

THE MESSIAH REVEALED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

LOOKING BACK // **LOOKING FORWARD**

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CLASS PURPOSE

LOOKING BACK // LOOKING FORWARD

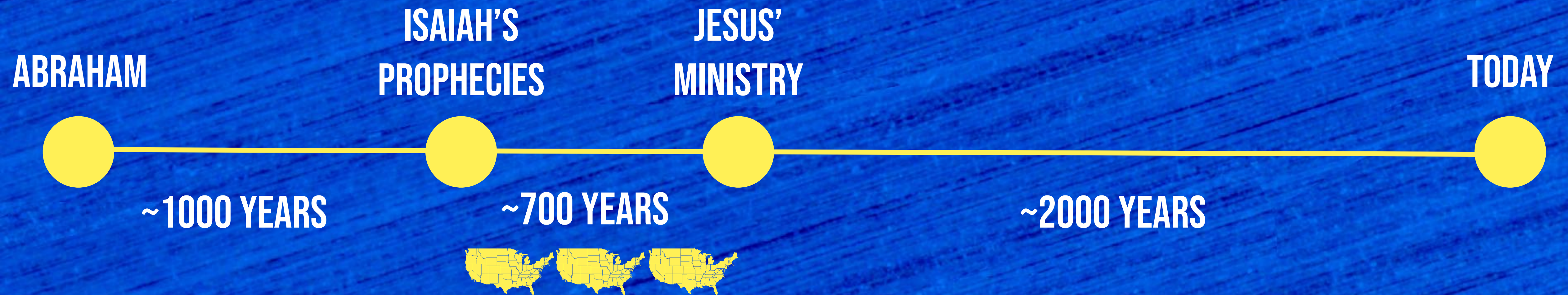
- Intent is to highlight and dwell on how these same passages reveal the Messiah—for this class it will be Isaiah references
- Lessons should ‘reveal’:
 - What the identified OT scriptures mean in relation to the Christ
 - How they verify who Jesus is
 - How they confirm who made the statement
 - How we can see this linkage for ourselves
 - How we can readily share this info with others

MESSIANIC PROPHECY: WHY DOES IT MATTER?

OT PROPHECY >> NT FULFILLMENT

1. Strengthen Faith of Doubting Believers
2. Prove that Jesus is the Fulfillment of God's Revelations
3. Vital to Evangelism

TIMELINE



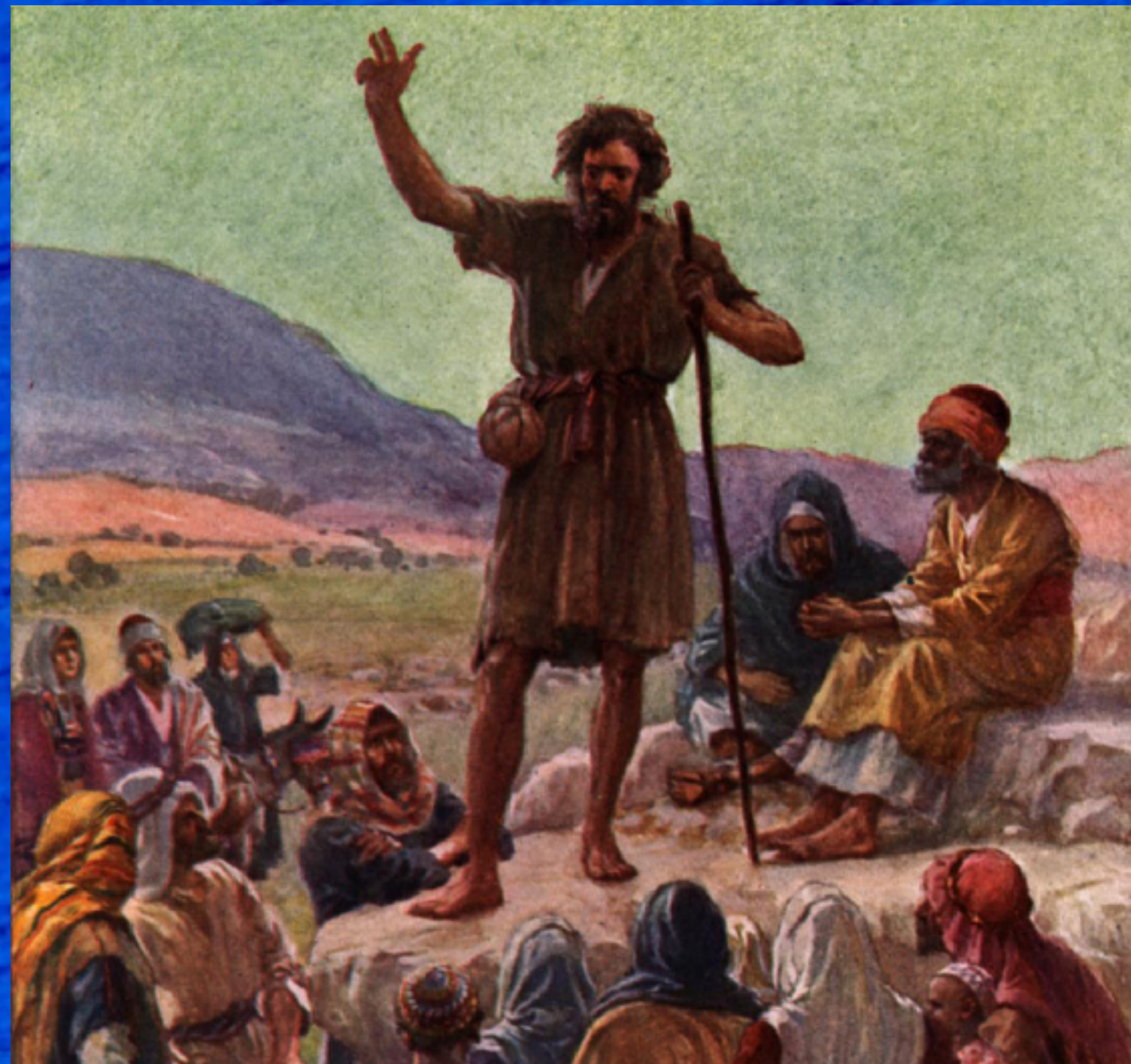
**TIME IS A CHARACTER IN THESE PROPHECIES—
POINTS TO GOD'S PATIENCE AS WELL AS HIS FAITHFULNESS**

