

John was a man of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_.

#### 1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.

4. He Was \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

#### John 1:19-23 (NIV 1984)

<sup>19</sup> Now this was John's testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. <sup>20</sup> He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ.<sup>[a]</sup>"

<sup>21</sup> They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

<sup>22</sup> Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

<sup>23</sup> John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the desert, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

#### John 3:30 (NKJV)

<sup>30</sup> "He (Jesus) must increase, but I (John) must decrease."

To be in the Kingdom is to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. He Was A \_\_\_\_\_.

#### John 1:6-8 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. <sup>8</sup> He was not that Light but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.

#### John 5:35 (NIV)

<sup>35</sup> John was a lamp that burned and gave light,

Some of you keep going back to familiar spirits.

#### Luke 9:62 New King James Version

<sup>62</sup> But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

I have to be \_\_\_\_\_.



SUNDAY  
July 7, 2024

Pastor  
William J. Lindsey, D. Min

# Taking the Kingdom By Force

Part 7 from the series  
"Kingdom First: Nuff Said!"

Sunday July 7, 2024

Pastor William J. Lindsey D.Min

**Matthew 11:11-12 New  
International Version (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup> From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

The Kingdom concept is not new, it's been advancing for centuries. It's been progressing and proceeding. It's been gaining ground, conquering territory, it's been marching and moving on, the Kingdom has been driving since the days of John the Baptist. The Kingdom of God is an unstoppable force and an irresistible influence.

## What is the Kingdom?

The Kingdom of God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

The Kingdom of God is a system on earth where God's \_\_\_\_\_ as it is in heaven.

## What Made John "Kingdom"?

1. He Was \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 1:15 (NIV)**

<sup>15</sup> for he (John the Baptist) will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from before he is born.

**Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

2. He Lived A \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 3:4 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

**Mark 6:20 (NIV)**

<sup>20</sup> because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

**Romans 12:2 The Message (MSG)**

<sup>2</sup> ...Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

3. He was \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 1:17 (NIV)**

<sup>17</sup> And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah,

**Luke 3:19-20 (NIV)**

<sup>19</sup> But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, <sup>20</sup> Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.