

12 January 2014: Preached by Rev Quek Suan Yew

Topic: **Life of Christ: Preparing The Coming**

Scripture Text: Mark 1: 1-8

1. We are used to preparing the coming of a VIP for any event on earth. All things are checked and prepared for the VIP coming. The first advent of the Lord Jesus Christ is a very significant and important event and God has ordained all things ready to prepare for Christ coming.
2. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, would come to this earth to be a man. His coming was prophesised in the Old Testament. All the Old Testament prophecies of the coming of Messiah, the Saviour, will be fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Just before the coming of Jesus Christ, John the Baptist would be the forerunner to announce His coming.
3. John the Baptist would preach about sin and repentance to make right the hearts of the people to receive Jesus Christ. Many people came to hear the preaching of John the Baptist and confessed and repented of their sins.
4. John the Baptist, though a priest by descent, dressed differently from the religious priests in the days of Christ. He stayed in the wilderness and ate wild honey. He made a clear distinction from the religious system of the Pharisees to show that his message is different. The Pharisees are self-righteous people and do not believe in Jesus Christ and would be the people who wanted to kill Jesus.
5. We must learn from John the Baptist that to reach out to others, we must live a holy life separated from the world and tell others that they are sinners. Only Jesus Christ can save sinners from the punishment of their sins.