

# Hold On To Your Hope

## Matthew 11:2-6

John the Baptist was born to Zacharius and Elizabeth in their old age, and because of his disbelief at the angel's announcement of his forthcoming birth, he was silenced for nine months.

It was prophesied that John would be the forerunner for Jesus, coming in the same spirit and power as the prophet Elijah.

John was the prophet crying in the wilderness, "Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand." John baptised with water, but Jesus would baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire. After baptizing Jesus, John saw the Holy Spirit descending upon him as a dove.

Shortly thereafter, John found himself imprisoned for preaching the unadulterated word of God and for speaking out against King Herod for being with his brother's wife. He stated it was an unlawful relationship.

Being incarcerated, John realized that he may never experience freedom again. He began to question whether Jesus was the one or should they look for another. This is the man whom Jesus said was the greatest man born of a woman and yet he questions his faith.

Jesus' disciples were told to go back and remind him of the blind receiving their sight, the deaf recovering their hearing, the lame walking, lepers cleansed, and the dead raised.

For us, in spite of all that is happening, God's providence is at work. We must stand on our faith, experiences and testimonies. God is the great I AM, our redeemer, and our strong tower. We

can take our burdens to him and hold on to our hope. We don't have to look for another.