

### **Quotes by John the Baptist**

*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"*

Matthew 3:3

*"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world."*

John 1:29

*"He must increase, but I must decrease."*

John 3:30

*"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."*

Matthew 3:11

**John** – God is gracious

Matthew 3:1-11

### **What I Like About John the Baptist**

#### **1. His birth was foretold by an angel.**

**Luke 1:13**, *The angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John."*

#### **2. He had a deep awareness of God's presence.**

**Luke 1:41-44**, *When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! <sup>43</sup>But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy."*

**3. He lived a life of holiness and separation.**

**Luke 1:15**, *For he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born.*

**4. He feared God more than man.**

**Matthew 3:7-8**, *But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup>Produce fruit in keeping with repentance."*

**5. He always pointed people to Jesus.**

**John 1:29 (NKJV)**, *Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!*

**6. He prepared the way for Jesus.**

**Luke 1:17**, *And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.*

**7. He boldly confronted sin.**

**Matthew 3:2**, *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.*

**8. He was honored to baptize Jesus.**

**Matthew 3:13-14**, *Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. <sup>14</sup>But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"*

**9. He walked in humility.**

**John 3:30 (NKJV)**, *He must increase, but I must decrease.*

## **How To Be Like John the Baptist**

### **1. Be uniquely you.**

**Psalm 139:14**, *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.*

- “The more you like yourself, the less you are like anyone else, which makes you unique.”  
–Walt Disney

### **2. Develop a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.**

**Romans 8:14**, *For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.*

### **3. Boldly point people to Jesus.**

**Galatians 2:20**, *I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

### **4. Reject the approval of man.**

**Proverbs 29:25**, *Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.*

### **5. Let people see less of you and more of God.**

**Matthew 5:16**, *In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

- “All heroes are shadows of Christ.”  
–John Piper