

## **Outline - Matt 3.1-17 – Prepare for Jesus: Turn or Burn**

A family warned of fire

“Turn or burn” – to say that seems so unloving, but to not is unfaithful & unloving

John the Baptist – Prepares people for Jesus (2 Kings 1.8; Malachi 4.5; Isaiah 40.3)

John prepares people by telling them to:

### **1. Repent of Sin**

John preached repentance

What does repent mean? (Mal 3.7)

Signified in baptism v6

Shows itself in action v8 (Acts 26.20)

Motivation - The fire and judgement to come (v7,10, 12)

“Turn or Burn” (Charles Spurgeon)

### **2. Turn to Jesus**

Who is he?

Mightier than John (v11), Son of God (v17), has the Holy Spirit (v16)

Truly a human & baptised ‘to fulfill all righteousness’ (Isa 53.12; Lk 12.50)

Baptises with/ gives the Holy Spirit (v11) (Acts 2.33; Matt 28.19)

Brings the judgement (v12) (eternal fire - Matt 7.19; 18.8-9; Rev 20.15)

So repent and turn to him (Acts 5.31; Isa 45.22)