

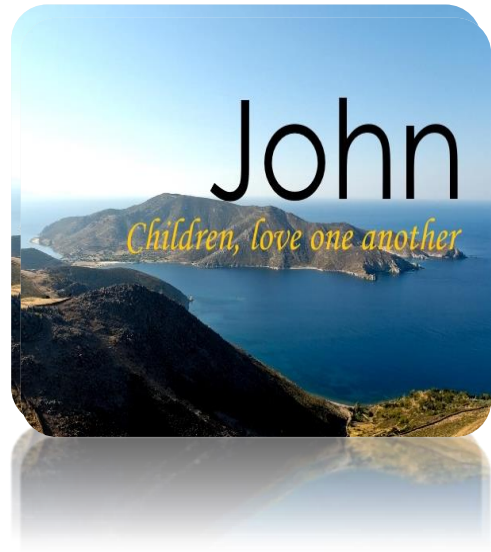
JOHN 1 vs 35

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The ancients tell us, John lived the longest of the 12 disciples; the original followers of the Lord; **eye-witnesses to Jesus Christ**. The Gospel of John circulated as early as 70ad and perhaps earlier since it contains no reference to the destruction of Jerusalem. John more than the other writers spoke about the nature of the Christ – the Messiah of God, and the meaning of faith in Him.

as soon as Jesus was baptized Matthew, Mark and Luke tell us immediately He was hurried to the wilderness to be tempted... 40 days. And now, Jesus has returned...



35 And the next day, John stood with two of His disciples;

36 And seeing Jesus as He walked by said a second time, Behold, the Lamb of God! / now John the Baptist, this voice crying in the wilderness... he is watching for this One to announce His arrival; it was the Passover-Lamb; the sin- and trespass- and peace-Lamb; offered each morning and evening... by God's people since the bloody sacrifice flowed from the gates of Eden... pointing to this One come from God... God's provision.

previously, John the Baptist said, **Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.** Matthew Henry writes; Let us not hold too tightly that which the Lamb of God came to take away. Whatever God is pleased to take away from us... we have reason to be thankful; and not to complain. By the way, once the phrase was spoken, if the first part is repeated we can imagine, the second part, the writers of the Good News just hinted the many wonderful things Jesus did. John concludes this Gospel saying: [many other signs could be written, that are not contained in this book](#).

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they joined Jesus / in the way He was going.

38 And Jesus turned, when He saw them, and asked them, What do you seek? / notice He did not say; Who do you seek? He said, what are you looking for? What are you hoping to find? Are you looking for what is real? Are you wanting to know: who is a good person? do you want to know: what is your purpose? Are you looking for truth? Are you looking for peace?

Dr. Dallas Willard, the great philosophy professor at USC, said these are the basic questions of life, that everyone wants to know; that all good teachers of society have struggled to answer through the ages.

Dr. Willard added, now days our 21st century universities steeped in science and research... are hard pressed to answer these basic questions. **There are no academic departments of: truth, or goodness.**

Notice, it is JESUS... who spoke first, inviting their request, when He asked, **What do you seek?**

and notice, these two students respond with a question.

They said to Him, Rabbi, (which translated means Teacher) where are You staying? / Christ = the Messiah, was a stranger in their country; and they desired to get to know Him better. Obviously, they hoped to have more than a short conversation from Him... along the wayside, and they were willing to journey to where He was staying:

³⁹ **He said to them, Come and see** / and we get the impression... He invites them to come immediately, without delay. There is never a better time than the present, right? God said to Abraham, our father of faith, Get up now... and start walking. And most church-folk don't respond that fast. They need to first have a committee meeting; and that might be next month... before a decision can be made.

But Jesus invites them... **Come now and see.**

So, they came and saw where He was staying, and stayed with Him that day: it was about the tenth hour / it was late afternoon, about 4: o'clock! So, they spent a whole day with Jesus and we don't get to hear another question they asked; or answer He gave. Now, this is not how to tell fabulous fables; but a way to frustrate the reader; and you sense, God likes to do that: He doesn't always fill in the blanks.

⁴⁰ **One of the two who heard John, and joined Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.**

⁴¹ **And he first went and found his own brother Simon** / you know, that raises a question: If Peter is the head of the church, what does that make Andrew, who led him to the Lord?

