

He Came Out of Nowhere

July 12, 2026

Oprah Winfrey: Born into extremely rural poverty and facing immense personal hardships. She won a local radio contest in her teens, which unexpectedly launched her broadcasting career and led to her media empire.

Harrison Ford: Working primarily as a carpenter to support his family while taking minor acting roles. George Lucas hired him to read lines for *Star Wars* auditions, then cast him as Han Solo.

Marilyn Monroe: Working in a munitions factory during World War II under her birth name, Norma Jeane. A military photographer took her picture, leading to a modeling contract and her iconic Hollywood career.

Justin Bieber: A regular kid posting home videos on YouTube in 2007. He was discovered by accident and became a global pop megastar within two years.

J.K. Rowling: A struggling, unemployed single mother writing in Edinburgh cafes. The publication of *Harry Potter* in 1997 instantly propelled her into worldwide literary fame.

Susan Boyle: A quiet, middle-aged Scottish church volunteer who walked onto the *Britain's Got Talent* stage in 2009. Instantly underestimated by the judges and audience, her phenomenal rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream" shocked the world and made her an overnight global sensation.

- WHAT DO THESE PEOPLE HAVE IN COMMON
- THESE PEOPLE LITERALLY CAME OUT OF NOWHERE
 - AND MADE AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT

The Bible has several people like that

- Melchizedek – a high priest who was greater than Abraham
- Abraham – a nomad, travelling into a country he knew nothing about
- Joseph – from prison to 2nd highest position in all Egypt
- Rahab – from prostitute to part of the lineage of Jesus
- Moses – a run-a-way convict
- David – shepherd boy

But today, we are not going to talk about these people

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.”

Final words of Prophecy

400 years of Prophetic Silence

- a. Not a single “*thus saith the Lord*”

- b. 400 years of progressive deterioration of Spiritual things
- c. Rivers of animal blood sacrificed for people's atonement
- d. Overfed Priesthood for the people's mediator
- e. Religion lost in
 - i. Ceremony
 - ii. Sacrifice
 - iii. Circumcision
 - iv. Traditions

1. Then one day – unannounced – God speaks

Luke 1:13–17

“But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he 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 birth. Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God. And he 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.”

2. **Some years later** – when this infant grew into a man

John 1:19–23

“Now this was John’s testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, “I am not the Christ.”

They asked him, “Then who are you? Are you Elijah?”

He said, “I am not.”

“Are you the Prophet?”

He answered, “No.”

Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” 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.’”

3. John probably didn’t have one qualification for the priesthood

- a. But every **quality to be a prophet**
- b. He **didn’t** go to college or theological seminary
 - i. **Instead**, he went through the University of Silence
 - ii. This is where God takes all His great men to
 - 1) Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness
 - 2) Paul spent 3 years in Arabia

4. What an army of priests **could not do** in 400 years

- a. One -
 - b. Sent by God -
 - c. Fashioned by God -
 - d. Filled with the Spirit of God -
 - e. **Did in 6 months**
5. Who was better qualified other than this -
- a. Sun-scorched
 - b. Leather-girded prophet
 - c. Fire-baptized
 - i. In his eyes was the **light of God**
 - ii. Voice was the **authority of God**
 - iii. Soul was the **passion of God**
6. Desert-bred prophet
- a. Did no miracles
 - i. No raising of the dead
 - ii. Never healed anybody
 - iii. He didn't speak in foreign dialects
 - iv. BUT HE RAISED A DEAD NATION
 - b. He preached a strange doctrine
 - i. No sacrifices
 - ii. No ceremonies or traditions
 - iii. No circumcision
 - iv. Didn't even preach a sermon
7. Strange Fellow -Odd
- a. Strange diet – ate locusts
 - b. No drinking wine
 - c. No banquets
 - c. Strange dress
 - i. No priestly robes
 - ii. No phylacteries
 - iii. No special ministerial collars
 - iv. No prayer shawls
 - v. No religious jewelry
 - vi. Clothes made of camel hair and a leather belt

- vii. (Elijah's wardrobe (2 Kings 1:8))
- 8. Unmarried and Isolated
 - a. No children nor off-spring
 - b. Alone for most of his life
- 9. **BOY** do we need a man like this **today**!
- 10. This generation of churches
 - a. is responsible for
 - b. this generation of sinners

Genesis 6:5–8

“The LORD saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So the LORD said, “I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them.” But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.”

