

## The Witness to the Word

### Lessons for this Series

1. John the Baptist's story shows how a person can understand and \_\_\_\_\_ his role in the Kingdom and then \_\_\_\_\_ it.
2. When someone looked at John the Baptist, they saw \_\_\_\_\_. What do people see when they look at \_\_\_\_\_?

### The Witness to the Light

John 1:6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

#### Who was John the Baptist?

Matt. 3:1 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." 3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" 4 John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

-- After 400 years of \_\_\_\_\_, Israel has a new \_\_\_\_\_.

Matt. 11:9 . . . what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

-- His message was " \_\_\_\_\_ " but it was \_\_\_\_\_.

-- His ways were \_\_\_\_\_ but he was extremely \_\_\_\_\_.

-- He was the \_\_\_\_\_ man that had ever \_\_\_\_\_.

Matt. 11:11 I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

-- Some became followers of John the Baptist and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

Acts 18:25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John.

Acts 19:3 So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied. 4 Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus."

#### Contrast between John and Jesus:

John was a \_\_\_\_\_; Jesus was both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

John was \_\_\_\_\_ from God; Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ God.

John \_\_\_\_\_ to the Light; Jesus was the \_\_\_\_\_.

John 5:35 John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

John came to \_\_\_\_\_ the light. Why?

2Cor. 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

### The Rejection of the Light

John 1:9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

Jesus was the \_\_\_\_\_ and man's \_\_\_\_\_ hope.

Jesus had \_\_\_\_\_ the world and His very creation \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

John 3:19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

Jesus came to His \_\_\_\_\_, but they rejected \_\_\_\_\_. Who is this?

Amos 3:2 "You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your sins."

Is. 1:3 The ox knows his master, the donkey his owner's manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."

### The Receiving of the Light

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

If we believe and receive, God \_\_\_\_\_ us as His children.

You aren't God's child because of your \_\_\_\_\_, because of your parent's \_\_\_\_\_ for you, or because you were " \_\_\_\_\_."

You are \_\_\_\_\_ God's child when you are \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

### The Nature of the Light

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" 16 From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

The Word (Jesus) became a \_\_\_\_\_ and lived \_\_\_\_\_ us.

Yet, even while Jesus was in flesh, He was \_\_\_\_\_!

John the Baptist \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus was God. A riddle!

Jesus' nature is \_\_\_\_\_ and this glory is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

We all continue to \_\_\_\_\_ that grace moment by moment.

Moses gave the \_\_\_\_\_, but Jesus gave \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

You must \_\_\_\_\_ one or the other.

Rom 11:6 if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

### Let's Review

John the Baptist came to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_ people rejected while \_\_\_\_\_ believed. Now we must decide how we will respond!