

## **Introduction**

1. "There are many echoes in the world; but few voices"
  - a. Who is this "voice of one crying in the wilderness"?
  - b. His name is John ([Jn. 1:19-23](#))

## **Humble Beginnings**

1. John's parents ([Lk. 1:5](#))
  - a. Both were from the tribe of Levi of the family of Aaron (cf. [Lev. 1:5](#); [Lk. 1:8-9](#); [Num. 16:36-40](#))
  - b. Both were righteous before God ([Lk. 1:6](#))
  - c. Both were old and had no child ([Lk. 1:7](#))
2. John promised ([Lk. 1:8-14](#))
3. John's purpose ([Lk. 1:15-17](#))
4. John's pleasure ([Lk. 1:39-45](#))
5. Zacharias' prophecy ([Lk. 1:67-79](#))
6. John's progression ([Lk. 1:80](#))

## **A Preparatory Mission**

1. In prophecy
  - a. Prepare the way of the LORD ([Isa. 40:3-5](#); [Mal. 3:1](#))
  - b. Turn the heart ([Mal. 4:5-6](#))
2. In preaching
  - a. A message of repentance ([Lk. 3:7-14](#))
  - b. A message of baptism ([Mk. 1:4-5](#))

- c. A message of the kingdom ([Mt. 3:1-2](#))
- d. A message of judgment ([Mt. 3:10-12](#))
- e. A message of hope ([Jn. 1:29-36](#))

## **A Martyr's Death**

1. John stood up for the truth and it cost him his physical life ([Mt. 14:1-12](#))
  - a. What praise from the wicked Herod ([Mt. 14:1-2](#))
  - b. What praise from others ([Mt. 16:13-14](#))
  - c. Christ gave John the highest praise ([Mt. 11:7-15](#))
2. Trading eternal life for the sparing of physical life is foolishness ([Mt. 16:25-26](#))
  - a. John suffered a martyr's death but gained eternal life
  - b. His voice and actions stand as witnesses to doing the will of God

## **Conclusion**

1. "There are many echoes in the world; but few voices"
  - a. John was indeed, "the voice of one crying in the wilderness"
  - b. He prepared the way for The Way ([Jn. 14:6](#))
  - c. He understood and fulfilled his mission ([Jn. 3:26-30](#))
2. Will you believe on the Son of God? ([Jn. 3:31-36](#))