

Proclamation of John the Baptist

△ Isa 11:1-10 & Matt 3:1-12

Introduction

The Peaceable Kingdom painting

Edward Hicks (1780-1849)

painter, minister and Quaker

Painted 60 versions

Picture of children, cattle and predators together peacefully

Nat Gall of Art Washington DC version

also meeting of Native Americas and settlers of Pensilvania

Later Edward Hicks grew frustrated of the lack of peace

Brooklyn Museum Version

The Proclamation

Repent

report
The Kingdom of God is near

This is the one!

Jesus is the Kingdom of God

Isaiah Prophecy

The Promise of Isaiah

The Messiah

shoot of stock of Jesse

Father of Davie

In the line of David

The Spirit of the Lord shall
rest on him

wisdom and understanding

counsel and might

knowledge and fear of the Lord

delights in the fear of the Lord

Brings justice and
righteousness

by judging with rightenousness

not by what is apparent (eyes and ears)

Who: the poor and the meek

So the will receive justice!

But the wicked will be killed

by his voice and his breath - his

message and his Spirit

He inhabits righteousness and
faithfulness

Peace on earth

The Isaiah passage is still a
prophecy

For when Jesus returns

But still we should work towards it,
like Penn and Hicks did

The root of Jesse

^ v10

signal to all peoples & nations

**That they shall inquire of
him**

So that they get to know who the
Messiah is

And that is what JtB is doing here

People coming to JtB

people of Jerusalem, Judea,
region along the Jordan

Responded by making the
journey down the hills to the
Jordan and the Deadsea

confessing their sins

baptised for cleansing of their sins

Preparing themselves to be in the presence of the Messiah!

Pharisees & Sadducees

Religious Leaders also come

Their sins are greater as they lead the people of Israel

They would have had a practice of regular repentance

But JtB demands that they have to bear fruit worthy of repentance

as we see later in the Gospel, Jesus accuses them of form over substance

Just claiming that they are children of Abraham is not going to save them

The Messiah will judge

Trees that do not bear fruit, will be cut and thrown into the fire

Trees that do bear fruit will be

saved

Those who lead are expected
more off

Baptism & Repentance

Nature of John's Baptism

Baptism by water for
repentance

Nature of Jesus and his Baptism

Baptism by fire and the Holy
Spirit

Already looking ahead to
Pentecost

But again the process of
judging

wheat vs chaff

Nature of repentance

For the forgiveness of sins

But also turning around

Changing your life and
therefore bearing fruit

Turning to Jesus

Receiving the Holy Spirit

How do we live

△ Rom 15:7-13

Welcome (NRSV) and
accept one another (NIV)

Paul extends this welcome
beyond the people of Israel to
all people

Why? So that the Gentiles
might glorify God for his mercy!

That's us!

We do this and through this we
become a community in Christ

Welcome / Accept one another!

He justifies this with many
OT references

“Therefore I will praise you among
the Gentiles;
I will sing the praises of your
name.”

2 Sam 22:50; Ps 18:49

“Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his
people.

Deut. 32:43

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles;
let all the peoples extol him.”

Psalm 117:1

“The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over
the nations;
in him the Gentiles will hope.”

Isaiah 11:10

Back to our passage!

**Illustrating that the Messiah
has come for the whole world**

Jews and Gentiles

Every nation / Every tribe

**Individual repentance
results in a welcoming
community in Christ**

**And that community in
Christ is glued together by
the Holy Spirit**

As Paul finishes with

**May the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace as you
trust in him, so that you may
overflow with hope by the
power of the Holy Spirit.**

[△] Rom 15:13

By the power of the Holy Spirit

This advent

Repent!

Take an inventory of your life

Have you said yes to Jesus?

Have you asked for forgiveness of your sins?

Have you turned your life to him

Have you been baptised by the Holy Spirit and by fire!?

Or have you done that, but need a top up, a fresh repentance, a fresh infilling?

Need prayer ministry to help

Build a Christian community

Welcome and accept each other

Warts and all!

The Love of Christ extends are likes or dislikes

Ask Jesus to help love those you do not like!

