISTRICT around the Jordan"

B. People "were being" BAPTIZED by him

1. He was IMMERSING them in the JORDAN
2. JEWS were coming to John to be admitted to the people of GOD

C. They CONFESSED their SINS

### IV. John's GREATNESS

A. He was FILLED with the SPIRIT (Luke 1:15*b*)

B. He was OBEDIENT to God's WORD (Luke 1:16-17)

C. He was SELF-CONTROLLED (Luke 1:15*a*)

D. He was HUMBLE (Mark 1:7; John 3:30)

E. He was COURAGEOUS (Matt. 14:3-12)

F. He faithfully POINTED people to CHRIST (Luke 1:16)