



A DAY WITH THE KING



More Than a Prophet

DAILY DEVOTIONAL 72



SUNDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for telling us about Jesus. Please help us learn more today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Peter 1:10,11; Matthew 13:16,17.

KEY TEXT: [Matthew 13:16](#)

“But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

We have been learning about the prophets that God entrusted with special messages. God gave the prophets revelations about many things, but there was one thing above everything else that the prophets wanted to learn about. 1 Peter 1:10,11 tells us that the prophets inquired and searched diligently to find out more about “the sufferings of Christ and the glories that should follow”. More than anything, the prophets wanted to know more about the Messiah’s work, and when that work would be completed.

Although the Old Testament prophets longed to see Jesus when He came to Earth, none of them did. Our prophet for this week, John the Baptist, had the most important job of any human being. He actually announced that Jesus the Messiah had arrived! That is why Jesus said that John was “more than a prophet”.

THE DESIRE OF AGES

All of the prophets looked forward to the day when Jesus would come to save people from sin. Complete the acrostic to find out some of the names of Jesus revealed by the Holy Spirit. Each name describes something about Jesus’ character and work.

				1	J				
				2	E				
				3	S				
4					U				
		5			S				

1. “...a Star shall come out of _____” Numbers 24:17

2. “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her _____.” Genesis 3:15

3. “The scepter shall not depart from Judah, or a lawgiver from between his feet, until _____ comes.” Genesis 49:10

4. “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name _____.” Isaiah 7:14

7. “From the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until _____ the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks.” Daniel 9:25





MONDAY

LET'S PRAY My dear Father, thank You that You give a special job to each person. Please help me to work for you today. In Jesus' name I ask, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But _____ did you go out to _____? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Luke 1:5-25.

KEY TEXT: 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.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

John the Baptist was a very special baby. His birth was a miracle because his mother and father, Elizabeth and Zacharias, were too old to have children. And our memory verse tells us that Jesus Himself said that John was “more than a prophet.” But even though John was such a special prophet, he actually didn’t write any of the Bible!

Another name for the Bible is “canon”, which means “rule” (note that this canon is spelled differently to the cannon that is a weapon). John the Baptist was what we call a *non-canonical prophet*, which means he was a prophet but did not write any part of the Bible. John is not the only non-canonical prophet called by God to a special work. John was filled with the Holy Spirit even before he was born. He was equally inspired with the prophets who wrote the Bible. But his special job, or mission, was to announce Jesus to the world, not write a Bible book.

INSPIRED BY THE SPIRIT

The Bible mentions other non-canonical prophets, or seers, besides John. You can find some of them below. The circled letters name another non-canonical prophet who brought a stern message to a king who was a prophet!

Jude 14

___ ___ ___ ___

1 Kings 19:16

___ ___ ___ ___ ___

2 Chronicles 35:15

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

2 Kings 2:1

___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Luke 2:36

___ ___

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ the prophet told King David that he needed to repent.

Did the king listen? 2 Samuel 12:13 Yes No





TUESDAY

LET'S PRAY Thank You, Father, for Your law. Please help me to obey it out of love for You. I ask You in Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But _____ did you go out to _____? A prophet? _____, I _____ to you, and more than a prophet.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Psalm 106:13-15, 34-48.

KEY TEXT: Mark 1:2.

“Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

From our lesson last week, we know that the Jewish nation was not faithful to God. As the people copied the religious practices of other nations, they forgot about God and what He wanted them to do. God gave them opportunity after opportunity to choose His way, but they kept on rebelling.

After being captives in Babylon, the Israelites began to realise that their prosperity depended on obedience to God. So, they decided to follow God, but only so they could be rich and powerful. They made up hundreds of rules to help them “keep” God’s laws. But they only made it harder to keep it. Even the Sabbath became a burden. They thought they were obeying God, but were actually deceived by Satan, and doing what he wanted them to. They wanted the Messiah to come, but most were not ready to meet Him. An important part of John’s work was to help God’s people prepare for Jesus’ coming.

