

Main Service



1 Group

Prepare the Way Title

1 Kings 10:4-9

⁴When the queen of Sheba perceived all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, ⁵the food of his table, the seating of his servants, the attendance of his waiters and their attire, his cupbearers, and his stairway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her. ⁶Then she said to the king, "It was a true

1 Kings 10:4-9

report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. ⁷Nevertheless I did not believe the reports, until I came and my eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. You exceed in wisdom and prosperity the report which I heard. ⁸How blessed are your men, how blessed are these your servants who stand before you

1 Kings 10:4-9

continually and hear your wisdom. ⁹Blessed be the LORD your God who delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel; because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness."

Prepare the Way of the Lord - Part 2

Luke 1:5-25

Theme of Luke: Jesus as the Son of Man

Theme: God undeniably validates John so that we might confidently believe in Jesus.

Luke 1:5-13

⁵In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. ⁷But they had no child, because Elizabeth

Luke 1:5-13

was barren, and they were both advanced in years.
⁸Now it happened that while he was performing his priestly service before God in the appointed order of his division, ⁹according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer

Luke 1:5-13

outside at the hour of the incense offering. ¹¹And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. ¹²Zacharias was troubled when he saw the angel, and fear gripped him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you

Luke 1:5-13

will give him the name John.

Prepare the Way of the Lord - Part 2

Luke 1:5-25

Scene 1: The Setting (5-7)

Scene 2: The Announcement (8-17)

Detail 1: A Providential Assignment (8-10)

Detail 2: A Prayerful Crowd (11)

Detail 3: An Angelic Announcement (11-17)

Luke 1:11-13

¹¹And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense.

¹²Zacharias was troubled when he saw the angel, and fear gripped him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.

Luke 1:14-17

¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. ¹⁶And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. ¹⁷It is he who will go as a forerunner before

Luke 1:14-17

Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

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Aspect 1: The Joy Over His Birth

Aspect 2: The Affirmation of His Calling

Luke 7:28

²⁸I say to you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

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Leviticus 10:9-11

⁹“Do not drink wine or strong drink, neither you nor your sons with you, when you come into the tent of meeting, so that you will not die—it is a perpetual statute throughout your generations—
¹⁰and so as to make a distinction between the holy and the profane, and between the unclean and the clean, ¹¹and so as to teach the sons of Israel all the

Leviticus 10:9-11

statutes which the LORD has spoken to them through Moses.”

Numbers 6:2-4

²"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them,
'When a man or woman makes a special vow, the
vow of a Nazirite, to dedicate himself to the LORD,
³he shall abstain from wine and strong drink; he
shall drink no vinegar, whether made from wine or
strong drink, nor shall he drink any grape juice nor
eat fresh or dried grapes. ⁴All the days of his

Numbers 6:2-4

separation he shall not eat anything that is produced by the grape vine, from the seeds even to the skin.

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Isaiah 49:1

¹Listen to Me, O islands,
And pay attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called Me from the womb;
From the body of My mother He named Me.

Jeremiah 1:4-5

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,
⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
And before you were born I consecrated you;
I have appointed you a prophet to the nations."

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Aspect 3: The Purpose of His Ministry

Isaiah 40:3-5

³A voice is calling,

“Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness;
Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Let every valley be lifted up,

And every mountain and hill be made low;

And let the rough ground become a plain,

And the rugged terrain a broad valley; ⁵Then the

Isaiah 40:3-5

glory of the LORD will be revealed,
And all flesh will see it together;
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

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Malachi 4:5-6

⁵“Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. ⁶He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.”

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Matthew 3:1-12

¹Now in those days John the Baptist *came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying,

²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

³For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said,

"THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS,
'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD,

Matthew 3:1-12

MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!' " ⁴Now John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan; ⁶and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins. ⁷But

Matthew 3:1-12

when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; ⁹and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these

Matthew 3:1-12

stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰The axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His

Matthew 3:1-12

sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

Matthew 17:10-13

¹⁰And His disciples asked Him, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” ¹¹And He answered and said, “Elijah is coming and will restore all things; ¹²but I say to you that Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.” ¹³Then the

Matthew 17:10-13

disciples understood that He had spoken to them about John the Baptist.

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John 10:27-29

²⁷My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

Matthew 21:23-27

²³When He entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of

Matthew 21:23-27

John was from what source, from heaven or from men?" And they began reasoning among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Then why did you not believe him?'²⁶ But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the people; for they all regard John as a prophet."²⁷ And answering Jesus, they said, "We do not know." He also said to

Matthew 21:23-27

them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

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Matthew 16:24-26

²⁴Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. ²⁵For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

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Luke 1:5-25

Conclusion:

1. Rejoice
2. Repent
3. Believe

