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## The Wilderness Forerunner

*Matthew 3:1-12* 







His Coming

"Wherever the ministry of Adult Jesus is told in historic fidelity it begins with John the Baptist. Wherever the Gospel comes in its depth, it follows the proclamation of the law in its heights. Without the law there is no gospel (without the OT, no NT), and without John the Baptist preceding we do not rightly hear Jesus following."

### - Dale Bruner

- Saint Augustine

"The Law was given so that grace may be sought, and grace was given so that the law might be fulfilled."

### His Attributes

Now John had a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the vicinity of the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Matt 3:4-6

### Our Approach

- Speak loudly
- Move with urgency in relationships
- Be forthright in discipleship

His Message

- Joachim Gnilka

"Repentance means the radical recognition of God."

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I. I am not worthy to remove his sandals. He himself will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Matt 3:11