

John 1:29-34 – The Baptism of Jesus Christ, Part 3

Introduction: Cultural Christianity

1. Easy Believism – No Perseverance in the Faith
2. The Theology of the Cross exchanged for a Theology of Glory (The offense of the Gospel replaced by Glorification of Man)
3. The Person of Jesus Domesticated or Put on Display
 - a. Jesus becomes safe, clean, comfortable
 - b. No sword (Bible), No Offensive Message
4. The Kingdom of Darkness wants to Silence the Gospel
 - a. Keep it out of Government, Schools, Politics
 - b. Keep it out of Personal Conversations
 - c. Only Private Life, Only in the Church Building
5. Jesus is King with ALL Authority in every sphere of life
6. We are to do ALL things for the Glory of God
7. God's Agenda: Evangelize the World for Jesus Christ

Main Truth: The Christian is an evangelist who identifies Jesus as Lord and Savior and then explains or articulates the identity of Jesus.

Examine: John the Baptist Identified Jesus (vv 29, 35-36)

1. Christ Alone is the Savior – We are the Messengers
2. Jesus is a Sufficient Savior
3. Effective Evangelists identify Jesus – Behold!
4. It is possible to talk about things with your neighbor and never get to the point: Jesus!
5. Lose your life for Christ – we must speak, unashamedly to see Jesus as the Supreme Treasure in life (**Matt 10:38-39**)

Explain: John the Baptist Explained Jesus' Identity (vv 29-34)

1. The vague presentation of Jesus – pointing to Him is not enough
 - a. Social ministries can be ambiguous
 - b. The end of social ministries should be to share Jesus; explaining Jesus is essential
2. Christians care about souls – it is loving to speak the Good News of Jesus Christ
3. He is the Lamb of God
 - a. Jesus is the Sacrificial Lamb (**Is 53:7, Acts 8:34-35**) – He would suffer and give His life
 - b. He is a Lamb and a Lion (**Rev 6:15-17**) – He is not safe nor tame, but He is full of Mercy and Grace

4. Jesus is the Chosen Sacrifice of God – *He takes away the Sin of the World*; Jesus brought the forgiveness of sins
 - a. It is not enough to say Jesus gave His life for us in Love, although He did (**Romans 5:8**)
 - b. It is not enough to say Jesus is our example and we ought to bear our own cross, although He is (**Ephesians 5:25**)
5. Jesus is Our Substitute
 - a. The Innocent One took the Place of the Guilty
 - b. Sins were transferred to Him
6. Jesus is Our Atonement
 - a. He answered God's Justice and absorbed His wrath
 - b. He paid for our Sins
 - c. The offense of the Gospel: We are sinners, God is angry at sinners (This is our biggest problem)
7. Jesus is Our Redeemer
 - a. He set us free from guilt, reconciling us to God
 - b. Jesus paid our ransom, purchased by His blood (**1 Peter 1:18-19, Acts 20:28, Ephesians 1:7**)
8. Jesus is Our Propitiation (Satisfactory Sacrifice appeasing the Holy Wrath of God)
 - a. He satisfied the justice of God in order to make you right w/ God; He is the only One who can provide this salvation
9. Jesus is God Incarnate; John explains the Deity of the Lamb
 - a. *He is before me, ranks before me* (**vv 15, 27, 30**)
 - b. He is Infinite Eternal God, Yahweh in the Flesh, the Word made Flesh, God the Son
10. Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life
 - a. He baptizes with the Holy Spirit – When did this happen? After Jesus' resurrection and His ascension (**Jn 14:15-17**)
 - b. Holy Spirit resides in us – we are immersed in the Spirit
 - c. The Sinner is raised from the dead by the power of the Spirit, making us *spiritual* (**John 15:26**)
 - i. The Holy Spirit gives us new life (**John 6:63**)
 - ii. The Holy Spirit makes us a life-giver (**John 7:38-39**)
 - iii. The Holy Spirit makes Jesus look glorious, convincing, and true (**John 16:14**)
 - iv. The Holy Spirit enables the true believer to confess Jesus as Master and King (**1 Corinthians 12:3**)

Evangelism: Pointing and Explaining Jesus

1. Believers must point to Jesus, and then explain who He is, what He came to do, and what He did do
2. Jesus is the Sacrificial Lamb, Chosen of God, the Substitute for sinners, the atonement to provide forgiveness, the Redeemer
3. Jesus is our propitiation, He is God, the Resurrection & Life