

Week 49
339/26

Transforming Daily
“... sent from God ...”
John 1:6

Jesus Christ is not the only one sent from God to share the gospel. John the Baptist (not to be confused with the gospel writer John) was sent from God to share the gospel. John the Baptist was a cousin of Jesus Christ. He was about six months older than Jesus. That's why John over explains their relationship as, “He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me” (v.15). Of course John is speaking of Christ's eternality when he says that Jesus was before John knowing full well that he was born from Elizabeth before Jesus was born from Mary.

Nevertheless, John preached the same message as Christ, “the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” John the Baptist also prepared the way for Jesus to preach and to be accepted as the Lord's Anointed. In essence, John saw to it that the name of Jesus was lifted up that men and women and girls and boys might come to Him; and they did. The Baptist was a dedicated evangelist for the witness to Christ as the Savior of the world.

The same spirit of evangelism in John the Baptist was in John the gospel writer, the apostles, early church disciples, Christians throughout the centuries, as well as believers who shared the faith with the one who shared Jesus with me. In turn, I have and continue to do the same. That's the spirit of Christ. That's the mission of the gospel. That's what the church was commissioned to do (Matthew 16:16-19, 28:18-20). That's the spirit of Christmas.

Do you share the faith with others? Has it crossed your mind to share the gospel with someone this Christmas as the most significant gift that you could give? Are you convinced that for the purpose of sharing the gospel you have been sent from God?