

Matthew 3:1-17

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’”

⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him,⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?⁸ Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.⁹ And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father’, for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.¹⁰ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.” Then he consented.¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

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1001 QUESTIONS YOU MUST ASK BEFORE YOU DIE ‘What should we do with our failures?’ Glen Scrivener

“What should we do with our failures?”

Going from our failures...

Unsettled (v1-4)

Unclean (v5-6)

Unfruitful (v7-12)

...to God's Family

Jesus enters into our failures (v13-15)

Jesus opens out His Family (v16-17)

Jesus enters our failures to bring us into His Family.

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After the talk today, there will be a short Q&A session, time permitting

Next Week:

Series: 1001 questions you must ask before you die

Title: What is the truth?

(John 18:37)

Speaker: Jeremy Hobson

About the speaker:

Glen Scrivener is an Australian living in Eastbourne with his Irish wife, Emma. He's an ordained Anglican minister working as an evangelist with *Revival Media*.