Luke 17:26–27

“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.”

- 11. Today **sin is glamorized**
 - a. Popularized by
 - b. TV
 - c. Movies
 - d. Magazines
 - e. Social media
- 12. Sin is also **acceptable**
 - a. **Nobody speaks up** or **afraid** to speak up
 - i. Afraid of lawsuits
 - ii. Social ridicule
 - iii. Losing our jobs
 - iv. Being Labeled as Haters
 - b. **Churches are relatively silent**
 - c. **Schools are restricted – handcuffed by politics**
 - d. **Places that we work it prohibited**
 - e. **Neighborhoods promote diversity**

- f. Social gatherings, it's considered **inappropriate**
- g. Families want to **avoid conflict** – they want peace

13. It's sad that our **children don't fear the Lord**

- a. Maybe it's because
- b. WE don't fear the Lord

Proverbs 1:7

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.”

- a. We are raising a generation of FOOLS

14. Moses **couldn't** mistake the sight of the Burning Bush

15. Jerusalem **didn't** mistake the fires of Pentecost

- a. SO A NATION COULD NOT MISTAKE
- b. THE SIGHT OF A BURNING MAN
- c. LIKE JOHN THE BAPTIST

16. GOD MEETS FIRE WITH FIRE

- a. **The more fire in the pews**
 - i. **The less fire in the colonies of Hell**

17. John the Baptist didn't hold back

- a. He sent a **tongue-blistering message** from God
 - i. That was razor sharp
 - ii. John's cry for “Repentance”

Luke 3:7–9

“John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

18. The Apostle Paul was the same way

Acts 20:17–21

“From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. When they arrived, he said to them: ‘You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. I served the Lord with great humility and with tears, although I was severely tested by the plots of the Jews. You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.’”

Acts 20:26–27

“Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.”

19. John took **no** prisoners –

- a. treated everybody the same
- b. Including calling out the top local government officials

Mark 6:17–19

“For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, whom he had married. For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him.”

c. He demanded change

- i. Left **no** alternatives – *“the axe is at the root of the tree”*
- ii. You are DAMNED if you don’t repent

20. John was a VOICE

- a. Most preachers are
 - i. mere echoes
 - ii. of what they have heard
 - iii. in the past
- b. Taught in the past
- c. Or of the latest book that they’ve read
- d. **Rather than** listening to the voice of God
 - i. Diving deep into the word of God
 - ii. To discover what God truly wants

21. IT TAKES BROKEN MEN TO BREAK MEN

- a. John the Baptist CALLED OUT SIN
 - i. Unashamed
 - ii. **Without** reservation
 - iii. **Not** worried about repercussions
 - iv. How people would respond
- b. JOHN **AWOKE** AN ENTIRE NATION
 - i. The non-religious
 - 1. People considered uninspired
 - 2. Non-caring
 - 3. Socially indifferent

- ii. He awoke the compromised politicians
- iii. Immorally Indoctrinated Educators
- iv. The Castrated men of his generation
- v. A morally lobotomized world

22. He woke the world up

- a. with a message
- b. that shook the foundations
- c. of his generation

23. Think about this:

- a. What would happen
- b. if these scriptures were preached
- c. in every church:

Galatians 5:19–21

“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

Mark 7:20–23

“Jesus went on: ‘What comes out of a man is what makes him ‘unclean.’ For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’”

1 Corinthians 6:9–11

“Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were.”

24. Of course, many would say

- a. Well, I don’t do those things every day
- b. But when I do, I just ask for forgiveness
- c. And God, who is a forgiving God, will forgive me

25. Boy, isn’t that totally wrong

Romans 6:1–2

“What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?”

