



“Behold the Lamb of God!”
- John 1:35

Introduction

- ▶ “Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist...” (Matt. 11:11)
- ▶ “Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.” (Matt. 7:17-18)



The State of Jerusalem

- ▶ Herod was an oppressive ruler
- ▶ Religious Leaders
- ▶ The People
- ▶ The Holy Remnant
- ▶ “And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.” (Lk. 2:38)

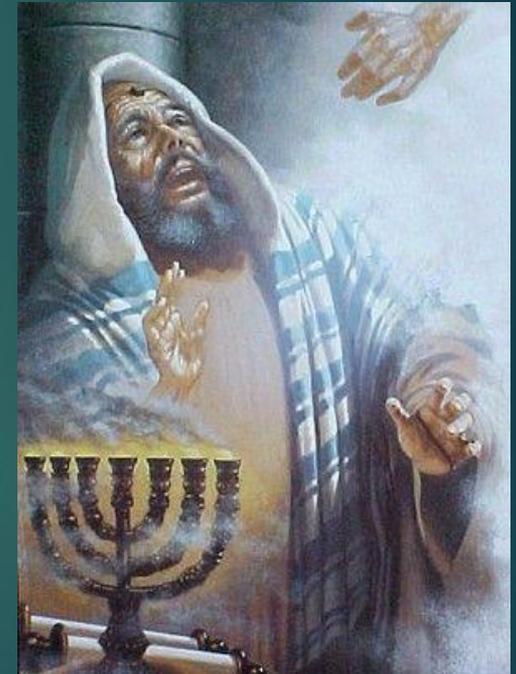




The Schools of St. John the Baptist

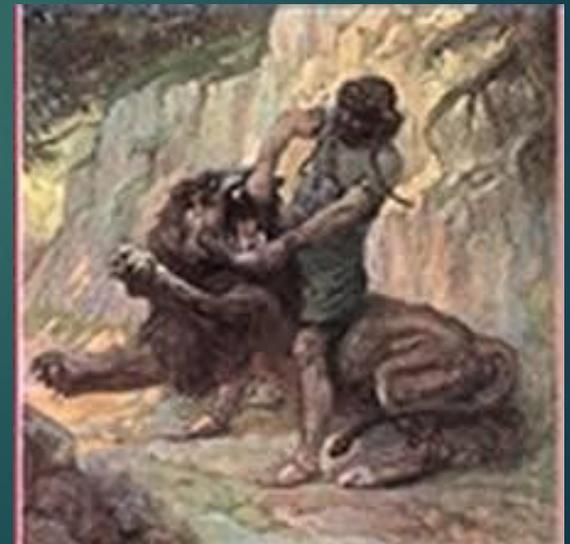
The School of Home

- ▶ His father was a priest
- ▶ He was taught the scriptures carefully
- ▶ He certainly told him about the birth of his Cousin
- ▶ He likely told him about Herod's crimes
- ▶ What were the subjects of their dialogues?



The School of His Nazarite Vow

- ▶ “For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.” (Lk. 1:15)
- ▶ “For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine...” (Lk. 7:33)
- ▶ The Nazarite vow included:
 - ▶ Drinking no strong drink
 - ▶ Not shaving
 - ▶ Not to contact anything dead



The School of the Desert

- ▶ “So the child grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel.” (Lk. 1:80)
- ▶ “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Cor. 12:9-10)

Summary



- ▶ The School of Home
 - ▶ Open dialogue
 - ▶ Room for questions
 - ▶ Talk about Christ
 - ▶ How to handle oppression or negative circumstances
 - ▶ Positive attitudes towards holy things
 - ▶ Discouraging of harmful habits

Summary



- ▶ The School of His Nazarite Vow
 - ▶ We are consecrated/separated for God due to our union with Him
 - ▶ Be watchful and vigilant
 - ▶ A daily reminder of commitment
 - ▶ We are called to live in purity
- ▶ The School of the Desert
 - ▶ The value of spending time alone with the Lord
 - ▶ The value of faithfully enduring hardships – they will make us stronger in spirit.