



Today's Message

Date: February 16, 2020
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***John the Baptist: Rejected and Imprisoned***

Text: Luke 3:19–20 (ESV)

¹⁹ But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

Introduction: The stories of John the Baptist and Jesus run a parallel course throughout the opening chapters of Luke's Gospel. However, midway through chapter 3, the story of John ends abruptly. From this point forward, Luke devotes full attention to One who is the heart of the story: Christ. This sermon will tell the story of the conclusion of John's ministry using material from the other Gospels to fill in details that Luke didn't include. Finally, we will consider implications that John's story teaches us.

The world stands against those who stand for Christ . . .

I. The world despises truth and those who speak it.

- A. They despise the truth because it exposes their sin.
- B. They attempt to silence the truth by intimidating the messengers.
- C. Sometimes they succeed.

II. Even so, we who know Christ must speak the truth boldly.

- A. We must speak the truth boldly because the world needs to hear it.
- B. We must speak the truth boldly because Christ is worthy of full commitment.

III. We are empowered to speak the truth boldly because we know how the story turns out.

Today's take-home truth: The world stands against those who stand for Christ . . .yet here we stand with joyous hope.