

Mark 6:14-29
The Forerunner To Christ's Ministry
And Death

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Lessons From Mark 6:14-29

1. What is the significance of John the Baptist's ministry?
2. Should we confront the state like John the Baptist?
3. Suffering comes before glory!

1. The Significance of John The Baptist

Mark 6:14-15 And King Herod heard of it, for His name had become well known; and people were saying, "**John the Baptist** has risen from the dead, and that is why these miraculous powers are at work in Him." But others were saying, "He is **Elijah**." And others were saying, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."

The Baptist's Connection To Elijah

Elijah's Day

1. Ahab/Jezebel
2. Call to repent
3. Leather belt

John's Day

1. Herod/Herodias
2. Call to repent
3. Leather belt

Mark 9:13 But I say to you that **Elijah has indeed come**, and they did to him whatever they wished, just as it is written of him."

The Baptist As "The Forerunner"

Malachi 3:1 Behold, **I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me.** And **the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple**; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming," says the LORD of hosts.

Exodus 23:20 Behold, **I am going to send an angel before you to guard you along the way and to bring you into the place** which I have prepared.

The Need For Repentance

Malachi 4:5-6 Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet **before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children** and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

Isaiah 63:16 For You are our Father, though **Abraham does not know us and Israel does not recognize us...**

The Baptist's Message of Repentance

Luke 3:8-9 NET Therefore produce fruit that proves your repentance, and don't begin to say to yourselves, '**We have Abraham as our father.**' For I tell you that God can raise up children for Abraham from these stones! **Even now the ax is laid at the root of the trees,** and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

2. Should We Confront The State Also?

Mark 6:16-18 But when Herod heard of it, he kept saying, "**John, whom I beheaded,** has risen!" For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, because he had married her. For John had been saying to Herod, "**It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.**"

Should We Confront The State Also?

John the Baptist's Day Our Day

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|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mosaic Covenant | 1. New Covenant |
| 2. Israel/Theocracy | 2. No "Zip Code" |
| 3. Mission: Prophet | 3. Mission: Evangelist |

- We are to be salt and light (Matt. 5:13-14).
- We are to obey authority (Rom. 13:1-4).
- We are to preach the gospel (Matt. 28:18-20).

3. Suffering Comes Before Glory!

Mark 6:19-21 Herodias had a grudge against him and **wanted to put him to death** and could not do so; for Herod was afraid of John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. And when he heard him, he was very perplexed; but he used to enjoy listening to him. A strategic day came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his lords and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee...

Herod's Foolish Oath

Mark 6:22-24 ...and when the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you want and I will give it to you." And he swore to her, "Whatever you ask of me, I will give it to you; up to half of my kingdom." And she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist."

Herod's Foolish Oath

Mark 6:25-27 Immediately she came in a hurry to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And although the king was very sorry, yet because of his oaths and because of his dinner guests, he was unwilling to refuse her. Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded him to bring back his head. And he went and had him beheaded in the prison...

Suffering Comes Before Glory!

Mark 6:28-29 ...and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about this, **they came and took away his body and laid it in a tomb.**

Mark 16:7 "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. **He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him.**

Suffering Comes Before Glory!

1 Peter 1:10-11 As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted **the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.**

Romans 8:18 For I consider that **the sufferings of this present time** are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