Andrew said to him, We have found the Messiah, that is the Christ / now it took Andrew and the disciple he was with -- probably John... it took them a whole day to come to that conclusion.

How many years did it take Peter to realize: He was the Christ? If you don't read scripture, you really don't notice those things, do you? John the Baptist had said, **He is the Lamb of God**; and Andrew and the other one he is with are comparing the Old Testament verses they know. And comparing them, they conclude: **He is the Messiah**; promised to the fathers. Thus Andrew speaks more clearly concerning the Christ than his teacher, John the Baptist; as the psalmist affirms: [I learn more than my teachers teach me](#) -- **Psalm 119**.

We have found the Messiah, that is, the Christ.

⁴² **And Andrew brought him to Jesus.**

And when Jesus saw him, He said, You are Simon the son of John:

but You will be called Cephas, that is, A stone. / the meaning of the name: **Peter**

⁴³ **The next day Jesus went forth to Galilee, and found Philip,**

and Jesus said to him, Join Me in the way.

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⁴⁴ Philip was of **Bethsaida** the town of Andrew and Peter / meaning: **house of nets** -- fishing nets; a common name found along the Galilean seashore; Philip is the only disciple with a Greek name.

⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael, and blunders to him, We have found Him / hmm?! **Who found whom?** This verse is going to sound like one of those confusing Sunday school classes. Years ago, standing in line at a wedding reception, suddenly I was with Dr. Jack MacArthur. As we talked, he said to me, I got rid of those Sunday school classes in my congregation, adding, **they were just turning out to be a pooling of ignorance!** Dr. Jack was a good man. I never forgot his comment. Tragically, too often it is still so true!



Philip said to him, We have found Him? / hmm?! Apparently, Philip was excited! What does the bible say? Two verses earlier, we read... **Jesus found Philip.** So, **STRIKE ONE!**

of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth / they wrote HE was coming from Bethlehem... **STRIKE TWO!**

the son of Joseph / well, the supposed son of Joseph so, **STRIKE THREE!**

⁴⁶ Nathanael skeptically said to him, Nazareth?!

Can any good thing come from Nazareth? / that place of hot-headed hardheads and fanatics? Apparently, Nathanael thought Philip had struck out! But Philip redeems himself.

Philip said to him, Come and see / he got that right! That's what Jesus said calling His first disciples.

Matthew Henry wrote: without just standing there and arguing... and raising difficulties they could not surmount; in essence, Philip says, Let us go and talk with Christ and all these difficulties will vanish! **Come and let us go up to the LORD... He will teach us His ways** -- **Isaiah 2.**

⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said Look, an **Israelite** indeed / truly: **ruled by God;** living up to the name, **one governed by God** indeed / and only Christ can know what men indeed are! **in whom is no guile** / no deceit or trickery!

⁴⁸ Nathanael said to Him, How do You know me? / who am I that You should know me? **and Jesus answered and said to him, Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you** / in essence, Jesus said, When you withdrew yourself, and sat alone under the fig tree... and thought that nobody saw you; I had my eye on you; I was watching. was Nathanael alone with God? Wrestling? Like we read of Israel? **Genesis 32.**

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⁴⁹ Nathanael answered and said Rabbi,

You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel.

⁵⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, you believe? to Nathanael and Philip and the others gathering... HE said...

you will see greater things than these.

⁵¹ And He said to him / the One whom John writes in Revelation 3 calls: The Amen! He said...

Amen! Amen! / in essence Jesus says, I solemnly promise; I sign My Name to what I tell you:

I say to you, You will see the heavens open,

and the angels of God / those citizens of eternity,

ascending and descending to the Son of Man.

Paul to the Thessalonians writes, When HE comes to be glorified in His saints; when He comes with power and great glory; with His entourage of heavenly citizens joyously attending to Him; when all are amazed... when all who believe are astonished...Jesus says, there is a great Day coming. That's going to be one great Day... and I don't plan to miss it!

How about you?

Salvation is Your Name | The Man of Sorrows | JESUS it is YOU

His sheep hear His voice and follow Him

Check out: Our Brothers and Sisters Around The World Singing GOD'S Praise:  The Songlist

God of Wonders

The Privileged Planet

Fibonacci in Nature; The Code of Life | We Came From Where?