

# The CHOSEN

Episode 5

The Wedding Gift – Part 1

Who has gone up to heaven and come down?  
Whose hands have gathered up the wind?  
Who has wrapped up the waters in a cloak?  
Who has established all the ends of the earth?  
What is his name, and what is the name of his son?  
Surely you know!

—Proverbs 30:4

## Scenes in this Episode:

- ◇ 12-year-old Jesus in Jerusalem.  
Parents locate him after three-day search.
- ◇ Preparation for wedding in Cana.  
Bride's parents focus on decorations, sufficient supply of wine, etc.  
Jesus calls disciples, who follow to the wedding.
- ◇ John the Baptist in prison. Nicodemus visits.

## Themes in this episode:

- ◇ Hope
- ◇ Witness
- ◇ Asleep vs. Awake
- ◇ Light vs. Darkness

## Wedding Feast at Cana - John 2:1-12

### Hope

People have responsibilities, needs, goals, opinions, relationships and reputations to uphold. What we pursue and prioritize tend to be where we place our hope.

The same could be said for everyone who attended the wedding feast at Cana.

What could have been the hope of:

- a) Parents of bride & groom \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Newlyweds \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Disciples present with Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Other wedding guests \_\_\_\_\_

What Godly, Christ-like character qualities were displayed by characters in The Chosen?

--Mary \_\_\_\_\_

--Simon Peter \_\_\_\_\_

--Andrew \_\_\_\_\_

--Thomas \_\_\_\_\_

In what can we place our hope?

Psalm 33:18 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 119:74, 81, 114, 147 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 1:13 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 147:11 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 23:6 \_\_\_\_\_

1Thessalonians 5:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Titus 2:13 \_\_\_\_\_

# John the Baptist – Witness

Israel expected God to “visit” their nation again in the future. Abraham and Moses led God’s visitations in the past. Three figures were mentioned in the Old Testament to expect in a coming visitation:

- a) Messiah, the Anointed One.
- b) Elijah.
- c) Prophet like Moses.

The Jews had no uniform expectation of a single end-times (eschatological) figure.

John the Baptist was a prophet in an O.T. pattern or motif. He expected God to act sternly in judgment through an intermediary. His quotes:



John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

—Luke 3:7-9

John the Baptist was asked by Jewish priests and Levites whether he was Messiah, Elijah, or the prophet. (John 1:19-28).

John did not foresee grace as such a priority in Jesus’ purpose. John was prepared for something more cataclysmic; however, signs and wonders following Jesus led John, who was in prison (Luke 3:20) to send his own disciples to ask Jesus point-blank.

John’s disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, he sent them to the Lord to ask, “Are you **the one who is to come**, or should we expect someone else?”  
—Luke 7:18-19

Prophets, including Moses and David, wrote about the *one who is to come*.

The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until **he to whom it belongs** shall **come** and the obedience of the nations shall be his.  
—Genesis 49:10

Blessed is **he who comes** in the name of the LORD.  
From the house of the LORD we bless you.  
—Psalm 118:26

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like **a son of man, coming** with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence.  
—Daniel 7:13

For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; **it will certainly come** and will not delay.  
—Habakkuk 2:3



Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!  
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!  
See, **your king comes** to you,  
righteous and victorious, lowly  
and riding on a donkey, on a colt,  
the foal of a donkey.  
—Zech. 9:9

Even some of the Baptist's disciples wondered whether he was the **Messiah** (Luke 3:15).

**Elijah** would return to prepare the way before the Messiah, according to Malachi 4:5.

While John humbly rejects the exalted title, Jesus bestows it on him, saying John performed the function of Elijah (Matthew 11:14, also Luke 1:17).

**Prophet "like Moses"** would come, according to Deuteronomy 18:15-18, but Acts 3:13-22 identifies Jesus as that prophet.

John the Baptist would identify "the coming one" as follows:

"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me **comes one** who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

—Matthew 3:11-12

Just as the people of Israel were called to be witnesses for the Lord (Isaiah 43:10-12; 44:8), John the Baptist was sent by God to be a witness to Jesus.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a **witness** to testify concerning that **light**, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the **light**. The true **light** that gives **light** to everyone was coming into the world...John **testified** concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" —John 1:6-9, 15

Witnesses testify to what they have *seen* and *heard*

At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and **report** to John what you have **seen** and **heard**: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

—Luke 7:21-22

**Witness**

## Asleep or Awake?

So then, let us not be like others, who are **asleep**, but let us be **awake** and sober. —1 Thess. 5:6

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to **wake up** from your **slumber**, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The **night** is nearly over; the **day** is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of **darkness** and put on the armor of **light**.

—Romans 13:11

...everything exposed by the **light** becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a **light**.

This is why it is said: “**Wake up, sleeper**, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” —Ephesians 5:14

Be sober-minded [be sensible, **wake up from your spiritual stupor**] as you ought, and stop sinning; for some [of you] have no knowledge of God [you are disgracefully ignorant of Him, and ignore His truths].

I say this to your shame.

—1 Corinthians 15:34 (AMP)



**Awake, awake**, Zion, clothe yourself with strength! Put on your garments of splendor, Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. —Isaiah 52:1

## In Light or Darkness?

**Your word** is a **lamp** for my feet, a **light** on my path. —Psalm 119:105

The **precepts of the LORD** are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving **light** to the eyes. —Psalm 19:8

For this command is a **lamp**, this teaching is a **light**, and correction and instruction are the way to life...

—Proverbs 6:23



When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “**I am the light** of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in **darkness**, but will have the **light** of life.”

—John 8:12

“I am Jesus, whom you (Saul/Paul) are persecuting,” the Lord replied. “Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a **witness** of what you **have seen** and **will see** of me. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to **open their eyes** and **turn** them from **darkness to light**, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” —Acts 26:15b-18

I saw that wisdom is better than folly, just as **light** is **better** than **darkness**. —Ecclesiastes 2:13