

Treasure Hunt

- Give an example of a promise from Isa 40:3-8 that John fulfilled.
- Give an example of a promise from Isa 40:3-8 that John did not fulfill.
- Who will be the final fulfillment of the promise of Isa 40?
- Why did John baptize in the wilderness?
- What OT story explains the significance of baptism in the Jordan?
- Compare and contrast the baptism of John and Christian baptism.

John in the Gospels

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
3:3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.	1:3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.	3:4 As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.	1:23 He said, I <i>am</i> the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias.
		5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways <i>shall be</i> made smooth; 6 And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.	
3:12 Whose fan <i>is</i> in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.		3:17 Whose fan <i>is</i> in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.	
11:10 For this is <i>he</i> , of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.	1:2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.	7:27 This is <i>he</i> , of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.	
11:14 And if ye will receive <i>it</i> , this is Elias, which was for to come.			

Prophecies about John

Feature	Mt 3	Mk 1	Lk 3	Jn 1
Isa 40:3 The voice of him that crieth, In the wilderness prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.	3	3	4	22
Isa 40:4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:			5	
Isa 40:5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. 52:10 and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.			6	
Isa 40:6 All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: 7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. 8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:	11-12?		16-17?	
Exo 23:20 Behold, I send an Angel מלאך before thy face , to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. ... 23 For mine Angel מלאכי shall go before thee Mal 3:1 Behold, I send my messenger מלאכי, and he shall prepare the way before me: Mal 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:	11:10-14	2	7:27	

Where is the Fulfillment?

Feature		Before	John	After
Ex 23:20	Angel before thee	✓	✓	
Mal 3:1	Angel before me		✓	✓
40:3	Cmd: Prepare way		✓	(✓)
40:4	Statement: Hills			✓
40:5	All Flesh			✓
40:6-8	Grass withers			✓

How is Elijah (1 Kings 17 – 2 Kings 2) a Forerunner?

Consider Elisha (1 Kings 19 – 2 Kings 13).

- Name: “My God is salvation,” אלי-שע, compare
 - Joshua “Jehovah is salvation” יהו-שוע
 - Isaiah “Jehovah saves” ישע-יהו
 - Jesus = Joshua
- Miracles: Elijah warns of judgment (drought), Elisha reverses the fall (bitter water, abundant oil, floating ax)
- Politics: Elijah rebukes Israel’s kings and is opposed by them and their wives (cf. John with Antipas and Herodias); Elisha anoints Israel’s kings, is consulted by them, and defeats Israel’s enemies (Syria and Moab)
- God’s Spirit comes on Elisha through Elijah’s ministry at Jordan (2 Kings 2)
- Frequent interaction with disciples (“sons of the prophets”)
- Elisha’s death leads to the resurrection of a dead man (2 Kings 13)

Luk 4:25 But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; 26 But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, *a city* of Sidon, unto a woman *that* was a widow. 27 And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian.

The Promised Forerunner

Exo 23:20
Behold, I send
an Angel
before thee, to
keep thee in the
way, and to
bring thee into
the place which
I have prepared.
23 For **mine**
Angel shall go
before thee ...
33:2 And I will
send an angel
before thee;
and I will drive
out the
Canaanite, ...
33:14 And he
said, **My**
presence shall
go *with thee*,
and I will give
thee rest.

Isa 40:3 The voice of
him that crieth in the
wilderness, Prepare
ye the way of the
LORD, make straight
in the desert a
highway for our God.

Mat 3:1 In those days came John the
Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of
Judaea, ... 3 For this is he that was
spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying,
The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his
paths straight. 11:14 And if ye will receive
it, this is Elias, which was for to come.

Rev 11:3 And I will
give *power* unto my
two witnesses, and
they shall prophesy
a thousand two
hundred *and*
threescore days,
clothed in
sackcloth.

... 6 These have
power to shut
heaven, that it rain
not in the days of
their prophecy
[Elijah]: and have
power over waters
to turn them to
blood, and to smite
the earth with all
plagues [Moses],
as often as they
will.

1 Ki 17 –
2 Ki 13
Elijah
and
Elisha

Mal 3:1 Behold, I send my
messenger, and he shall
prepare the way before
me: 4:4 Remember ye
the law of **Moses** my
servant ... 5 Behold, I will
send you **Elijah** the
prophet before the coming
of the great and dreadful
day of the LORD:

Mat 17:1 And after six
days Jesus taketh Peter,
James, and John his
brother, and bringeth
them up into an high
mountain apart, ... 3
And, behold, there
appeared unto them
Moses and Elias talking
with him.

The Two Witnesses of Revelation 11

Rev 11:3 And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses,
and they shall prophesy **a thousand two hundred and threescore days**, clothed in sackcloth.

...
6 These have power to **shut heaven, that it rain not** in the days of their prophecy:
and have power over waters **to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues**, as often as they will.

Luk 4:25 the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up **three years and six months**,
Jam 5:17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of **three years and six months**.

1Ki 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, *who was* of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, **there shall not be dew nor rain** these years, but according to my word.

Exo 7:20 And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that *were* in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and **all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood**.

John and Elijah

Prophesied:

Mal 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Similar appearance:

2Ki 1:8 And they answered him, *He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.*

Sudden appearance:

1Ki 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, *who was* of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

Identified by our Lord:

Mat 11:14 if ye will receive *it*, this is Elias, which was for to come.

John in the Wilderness

Mat 3:1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching **in the wilderness** of Judaea,

Mat 3:4 **his meat** was locusts and wild honey. 5 **Then went out to him** Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,

Eze 20:34 I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. 35 And I **will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you** face to face. 36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. 37 And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: 38 And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Baptism in the Jordan

Jewish ceremonial washings?

- Repeated vs. once
- Prepared pool vs. river

Naaman the Syrian

2Ki 5:10 Go and **wash** in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be **clean**.

2Ki 5:14 Then went he down, and **dipped** [LXX βαπτίζω] himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was **clean**.



Jerusalem



Qumran

John's Baptism and Christian Baptism

They are different:

Act 19:3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Different **authority**:

Joh 1:33 but **he that sent me** to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Mat 28:19 [**Jesus** said,] Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Additional **significance**:

Rom 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are **buried** with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his resurrection*: