

# The One

## Week 2: Repent & Believe In “The One”

- ❖ Are you ready for Christmas?
  
- ❖ Are you ready for The One?
  - ◆ Luke 1:13, 17 - “But 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... 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.”
  
  - ◆ Matthew 3:1, 4-5 - In those days John the Baptist came...John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.
  
  - ◆ Matthew 3:7-10,12 - 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? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire... His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”
  
- ❖ You can be ruined or you can be ready!
  - ◆ Matthew 3:2-3,6 - In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”... Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

- ❖ Make more trips to the “**wilderness**” than the “**mall**”.
- ◆ Matthew 3:11 - “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry.”
- ◆ 1 Peter 2:24 - He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; you have been healed by His wounds.
- ❖ Never forget the Christ’s **tree**.

### **Points to Ponder**

1. God used John to make sure people were ready for Jesus’ 1st coming. How does his message help us to get properly prepared for our celebrations of The One’s 1st coming? How does his message help us stay ready for The One’s return?
2. Finish the sentence - Christmas without the tree is \_\_\_\_\_. Why did you answer it the way you did? How might a Christian finish that sentence differently if they put the emphasis on the word “the”?
3. Over the next 3 weeks, think of 1 practical way that you can be intentional about taking a daily trip to the “wilderness” to hear John and the “tree” to hear Jesus say “it is finished”. How might this be a blessing both to your Christmas and beyond?

### **Homework For Next Week: Matthew 1:18-24**

*“If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”  
~ The Apostle John*