

Preparing the Way

Luke 3:1-20

Who am I?

1. John the Baptist is like a siren, (v1-9).

Preparing the way for the Lord, v4.

He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, v3.

Repentance = doing 180 degrees on your old ways, turning back to God.

2. A siren is a warning sound, (v10-14).

Isaiah 58:1-10 – don't do religious rituals, while neglecting your neighbour.

CONVICTED person – repents and tries hard to live for God

COMPLACENT person – relies on religious things to be ok with God

The danger is not poor repentance, but un-repentance.

V1, the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar is 29AD = 2000 years of warning

3. It prepare the way for the Mighty One to arrive, (15-20).

Jesus' Holy Spirit baptism (Ezek. 36) – new hearts, washed clean, living for God.

John's water baptism – only a symbol of Holy Spirit baptism.

Jesus will bring a great division of people (gathering vs burning v17).

Jesus charges his disciples to be like John (Luke 24:45-49)

- To proclaim a repentance for the forgiveness of sins
- To keep pointing people to Jesus.