THE PROPHETS OF GOD HELPING THEM

When God had a special message for His people, He raised up a prophet to speak to them. John the Baptist was God’s prophet to announce the Messiah’s arrival. Look up the texts below to find the names of some other prophets and the kings God sent them to. For each verse, draw a line between the text, the prophet, and the king.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|----------|---|---|----------|
| Jeremiah 34:6 | ● | ● | Micah | ● | ● | Jeroboam |
| 2 Samuel 24:11 | ● | ● | Ahijah | ● | ● | David |
| 2 Chronicles 12:5 | ● | ● | Jeremiah | ● | ● | Hezekiah |
| Jeremiah 26:18 | ● | ● | Shemiah | ● | ● | Zedekiah |
| 1 Kings 11:29 | ● | ● | Gad | ● | ● | Rehoboam |





WEDNESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for Your prophets. Please help me to understand Your messages through them. In Jesus' name, Amen

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But _____ did you go out to _____? A prophet? _____, I _____ to you, and _____ than a prophet.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Isaiah 40:1-5; Malachi 3:1.

KEY TEXT: Malachi 4:5

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

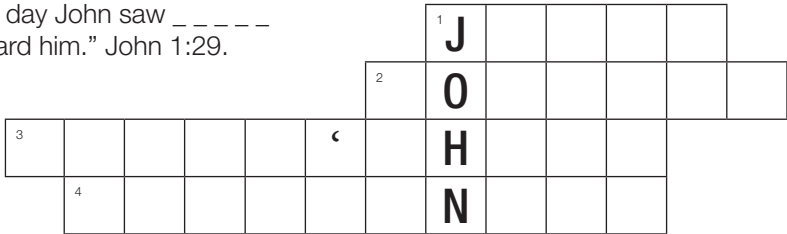
We have already seen that John the Baptist was a special prophet for 2 reasons—his birth was miraculous, and he was to announce the Messiah's arrival. We have even more evidence that John was a very special prophet. There are prophecies in the Old Testament about him! Isaiah called him a "voice crying in the wilderness". Malachi called him the Lord's "messenger".

Malachi also spoke about John's work as being so similar to Elijah's work, that Malachi called him Elijah. Malachi said that Elijah would come "before... the great and dreadful day of the Lord." We know that there are two comings of Jesus for which the world needs to prepare. Malachi's prophecy about Elijah is a *dual* prophecy. That means it will happen twice. Besides predicting John the Baptist's mission at Jesus' first coming, it also tells us that just before Jesus' second coming, there will be a whole group of people that will prepare the world for His second coming.

JOHN PREACHED THE ELIJAH MESSAGE

John's message, and the way he lived, show us important things about God's people at the end of time. He has a message for them to give and a simple way to live. Complete the acrostic to find out more about John and his work.

1. "The next day John saw _____ coming toward him." John 1:29.



2. "He ate _____ and wild honey." Mark 1:6

3. "Now John was clothed with _____." Mark 1:6

4. "John came baptizing in the _____." Mark 1:4

Did John eat insects? Locusts are called clean in Leviticus 11:22. But most scholars think that John ate carob, called Locust Bean or "St John's bread", not insects.





THURSDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You that You have a place for me in Your work. Guide me through the Holy Spirit, so I can fulfil it.
In →Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But _____ did you go _____ to _____? A
_____? _____, I _____ to you, and _____
than a prophet.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Revelation 14:6,7; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Psalm 19:1.

KEY TEXT: 1 Peter 3:3,4.

“Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be the hidden person of the heart.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Did you know that WE can help give Elijah's message just before Jesus comes back? We find this last message in Revelation 14:6-12. There are important things we can learn from John's work for God, and his lifestyle, that will help us do this.

