

# John the Baptist – A Man with a Mission – Proclaiming the Advent of The Christ.

December 17, 2017 – John 1:22-23; 26-27

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*“Finally they said, ‘Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself? John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, I am the voice of one calling in the desert, Make straight the way for the Lord. (Isaiah 40:3) ..... I baptize with water, John replied, but among you stands One You do not know. He is the One Who comes after me, the (strap) thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”*

(See also Matthew 3:1-17; Mark 1:1-13; Luke 3:1-20; Jn 3:22-36 for more info on John the Baptist)

God knows every person in the world who ever lived and ever will live. (Heb. 4:13; Isa.43:1; Isa. 45:3) God knows all the stars and calls them by Name Ps. 147:4. God tells us that we are worth more than many sparrows, and God knows when one of those sparrows falls to the ground. God also knows the very hairs of your head. (Matt. 10:26-31) God knew every person in the world even BEFORE the creation of the world. (Eph. 1:4)

God knew each person sitting here today - before you were born. God has a purpose for everyone.

He tells us in **I Corinthians 10:31** – **“Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God.”**

**Psalms 100:2** – **“Serve the LORD with gladness, come before His presence with thanksgiving.”**

God even gives more specific purpose in our daily life in passages such as the following:

**Eph. 5:25** – Husbands love your wife as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.

**Titus 2:3-5**- Bid the older women likewise to be reverent in behavior, not to be slanderers or slaves to drink; they are to teach what is good, (RSV) 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, (RSV) 5 to be sensible, chaste, domestic, kind, and submissive to their husbands, that the word of God may not be discredited. (RSV)

**Eph. 6:1** – Children obey your parents in the Lord.

The Lord had a purpose for John the Baptist and gave him a Mission for his life.

**Luke 3:2** – **The Word of the Lord came to John in the Desert, and he was preaching a baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

Just as God knew each one of you before you were born, yes even before the creation of the world. God knew John the Baptist before he was born.

God has a purpose for your life.

God had a purpose for the life of John the Baptist.

God also sent His One and Only Son into the World with one set purpose.

To save the World through Him.

*“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.” (John 3:17)*

And so REJOICE. You are forgiven all your doubts, fears, sin. Heaven is Yours because of Jesus. AMEN