

"The Road to God"

Useless Trivia? (v. 1-2)

- It provides a **HISTORICAL** backdrop.
- It places Jesus on the stage of **WORLD** history.
- It captures the complex and **OPPRESSIVE** situation in which Israel found herself.
- It demonstrates the extent of human **PRIDE** and our deep **RESISTANCE** to repentance.

Necessary Preparation

1. **REPENT** (v. 3-6).
2. Produce **FRUIT** in keeping with repentance (v. 7-14).
 - a. Do not depend on your **PEDIGREE** or your outward show of righteousness.
 - b. Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and **BURNED**.

What does good fruit look like?

3. Look to **JESUS** as the coming Deliverer (v. 15-19)
 - a. Jesus is more **POWERFUL**.
 - b. Jesus performs a better **BAPTISM**.
 - c. Jesus will accomplish a more thorough **JUDGEMENT**.

The Divine Coup (v. 20)