

# John the Baptist: Endorsed by Jesus

Mathew 11: 07-15

(Lk 7:24-28)

1. *John was not a wavering reed  
but a man firm in his conviction:  
He knew the Messiah was coming,  
vv. 2-3*

2. *John was not a man of fine clothes  
but a man of discipline  
and self-denial*

3. *John was a prophet  
and so much more*

4. *John was the Messiah's forerunner,  
the herald of the true King*

5. *John was the greatest of natural men,  
yet not as great as the least  
in the Kingdom of Heaven*

6. *John was the prophet  
who launched a violent overthrow  
of the kingdom*

7. *John was the last of an age,  
the age predicting the Messiah*

8. *John was the promised Elijah,  
the one to precede the Messiah,  
Mal 4:5*

9. *The conclusion:  
A person must hear this truth*

7 As John's disciples were leaving,  
Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John:  
"What did you go out into the desert 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.

9 Then 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.'

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.

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

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

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

15 He who has ears,  
let him hear.