John the Baptist John 1:6-8, 15

John 1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

1. The forerunner of Jesus Christ

Christ always was, John was sent to bear witness of Jesus that men might believe in Jesus for Salvation. John 1:15 “John bare witness of Him”

1. John came to bear witness of the light

1:8 “He was not that light but was sent to bear witness of that Light.”

He shared the light that he received.

Luke 3:2 The Word of God came to John in the wilderness.

The Voice in the wilderness was God revealing Himself to John.

John became a voice in the wilderness.

Not The Voice but Luke 3:4 “The voice of one crying in the wilderness.”

In those days just before the coming of the Lord the first time, there was a thundering voice of a prophet heard in the land crying out against religious pretense and against the traditions of men, against the religion of form that had substituted the true worship of God.

His piercing message of repentance disturbed and shattered the formal, traditional and pious religions of that day. He was a forerunner of Christ to usher in the coming of the Lord.

The Scripture says: Matt. 3:1-12; Mk 1:3-9; John 1:6-8

A man, a witness, a light – sent from God

God’s light shined from him (A burning and a shining light – John 5:35)

He was a voice crying in the wilderness

He got the people’s attention.The Lord speaks to many people but few hear and even of those that hear, do not obey.What are you doing with what God has said to you? It does not matter if you are all alone in the wilderness.

Luke 3:2 “The Word of God came to John in the wilderness.

The Wilderness of sin

••• Religious pretense, hypocrisy

••• Of moral decay and corruption, even

••• perversion of theological opinions (instead of Holy Ghost interpretation)

Titus 2:7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

This present age has become a wilderness (A web of violence and wickedness.)

I am not against launching out into the deep and letting down nets (Lk. 5:4)

He must be with you, He must be doing the talking. You must do all He says.

You can fill ships to the sinking point with a single broken net, but that is not God’s plan to just use one, He will use the willing to reach to all.

Isa 51:1 Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. 2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him. 3 For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody. 4 Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people. 5 My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust. 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished. 7 Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings. 8 For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but my righteousness shall be for ever, and my salvation from generation to generation.

**9 Awake, awake**, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon? 10 Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

11 Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away. 12 I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass; 13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and hast feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy? and where is the fury of the oppressor? 14 The captive exile hasteneth that he may be loosed, and that he should not die in the pit, nor that his bread should fail. 15 But I am the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts is his name. 16 And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people.

17 Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

18 There is none to guide her among all the sons whom she hath brought forth; neither is there any that taketh her by the hand of all the sons that she hath brought up.

19 These two things are come unto thee; who shall be sorry for thee? desolation, and destruction, and the famine, and the sword: by whom shall I comfort thee?

20 Thy sons have fainted, they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net: they are full of the fury of the LORD, the rebuke of thy God.

21 Therefore hear now this, thou afflicted, and drunken, but not with wine:

22 Thus saith thy Lord the LORD, and thy God that pleadeth the cause of his people, Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling, even the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again:

23 But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid thy body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over.

Is.51:9 Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?

17 Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

Ps 87:4 ¶ I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man was born there.

Ps 89:10 Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.

Isa 30:7 For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose: therefore have I cried concerning this, Their strength is to sit still.

Isa 36:6 Lo, thou trustest in the staff of this broken reed, on Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all that trust in him. 7 But if thou say to me, We trust in the LORD our God: is it not he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and said to Judah and to Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar?

9 How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

Jg 5:12 ¶ Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, Barak, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam.

Jg 5:13 Then he made him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.

Mt 26:45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

46 Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.

La 2:19 Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches **pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord**: lift up thy hands toward him **for the** life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.

Na 3:10 Yet was she carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honourable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

Ex 16:1 ¶ And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt.

Ex 17:1 ¶ And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the LORD, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink.

Nu 27:3 Our father died in the wilderness, and he was not in the company of them that gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah; but died in his own sin, and had no sons.

Nu 33:11 And they removed from the Red sea, and encamped in the wilderness of Sin.

Nu 33:12 And they took their journey out of the wilderness of Sin, and encamped in Dophkah. (to knock; by analogy, to press severely:--beat, knock, overdrive)

Mt 7:7 ¶ Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Lu 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Lu 13:25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

Re 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

* Worldliness, A mixed up age

Through training, beasts are becoming more mechanical and machines that are mechanical are becoming more human and humans that should be human are all the time becoming more beastly.

L k

••• at the social scene

••• at the domestic scene

••• at the church scene

Where is the Word that would make you a flame and a voice to cry out against sin and against the wicked and ungodly, lewd, liberal, licentious death styles of today.

We must renounce the pride and the procrastinations and anything else that would hinder us from being the voice God would have us to be, so that we can denounce the permissive, perverted, pernicious, promiscuous, profuse generation.

(Remember this voice does not appeal to the crowds.)

It is not the voice of the multitude ushering in the coming of the Lord.

“The Voice of O N E” Luke 3:4

Rev. 22:17, 20-21

You must hear Him for yourself and say what He says.

John’s Message Isa. 40:1-31; 10:3-6a; 9b; 31

Luke 3:2b; 3-18; Matt. 3:1-12; John 1:29, 36

Four major points of his message

1. Luke 3:4 The Lord Jesus Christ is coming
2. 3:3,8 Repentance
3. 3:8 “God is able”
4. 3:16 He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost/fire

3:18 “And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.”

3:19 reproved adultery and all evils.

John 21:6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

Ps 8:5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. 6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: 7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

The fish of the sea are under His feet 8 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

**Ps 8:9** O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

1Ki 17:4 And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

Mt 17:27 Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for **me and thee**.

**Isa 12:4** ¶ And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, **make mention** that his name is exalted. {call...: or, proclaim}

1Ch 16:8; Ps 34:3; 105:1; 145:4-6

1. Say, Praise the LORD,
2. Call upon his name, {call...: or, proclaim}
3. Declare his doings among the people,
4. Make mention that his name is exalted

**Isa 12:5** Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

Isa 26:13 O LORD our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us: but by thee only will we **make mention** of thy name.

Ps 71:16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will **make mention** of thy righteousness, even of thine only.

Isa 48:1 ¶ Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the LORD, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.

Isa 62:6 ¶ I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, {make...: or, are the LORD's remembrancers}

Jer 20:9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

Am 6:10 And a man's uncle shall take him up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the bones out of the house, and shall say unto him that is by the sides of the house, Is there yet any with thee? and he shall say, No. Then shall he say, Hold thy tongue: for we may not make mention of the name of the LORD. {we...: or, they will not, or, have not}