

## John Points to Jesus

### Thoughts on John 1:29-34;3:25-36

- God revealed to John who Jesus was at Jesus' baptism (**Matthew 3:13-17**). Because of what John saw he was a reliable witness of who Jesus was.
- John the Baptist's role was to prepare the way for the Messiah, and once Jesus was identified as the Messiah, John did not shy away from pointing others to Christ, this was a radical thing for John to say at this time.
- Old Testament sacrifices were temporary and incomplete. Jesus was the perfect Lamb of God(sacrifice), who in His death, offered a permanent sacrifice for atonement for sin (**Hebrews 10:1-4,11-14**).
- The gift of the gospel can never be earned or deserved, but we have the privilege of receiving it by faith in Jesus.
- In Jesus we have been made new and have been set free from the penalty and power of sin and death (**Romans 8:1-6**). Even though the power of sin is gone for believers, we often sense temptation and sin.
- Besides being the Lamb, Jesus is also the Son of God whose ministry is blessed by the Holy Spirit (**John 1:32**).

- “Sin” is singular (**John 1:29**), not plural. It refers to the disobedience of Adam and Eve, from which all other sins come. Jesus frees all humankind from that sin.
- John refers to Jesus as coming after him (physical birth) but existed before him (deity of Jesus) (**John 1:30**).
- John’s disciples were confused. They thought Jesus was in competition with John. They did not recognize who Jesus was, but John did (**John 3:26-28**).
- John was fully satisfied with the place and work assigned him; but Jesus came on a more important work. He also knew that Jesus would increase in honor and influence, while he would be less followed.
- John knew he could not save people, but he took great delight in being able to point to Jesus as the one who can. This is true for us. When we recognize who Jesus is, we have an understanding of our role in His story.
- John was not threatened by Jesus, and he wanted nothing more than for Jesus to be lifted up so more would come to know Him.
- **John 3:36** a “gospel summary” verse helps us to see the results of how we respond to Jesus. This verse helps to recognize what we have been saved from and what we have been saved to.

- Since Jesus is from above He was uniquely able to reveal the Father and it illustrates Jesus' divinity.
- We who are in Christ, receive all the blessings promised His Son (**John 3:34**). The abundant life we receive through Christ is much greater than anything the world can offer (**John 10:10**).

### Points to Consider

- Worship of Jesus prompts us to promote Jesus not ourselves. For our hearts to remain in humility, we must remain in an attitude of worship. Our desire, like John's, is for us to decrease while Jesus increases.
- The Bride of Christ refers to the permanent relationship between Christ and the church.
- The transition from John the Baptist to Jesus fulfills the Old Testament prophetic era to that of the Messianic era.
- **Ephesians 2:3** teaches us that God's wrath does not come upon us but remains in us. Because of sin we are all born as children of wrath.
- **Ephesians 2:4-6** teaches us that through Jesus, God's love and mercy was shown/ given to us resulting in eternal life.
- Pray that God would give you a new joy in the gospel that would compel you to point others toward Jesus with renewed passion and excitement.