



SERIES: September 2022 – February 2023 Believe

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Scripture: John 1:6-8

TITLE: The Greatest Opening Act

Trailers were a big motivator for seeing movies in the theater. It was a big deal to get to the theater on time so you could see the coming attractions. Today, you can find those trailers online, so it's not as big of a deal. But at the end of every marvel movie, you get a teaser trailer to keep the audience engaged and excited for the next marvel film.

Well, 2,000 years ago, there were no movies or movie trailers. But they did have a special messenger whose job was to tell of the coming savior of the world. Who was this person?

Let's continue our study of John 1:6-8 (ESV).

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

Over the years, I've attended close to 100 concerts. Virtually all concerts have an opening act. The purpose of the opening bands is to prepare the way for the headliners. John was an opening act for the most important front man of all time: the Messiah – Jesus Christ.

John the Baptist was the first prophet after 400 years of silence from God through the prophets. But John was predicted as the forerunner for the Messiah (see Isaiah 40:3, Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6). Similar to Jesus, John's birth was miraculous. John was Jesus' cousin! He was a true prophet of God whose preaching style was bold and influential.

His mission was to bear witness to the coming of the light – the Messiah. The term witness was a legal term regarding facts, not opinion. In verses 1-5, John makes the non-negotiable claim that Jesus is God. He was light and life. To preach that fact was John's mission in life. And to clear any confusion, John was not the light. Jesus is the light.

John's mission was to tell others about the coming Messiah. And your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to be a witness for the Messiah.

Who is one person in your life who needs to meet Jesus? Will you share their name in the comments below so we can pray for them? Will you share yesterday's teaching with them so they might see and meet Jesus face to face? Invite them to join us in this study of John so they might meet Jesus and believe in Him.

When we share Jesus with others, we will win the day.