

# **The Baptist and the Jerusalem Temple Establishment by Anthony LeDonne (2001)**

The present study takes a multifaceted approach to demonstrate that the historical John the Baptist stood in opposition to the Jerusalem Temple Establishment (JTE). While such a thesis was taken for granted by several generations of scholars, it has recently become a matter of dispute. This question is important for its potential to shed further light on both the contexts of the historical Jesus and Qumran. The purpose of this thesis is to positively contribute to this discussion by arguing that John did indeed historically oppose the JTE.

The present thesis will discuss the relevant data concerning John the Baptist with attention to four main aspects: (1) John's use of Elijah tradition via Malachi, (2) John's use of Isaiah, (3) the significance of John's baptism in light of 1QS, and (4) the secondary witnesses of Jesus, Luke's infancy narrative and the Fourth Gospel.