- a. By continuing to willfully sin
 - i. Demonstrates that you have no idea of a relationship with God

- ii. Biblically illiterate with regards to these scriptures
- iii. You are “**Religiously Lost**”
- b. On Judgment Day,
 - i. you will be counted alongside with the Pagans

26. What would happen

- a. to these megachurches
- b. and these TV evangelists
- c. if these scriptures were preached
- d. with John’s conviction?

2 Timothy 3:12

“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted”

27. BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

- a. We have all the equipment
- b. at our disposal
- c. that John had
 - i. We have the Bible – God’s word
 - ii. It’s the same message calling for repentance
 - iii. We actually more
 - iv. Buildings
 - v. Technology
 - vi. Mass media

James 5:17

“Elijah was a man just like us.”

- a. **If** Elijah was a man just like us,
- b. then the same could be said about John the Baptist
- c. We have no excuses

2 Peter 1:3

“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.”

28. The problem today is **not** a lack of resources

29. OUR PROBLEM TODAY IS CONVICTION

- a. We are Dogmatic, but **not** Dynamic
- b. A lot of Pacification, but **very little** Persuasion
- c. A lot of Pontification, but **hardly any** Persecution

- d. We have a lot of Renovations, but **no** Rejuvenation
- e. A lot of Calcification, but **no** Contrition
- f. A lot of Rattle, but **no** Revival
- g. WHAT ARE WE ACCOMPLISHING?

Finish with a STORY

Charlie Peace was a criminal. Laws of God or man curbed him not. Finally, the law caught up with him and he was condemned to death. On the fatal morning in Armley Jail, Leeds England, he was taken on the death-walk. Before him went the prison chaplain routinely and sleepily reading some Bible verses. The criminal touched the preacher and asked what he was reading: “the Consolations of Religion” was the reply. Charlie Peace was shocked at the way he professionally read about Hell. Could a man be so unmoved under the very shadow of the scaffold as to lead a fellow-human there and yet, dry-eyed, read of a pit that has no bottom into which this fellow must fall? Could this preacher believe the words that there is an eternal fire that never consumes its victims, and yet slide over the phrase without a tremor? Is a man human at all who can say with no tears, “You will be eternally dying and yet never know the relief that death brings”? All this was too much for Charlie Peace.

So, he preached his first and only sermon to the chaplain and the prison officials. Listen to his “On-The-Eve-Of-Hell” sermon.

“Sir, ‘addressing the preacher, ‘if I believed what you and your church say that you believe, even if England were covered with broken glass from coast-to-coast, I would walk over it, if need be, on hands and knees and think it worthwhile living, just to save one soul from an eternal Hell like that!’”

Isn’t this what God was saying to Ezekiel when He said something similar:

Ezekiel 33:7–9

“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his ways and he does not do so, he will die for his sin, but you will have saved yourself.”

Similarly, He told Ezekiel:

Ezekiel 3:4–7

“He then said to me: “Son of man, go now to the house of Israel and speak my words to them. You are not being sent to a people of obscure speech and difficult language, but to the house of Israel—not to many peoples of obscure speech and difficult language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely if I had sent you to them, they would have listened to you. But the house of Israel is not willing to listen to you because they are not willing to listen to me, for the whole house of Israel is hardened and obstinate.”

SO, WHAT IS GOD’S MESSAGE TO US?

SAME AS WHAT HE TOLD JOHN THE BAPTIST

Isaiah 6:8–12

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

He said, “Go and tell this people:

*“‘Be ever hearing, but never understanding;
be ever seeing, but never perceiving.’*

Make the heart of this people calloused;

*make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”*

Then I said, “For how long, O Lord?”

*And he answered: “Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are
left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged, until the LORD has sent everyone far
away and the land is utterly forsaken.”*

Brothers and Sisters – We need to Repent – For the Kingdom is **Now** Here