What can we learn from John the Baptist that will help us work for Jesus? First, John pointed people to Jesus who alone has power to forgive our sins and save us from its power. Second, John ate healthy food. By eating healthy food, we bring glory to God (see **1 Corinthians 10:31**). Can you think of another Bible character we have learned about who chose to eat healthy food so he could work for God properly? Next, John wore simple clothes—not fancy ones. Also, John lived in the wilderness. It's best to live as close to nature as we can, instead of the busy cities.

ETERNAL RICHES

Many people think they need to wear fancy, expensive clothes to look good. But the Bible tells us there are ornaments that are much better than what we wear. What do the Bible verses below say are worth more than money, fancy clothes, and jewels?

"I put on _____ , and it clothed me;
I was _____ to the blind, and I was _____ to the lame."
Job 29:14,15.

"My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the _____ of
your mother; for they will be a graceful ornament on your head, and
_____ about your neck." Proverbs 1:8,9.

"_____ is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom... She shall
give to thine head an ornament of grace: a _____ of glory shall she
deliver to thee." Proverbs 4:7,9.

"There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of
_____ are a precious jewel." Proverbs 20:15.





FRIDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You that I can be part of Your church today. Please help me to live for You. In Jesus' name I ask, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But _____ did you _____ to _____? A
_____? _____, I _____ to _____, and _____
than a prophet.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Luke 3:2; Genesis 2:7-9.

KEY TEXT: Genesis 2:15.

“Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

The Bible tells us that John the Baptist lived in the wilderness. John lived out in nature, and all around him he could see the things God had made. When we think about it, that is like Adam and Eve when they were first made by God. Genesis 2:8 tells us that God made a garden especially for Adam and Eve to live in. From the beginning, God's plan was for people to learn about Him through the beautiful things He had made.

By putting Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, God showed us the best way to live. John the Baptist followed God's plan, and we can too. What does the story of Adam and Eve teach us? For one thing, God placed them in the garden "to tend and keep it". Even though Adam and Eve were living in paradise, God still gave them work to do. By caring for the garden, their bodies would get stronger. As they learned about what each plant and animal needed, their minds would expand. They would be learning more about God, and would come to love and appreciate Him more. If we care for the things God has made, we can enjoy the same blessings as Adam and Eve, and John the Baptist.

BIBLE PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN NATURE

Unscramble the names of the Bible characters below, who all spent time in nature. Look up the verses below to find out where each one lived.

AABMR

Genesis 13:18

EMOSS

Exodus 3:1

ADDIV

1 Samuel 17:15

AEHIJL

1 Kings 17:1, 5

SOMA

Amos 1:1





SABBATH

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for the Holy Spirit. I need Him to help me understand the Bible today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - MATTHEW 11:9

“But _____ did you _____ to _____? A
_____? _____, I _____ to _____, and _____
than a _____.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Luke 1:57-70,76-80.

KEY TEXT: Luke 1:76.

“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways.”

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This week, we have learned about a special prophet with a wonderful message. We have also learned that God's church at the very end of time has a message very much like his. Let's continue our saga of the Great Controversy.

PART 5: MORE THAN A PROPHET

clothes dual Elijah end healthy Jesus Messiah
more none prophets sins Spirit world

More than anything, the _____ in Old Testament times wanted to learn about the _____ and see Him when He came to Earth. But _____ of them did. Jesus called John the Baptist “_____ than a prophet”, because He announced Jesus' arrival and actually saw Him.

John wore simple _____, lived in the country, and ate _____ food. He was filled with the Holy _____ even before he was born. John came in the spirit and power of _____, to prepare people to receive a Messiah who was to save them from their _____.

Malachi's prophecy about Elijah is a _____ prophecy. Besides predicting John the Baptist's mission at Jesus' first coming, it also tells us that, right at the _____ of time, there will be another prophetic movement, a church, who will give God's last call to the _____. Today, God invites people all over the world to join His church to prepare for _____' soon return.

Would you like to be ready for Jesus' return? Yes No





A DAY WITH THE
KING

This week, we learn about the prophet who announced the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah



Torchlight

"God had called the son of Zacharias to a great work, the greatest ever committed to men."

– The Desire of Ages p. 100