**...YET FOR ALL THIS, HIS ANGER IS NOT TURNED AWAY, HIS
HAND IS STILL UPRAISED.**

**BUT THE PEOPLE HAVE NOT RETURNED TO HIM WHO
STRUCK THEM, NOR HAVE THEY SOUGHT THE LORD
ALMIGHTY.**

ISAIAH 9:12-13

MORE PROMISED THAN JUST THE MESSIAH



JOHN THE BAPTIST

IDENTITY

CALLING

GOD'S WILL

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

JOHN'S IDENTITY

- A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”
Isaiah 40:3-5
- “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.
Malachi 3:1

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

JOHN'S IDENTITY

- *The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way”— “a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’ ”*
Mark 1:1-3
- *In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip*

tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.
Luke 3:1-4

JOHN IS THE FORETOLD VOICE, SENT TO REVEAL THE GLORY OF THE LORD

A MESSENGER AND PROPHET, MAKING PATHS STRAIGHT

JOHN'S CALLING

- A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." Isaiah 40:3-5
- *Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: " 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among*

those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Matthew 11:9-15

- Jesus confirms the true calling of John and tells of the fulfillment of the foretold prophet that would arrive in the spirit and power of Elijah.

JOHN IS THE ELIJAH WHO IS TO COME

ELIJAH & JOHN THE BAPTIST

COMPARISON

Characteristic / Pattern	Elijah	John
Fiery Speaker	1 Kings 18:27	Matthew 11:18
Leather Belt	1 Kings 18:46	Matthew 3:4
Lived in the Wilderness	1 Kings 19	Luke 7:24
Connection to the Jordan River	2 Kings 2:8	Matthew 3:13
Heavens opens while at the River	2 Kings 2:11	Matthew 3:16
Pointed to one after him	1 Kings 19:19	John 1:34

TO PREPARE THE WAY, TO GIVE KNOWLEDGE, TO GUIDE FEET

GOD'S WILL FOR JOHN

- Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Isaiah 9:1-2

TO PREPARE THE WAY, TO GIVE KNOWLEDGE, TO GUIDE FEET

GOD'S WILL FOR JOHN

- “And you, my child, will be called a **prophet** of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord **to prepare the way** for him, **to give his people the knowledge of salvation** through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, **by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet** into the path of peace.”
Luke 1:76-79
- The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.” Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ **I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.**”
John 1:29-34
- Like Jesus, John is also foretold as one who would serve as the source of a “great light”

GOD'S WILL FOR JOHN IS TO TESTIFY THAT JESUS IS THE CHOSEN ONE

KEY TAKEAWAYS: JOHN THE BAPTIST

PROPHECIES OF ISAIAH FULFILLED IN THE NT

- As a good father, God always shows a pattern of things to come
 - Elijah / Elisha > John / Jesus
- God always provides a way to know that His Will is being done
- John is the one who can in the power & spirit of Elijah

DWELL ON GOD'S WILL AND HOW HE FORETOLD OF A MAN THAT WOULD ARRIVES HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER AND CHOOSE TO D HIS WILL

DAILY

- ☐ Pray by name for five non-believers
- ☐ Spend time with God in Scripture and prayer (10-20 mins)
- ☐ Thank God for one specific way you saw Him at work today

WEEKLY

- ☐ Prepare for and engage wholeheartedly in worship
- ☐ Actively participate in a Life Group
- ☐ Focus on developing a spiritual discipline more intentionally

QUARTERLY

- ☐ Practice Christ-like hospitality to others
- ☐ Selflessly perform at least one act of service
- ☐ Share a meal with a church member that you don't know well

THIS YEAR

- ☐ Grow your faith alongside another believer
- ☐ Invite someone to each Bring Your Neighbor Day
- ☐ Share your faith with at least one non-believer