

An Inconvenient Preacher

Description

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Matthew 3:1-12

"Want to go hear this new preacher?"

"Sure, where is he preaching?" I ask.

"I don't know, somewhere in the wilderness perhaps down by the river. He is preaching and baptizing people. People are going to him from all over. Even the top leaders are going to check him out."

"Have you ever walked to the river?" I inquired. "It is miles downhill and uphill all the way back. There is little water, no food, and nowhere to stay. This guy must be some great preacher if people are going there to hear him."

"I can't say if he is really a great preacher. They say he only has one message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

"Let's see," I summarize. "People are marching into the wilderness to hear this preacher with one message, 'repent.' Some are getting baptized. But, I don't understand why? Why would children of Abraham need to repent?"

The friend suddenly remembered something, "That's it! It's not about him; it is about the one who will follow—the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. He has been sent to prepare the way for the Lord."

"So, when are we going?" I ask.

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