

**Series:** Advent 2019: A Season Of Anticipation

**Sermon:** Prepare the Way

**Scripture:** Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

**Teacher:** Jeff Norris

**Date:** December 8, 2019

Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>*In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,*

<sup>2</sup>*“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

<sup>3</sup>*For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,*

*“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”*

<sup>4</sup>*Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.*

<sup>5</sup>*Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him,*

<sup>6</sup>*and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.*

<sup>7</sup>*But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?*

<sup>8</sup>*Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.*

<sup>9</sup>*And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.*

<sup>10</sup>*Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.*

<sup>11</sup>*“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

<sup>12</sup>*His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”*

### **Prepare the Way (John the Baptist)**

1. Repent (v. 1 - 4)

2. Confess (v. 5 - 6)

3. Bear fruit (v. 7 - 10)

4. See and expect the supreme worth and work of Jesus. (v. 11 - 12)

Advent Quotes...

*Jesus Christ, who came the first time to bleed and suffer, that he might wash the world from its iniquity, is coming a second time to reign and conquer, that he may clothe the earth with glory.* - Charles Spurgeon

*The situation would surely have been hopeless had the very majesty of God not descended to us, since it was not in our power to ascend to Him.* - John Calvin

*The glory of the incarnation is that it presents to our adoring gaze not a humanized God or a deified man, but a true God-man.* - B.B. Warfield

*Infinite and an infant. Eternal and yet born of a woman. Supporting a universe, and yet needing to be carried in a mother's arms. King of angels, and yet the reputed son of Joseph. Heir of all things, and yet the carpenter's despised son. Oh, the wonder of Christmas!* - Charles Spurgeon