

The Herald of the Christ

by G.W. North

John the Baptist was a Spirit-filled man sent from God to Israel as the official herald and forerunner of Jesus Christ, emphasizing the importance of baptism as a ministry of conversion.

Scripture: Matthew 3:1

Topics: "Baptism", "Herald of Christ"

Description

G.W. North emphasizes the significance of baptism as introduced by John the Baptist, who served as the herald and forerunner of Jesus Christ. He highlights John's role in announcing the coming of Christ and presenting Him to Israel, underscoring that the primary purpose of baptism was to connect believers to Jesus. John, filled with the Spirit and likened to Elijah, was a powerful preacher who called for conversion and prepared the way for the Messiah. His ministry was pivotal in revealing the identity of Christ to a people who were unaware of Him. North's message calls believers to recognize the importance of baptism in their faith journey.

Transcript

The importance of baptism could not be more strongly emphasised to us than by the discovery we make upon opening the pages of the four Gospels. Before we have read very far into each of them, we are introduced by all four to the person of John the Baptist, who, they say, was sent from God to Israel as the official herald and forerunner of Jesus Christ. In the course of his ministry John authoritatively announced the imminent coming of Christ, who, he said, was above him, and was to be preferred before him.

Having stated this, he officially presented the Lord Jesus to Israel, saying clearly that this was the main reason for his baptism, and making plain that all other things accomplished by it only had any value as they were related to this.

John was a Spirit-filled man, a great saint, a burning and a shining light and a mighty preacher. He came to Israel in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfil scripture with a ministry of conversion to the Christ whom they did not know.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/gw-north/the-herald-of-the-christ/>

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