

December 13, 2020 (3rd Sunday of Advent)

“Jesus’ Advance Man!”

(John 1:6-8; 19-28)

Jesus had an advance man – someone in charge of preparing for his coming. That man was _____.

John wasn’t hired by Jesus for this task. The prophet _____ assigned him to this task _____ years before.

Probably you and I would not have been drawn to the _____ of John the Baptist.

A _____ was a person who was devoted to God and lived away from society.

Two things that surprise us about John the Baptist. 1- Is how _____ he was. 2- Is his _____ in the drama of the first Christmas.

Luke’s gospel begins his version of the Christmas story not with Mary and Joseph, but with a couple named _____ & _____.

Mary was a _____ to Elizabeth.

3 things.....

1.- Consider the _____ of this man John.

In spite of his own _____, John sought to direct _____ not to himself but to _____.

His greatest desire was to _____ Jesus!

John willing took on the part of second _____!

2.- He was also a man of enormous _____.

John offended the royal family of his day by confronting their sins, and he was _____.

(over)

John was a preacher of _____ and he would not betray his _____.

John the Baptist paid the ultimate price for his _____ to God.

3.- His determination to bear _____ to the light.

John bore witness to the light in his _____. He bore witness in his _____!

There was no _____ shining over the house where John was born. Just an old man beaming down with _____ and great joy.

It was the joy of one who had lived to see the _____ of God fulfilled!

In fact, _____ himself composed John’s epitaph when he said – *“No greater man has ever been born than John.” (Matthew 11:11)*

That was John the Baptist – humility, courage, and commitment to bear witness to the light of God!

**That’s our goal, through this Advent Season -
To bear witness to the light of God!**