

**THE LAST OLD TESTAMENT PROPHET**  
**ISAIAH 40:3 / 5-5-19 / P.M.**

**I. HIS LIFE.**

A. His birth and early life.

1. His birth was miraculous.
2. Both parents were Levites and descendants of Aaron.
3. His name means "God is gracious".
4. He was 6 months older than Jesus.
5. He was a second cousin of Jesus. His mother was Jesus' mother's aunt due to her age.
6. He lived in the desert as a young man.

B. His ministry.

1. He was the forerunner of the Messiah—Mal. 3:1 and Matt. 11:10.
2. He called the people to repent of their sins and be baptized as a sign of their repentance—Matt. 3:1-2, 5-6.
3. John baptized Jesus at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry—Matt. 3:13-17.
4. John denied being Elijah (the reincarnation of him) or the Messiah—John 1:19-23.
5. He identified Jesus as the Messiah—John 1:29-34.
6. John never performed a miracle—John 10:41.
7. Jesus called John great—Matt. 11:11.
8. His ministry lasted less than a year.

C. John's reputation among other religious groups today.

1. Mormons believe he appeared to Joseph Smith on May 15, 1829 and ordained him as a priest of the tribe of Aaron.
2. Muslims believe Muhammed met John when he was on his way to heaven.

D. His death—Matt. 14:3-12.

## II. HIS LESSONS

1. It takes courage to take a stand for Jesus—Matt. 3:7.
2. Humility is a desirable trait in Christians—John 3:30.
3. Realized that there must be evidence that someone is saved--Matt. 3:8 and 10.
4. Understood that faith not family leads to salvation—Matt. 3:9.
5. Holiness is important—Mark 6:20.
6. Doubt is not a sin, unbelief is though—Matt. 11:1-11.