

## Jesus Comments on John the Baptist (and himself)

**Matt. 11:7** As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? **8** What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. **9** What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **10** This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

**11** Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. **12** From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. **13** For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John came; **14** and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. **15** Let anyone with ears listen!

**Matt. 21:31** Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. **32** For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

**Matt. 11:16** “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, **17** ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

**18** For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; **19** the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

**Luke 7:24** When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? **25** What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. **26** What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **27** This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

**28** I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John; yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” **Luke 16:16** “The law and the prophets were in effect until John came; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is proclaimed, and everyone tries to enter it by force.

**Luke 7:29** (And all the people who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, because they had been baptized with John’s baptism. **30** But by refusing to be baptized by him, the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God’s purpose for themselves.)

**Luke 7:31** “To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? **32** They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not weep.’

**33** For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon’; **34** the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ **35** Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”