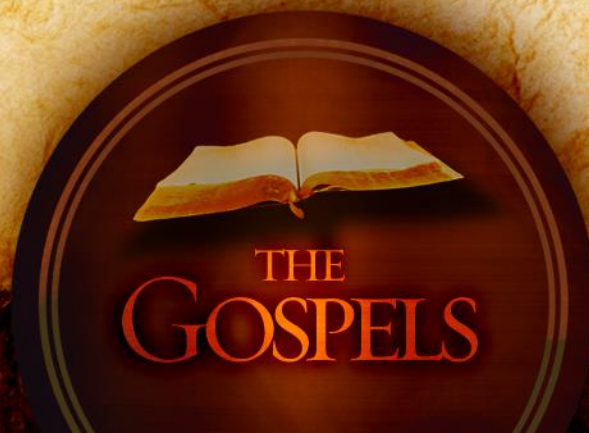




# JOHN

*Light of the World*



“This major part of John’s Gospel describes the public ministry of Jesus to the nation Israel. It is a ‘book of signs’, a narrative of seven of Jesus’ miracles that point to Him as the Messiah. Along with the signs are public discourses explaining the significance of the signs and two long private interviews (chapters 3 and 4).”

**Dr. Edwin A. Blum (B.K.C.)**



## THE BACKGROUND OF THE MAN SENT FROM GOD

1. John's parents were Zechariah & Elizabeth (Luke 1:7)
2. John lived in the desert (Luke 1:80)
3. His austere clothing and diet (Mark 1:6)
4. A fire-and-brimstone call to repentance (Matthew 3)

## THE FAITHFULNESS OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY (1:19-24)

It seems that ver. 19 begins *after* the baptism & subsequent temptation of Jesus, about six weeks before.



## THE FAITHFULNESS OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY (1:19-24)

### 1. Their Questions

- A. Who are you? (Implied: "Are you the Christ?")
- B. Are you Elijah? See Malachi 4:5-6

## MALACHI 4:5-6

MALACHI

“Behold, 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.”



## THE FAITHFULNESS OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY (1:19-24)

### 1. Their Questions

- A. Who are you? (Implied: "Are you the Christ?")
- B. Are you Elijah? See Malachi 4:5-6
- C. Are you the Prophet? See Deuteronomy 18:15

## DEUTERONOMY 18:18-19

## DEUTERONOMY

"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone doesn't listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account."



## THE FAITHFULNESS OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY (1:19-24)

### 1. Their Questions

- A. Who are you? (Implied: "Are you the Christ?")
- B. Are you Elijah? See Malachi 4:5-6
- C. Are you the Prophet? See Deuteronomy 18:15
- D. Who are you? What do you say about yourself?

### 2. John's Answers





## 2. John's Answers

- A. He was a lamp, *but not the light* (1:7)
- B. He was a voice, *but not the Word* (1:23)
- C. He was useful, *but not indispensable* (1:25-28)
- D. He was a witness,  
*but not an object of worship* (1:29-33)

John identified Jesus as:

- 1) The Lamb of God
- 2) The Son of God



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What were the Jews looking for?

- 1) The Jews were looking for a messiah.
- 2) The Jews were looking for a messenger.
- 3) The Jews were looking for a monarch.



## THE **FRUITFULNESS** OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY (1:35-42)

John 3:22-32 ... "He must become greater; I must become less."

1. His **earliest** disciples (1:35-42)
2. His **growing** disciples (3:22-30)

## MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. We too are called to **witness**; to **testify** "in the wilderness (desert)" of this world.



2. Though John was a great man, humility sparkled in him like a precious jewel & adorned his demeanor with appealing beauty. Is it true of you?

- Truly humble people have a clear understanding of *their mission* and an acceptance of *their limitations*.
- The humble person has the vision to see God's hand in another's life and applaud it.
- John said, "He must increase, but I must decrease." These words give THEE basic secret of humility: *a constant commitment to the increase of Christ and the decrease of self.*