

Proclamation of John the Baptist

What is a prophet?

What is a prophet responsible for doing?

What is the difference between foretelling and forthtelling?

What is the difference between a prophet and religious leader?

Who are some of the prophets in the Old Testament?

From what we know about the Book of Mark, it is the earliest of the Gospels written. It is also written in a very concise way compared to the other Gospels. Interestingly enough, The Book of Mark does not have a birth story of Jesus and instead jumps right into his life as an adult.

The book does start with a brief look into another individual, John the Baptist. The author starts by referencing another prophetic text, the book of Isaiah. Read Mark 1:1-8.

In what ways is John a prophet?

Is he foretelling or forthtelling?

What is his message?

His message is one after Jesus has already been born, but in many ways, it applies to us as we wait to celebrate his birth. What can we learn from John's proclamation of waiting for one to come?