

**IN THE DARK TIMES**  
**Matthew 11:1-15**

*Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptist! Matthew 11:11*

**IN A VERY DARK TIME JOHN: (vv.1-3)**

Prison: Desmoterion - a place of bondage, i.e. a dungeon (Strong's)

**Takes his \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**  
*John...sent word... to Him... Matthew 11:2-3*

**Stays \_\_\_\_\_ with like-minded \_\_\_\_\_**  
*...his disciples (v.2)*

**Remains \_\_\_\_\_ in his \_\_\_\_\_**

*...for Herod was afraid of John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. And when he heard him, he was very perplexed; but he used to enjoy listening to him. Mark 6:20*

*...yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away Matthew 13:21*

**Will receive \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord (vv.4-6)**

**What the Messiah would do:**

*...the deaf will hear...the eyes of the blind will see. Isaiah 29:18*

*Then the lame will leap like a deer...And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy... Isaiah 35:4-6*

**What Jesus didn't say to John:**

*The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, Psalms 146:7-8*

**Jesus is telling John that right now even though it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ John needs to trust \_\_\_\_\_ (v.6)**

*"And blessed is he who does not take offense (scandalizoo) at Me." Matthew 11:6*

**Will receive \_\_\_\_\_ from the Lord (vv.7-15)**

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

**(vv.9-10)**

**Is reminded of \_\_\_\_\_ by the Lord (v.10)**

**More than a prophet? All the others prophesied that the Messiah \_\_\_\_\_**

**John's ministry announced \_\_\_\_\_ (v.9)**

**(v.12)**

*From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it Matthew 11:12 (NIV)*

*From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force. Matthew 11:12 (NASU)*

*And from the time John the Baptist began preaching until now, the Kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and violent people are attacking it. Matthew 11:12 (NLT)*

**(v.14)**

*And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their... Luke 1:17*