

**eXplain it**  
**(Advent 4)**

**Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (The Prophet)**  
**Psalm 111 (Great are the Works of the Lord)**  
**Philippians 4:4-7 (Rejoice in the Lord)**  
**John 1:19-28 (John's Testimony)**  
**Luke 1:39-56 (Mary Visits Elizabeth)**

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**Three Advents "comings"**

**1<sup>st</sup> Advent: "fulfilled"**  
**(remember and rejoice)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Advent: "promised"**  
**(repent, watch and be ready)**

**On Going Advent**  
**(receive, receive, receive)**

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**Repent**  
**Receive**  
**Rejoice**

**(repeat)**

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**Jesus and John the Baptist  
(Matthew 11)**

**“What did you go out  
into the desert to see?”**

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**Matthew 11:7-10: As John's disciples were  
leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd  
about John:**

**"What did you go out into the desert to see? A  
reed swayed by the wind? 8 If not, what did  
you go out to see? A man dressed in fine  
clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in  
kings' palaces. (NIV)**

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**9 Then what did you go out to see? A prophet?  
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.  
10 This is the one about whom it is written: " 'I  
will send my messenger ahead of you, who will  
prepare your way before you.' (NIV)**

***(from Malachi 3 – last of the prophets)***

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**John 1:19-28 (John's Testimony)**  
**questions addressed to John  
and John's answers**

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**Identity and Calling**  
**3x "I am not ..."  
but "I am ..."**

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**John 1:19-ff: Now this was John's testimony  
when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and  
Levites to ask him who he was.**

**20 He did not fail to confess, but confessed  
freely, "I am not the Christ. " (NIV)**

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I am not ...  
  
the Christ  
the Messiah  
the Anointed One

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John 1:19-ff: 21 They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." (NIV)

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Elijah

2 Kings 2:11: 11As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. (NIV)

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**Malachi 4:5-6: "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes.**

**He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse." (NIV)**

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**Jesus said John the Baptist is "Elijah"**

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**Matthew 17:12-13: But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands."**

**13Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptist. (NIV)**

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**Luke 1:17: And he (John) will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous--to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.  
(NIV)**

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**John 1:19-ff: 21 "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." (NIV)**

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**the "Prophet"  
Deuteronomy 18:15-19**

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**Deuteronomy 18:15-19: 15 The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him. (NIV)**

**“one of your brothers”  
“listen to Him”**

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**“Who are you?”**

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**John 1:19-ff: 22 Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"**

**23 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.' " (NIV)**

***(from Isaiah 40)***

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**Isaiah 40:1-11: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 2Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord 's hand double for all her sins.**

**3A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the Lord ; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God." (NIV)**

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**John's Message  
(Law and the Gospel)**

**"Repent!"  
"Behold the Lamb of God!"**

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**Identity and Calling  
in Relationship to Jesus**

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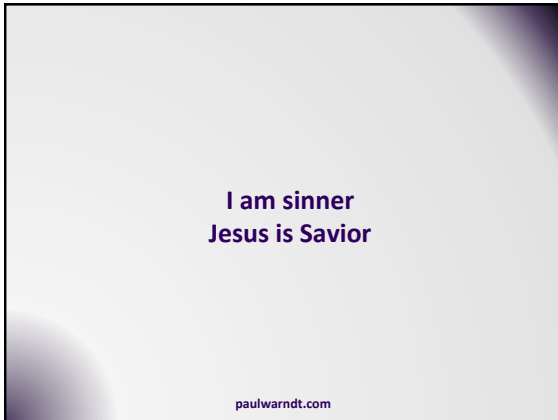
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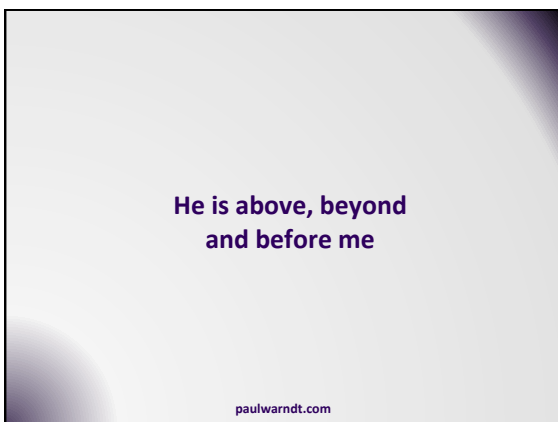
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**John 1:30-ff: 30 This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'**(NIV)

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**I am not the Bridegroom**

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**John 3:28-ff: 28You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Christ but am sent ahead of him.'** 29**The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. (NIV)**

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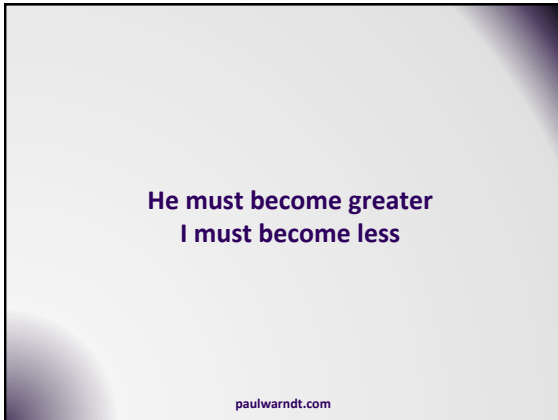
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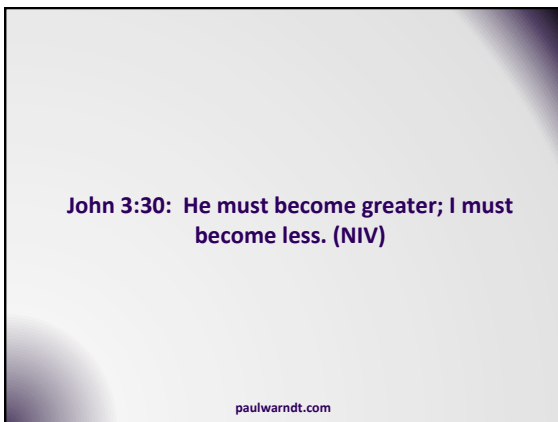
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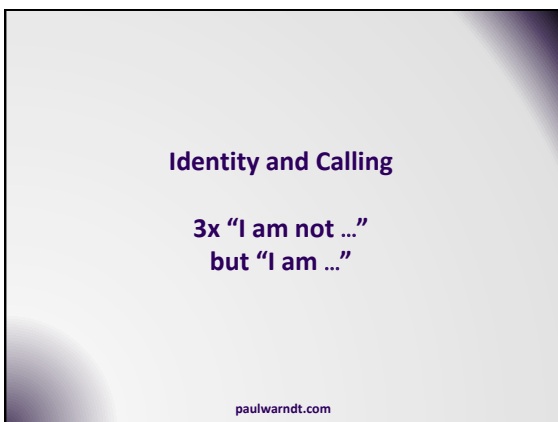
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