



SIGNS OF CHRISTMAS
PART TWO: THE FORERUNNER

Luke 1:17

1. The _____ Fulfilled

The Lord God had promised that one would come, a prophet who would go before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah. And with the arrival of John the Baptist, it signaled that the time had come for this promise was fulfilled.

“For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.” ~ Matthew 11:13-14

2. The _____ of Christ

When the king’s messenger enters the town, all citizens know that the king soon will arrive. Such is John the Baptist. He is the herald of the Lord Jesus and the precursor of the One who will come and deliver His people.

And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.” ~ Mark 1:7

3. The _____ of People

The envoys of the king would make sure the people were ready for his arrival. And thus went John the Baptist. He knew Jesus was coming, and his task was to prepare a people in repentance for the King of kings.

And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” ~ Acts 19:4

MATTHEW 17:12-13

“BUT I TELL YOU THAT ELIJAH HAS ALREADY COME, AND THEY DID NOT RECOGNIZE HIM, BUT DID TO HIM WHATEVER THEY PLEASSED. SO ALSO THE SON OF MAN WILL CERTAINLY SUFFER AT THEIR HANDS.” THEN THE DISCIPLES UNDERSTOOD THAT HE WAS SPEAKING TO THEM OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.



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Additional Scripture References
(And Rabbit Trails Bible Study)

Isaiah 40:3

A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”

Malachi 3:1

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.”

Mark 9:13

“But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written of him.”

Luke 3:16

John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

John 3:29

The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete.”

Luke 3:10-14

And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”