

## On John the Baptist as a Preacher

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by Wayne Goff

*"As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.' Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matthew 11:7-11).*

- ➔ John was **not** a *"reed shaken by the wind."* In other words, he did not cater to the popular opinions of men, nor attempt to speak in politically correct terms. (*"Repent"* was not popular then either!)
- ➔ John was **not** dressed in the clothing of *"soft garments"* from *"kings' houses."* That is, he did not "look like a preacher"! But he was a great one.
- ➔ John **was** a prophet, and more! He was the forerunner of Jesus, the harbinger of the Son of God, who bravely and boldly preached the Gospel of Repentance to those who would hear it! He did exactly what God sent him to do. See **Isaiah 40:3**.  
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