

I. MATTHEW 3 AND 4

- a. To fully understand John 1:29
  - i. One must realize that there is at least a 40 day gap after vs. 28
  - ii. What happened? Matthew 3:13 – 17
  - iii. We see the Trinity
    - 1. God the Father speaking from Heaven
    - 2. God the Son being baptized in Jordan
    - 3. God the Spirit descending like a dove
  - iv. Look at Matt. 3:11
    - 1. Baptized – fully immersed / fully whelmed
    - 2. John with Water unto repentance
    - 3. Jesus with the Holy Ghost
    - 4. And with Fire...compare with Acts 2:2... and 3
      - a. The fire didn't "fully whelm" them
      - b. The might rushing wind did (filled the house)
      - c. John 3:8 – "The wind blowers were it listeth, and thou nearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every on that is born of the Spirit."
  - v. Look at Matt. 4:1-2
    - 1. "And IMMEDIATELY"
    - 2. At least 40 days passed (maybe more)
    - 3. May have been travel time afterward as well
    - 4. In the meantime
      - a. The priests and Levites show up to question John the Baptist
      - b. While Christ was in the wilderness
- b. John Kept Going
  - i. It is important to point out here – John 1:28
  - ii. John the Baptist never stopped
    - 1. They came and raked him over the coals
    - 2. He calmly answered and it was done
    - 3. And he was back the NEXT DAY doing it all again
  - iii. We need to be Christians that won't back down from a little adversity
    - 1. This world has NO POWER to prevent the Gospel
    - 2. How do I know?
    - 3. Acts 1:8 – "But ye shall receive POWER, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
- c. The Next Day
  - i. We are finally ready for vs. 29 – 34
  - ii. We will study
    - 1. What Sight John Saw
    - 2. What Sign John Sought
    - 3. And What Statement John Spoke.

## II. WHAT SIGHT JOHN SAW

- a. There are many ways to look at these sights
  - i. First, what did he see that day?
  - ii. Well, he saw Jesus coming unto him
    - 1. Now, remember Jesus was simply a man.
    - 2. He wasn't girly with soft conditioned hair
    - 3. He was a real man.
    - 4. Isaiah 53:2 – "For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him."
  - iii. Just a thirty year old Jewish man
  - iv. Nothing special from physical appearances
  - v. John even points that out:
    - 1. Vs. 31 – I knew Him not
    - 2. Vs. 33 – I knew Him not
    - 3. He didn't know Jesus as different from anyone else
    - 4. BUT God told him!
- b. John also saw Him 40 days prior
  - i. Mark 1:9 – 12
  - ii. What did he "see" that day?
    - 1. Well, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove!
    - 2. He heard to voice of the Father from heaven!
  - iii. He saw the PREMIUM that God places on Scriptural Baptism!
    - 1. The right mode
    - 2. The right candidate
    - 3. The right reason
    - 4. The right authority
- c. John also saw his own place in prophecy
  - i. Isaiah 40:3 – "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
    - 1. There's a lot there – first prepare ye
      - a. That's just as valid today as it was in the time of Isaiah
      - b. Or in the time of John the Baptist
      - c. PREPARE – YE! That's personal
    - 2. Make straight a highway in the desert
      - a. This world is a spiritual desert so we should make a highway.
      - b. Straightened so that it COMPELS people to seek our God!
  - ii. When did John realize that Isa. 40:3 referred to him?
    - 1. Can you imagine what that was like?
    - 2. And yet he pressed on!
    - 3. How do I know?
  - iii. Vs. 31 – That is the reason I come baptizing
    - 1. That's it. That's all of it.
    - 2. That's my mission

## III. WHAT SIGN JOHN SOUGHT

- a. John was a man who refused to be misunderstood
  - i. He did not do well with fake news
  - ii. Are you the Christ? Vs. 20
    - 1. No, he confessed.
    - 2. No, he denied it.
    - 3. No, he confessed – I am NOT the Christ.
  - iii. Who is the Christ
    - 1. I didn't know – vs. 31
    - 2. I didn't know – vs. 33
    - 3. But this is what God said: Vs. 33
    - 4. Here is the sign – when you see the sign, that's Him!
  - iv. Hear what John is saying:
    - 1. Vs. 29 – Behold the Lamb of God
    - 2. Vs. 30 – This is who I was talking about before
    - 3. Vs. 30 – He is preferred before me because He WAS before me
    - 4. Vs. 31 – The reason I am here is to make Him manifest
    - 5. Vs. 33 – I was given a sign to seek
    - 6. Vs. 32 – And then it happened!
    - 7. Vs. 34 – I saw that sign!
- b. There are those that deny the Trinity
  - i. They call themselves “Unitarians” or honestly also Jehovah’s Witnesses
    - 1. And yet, John 1:1 goes to great pains to differentiate
    - 2. Gen. 1:26 – “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...”
      - a. He wasn't speaking to the angels, they didn't create anything
      - b. He wasn't talking about physical forms, for God is a Spirit!
      - c. John 4:24 – “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
  - ii. I John 5:7 – “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three ARE one.”
  - iii. I John 5:8 – “And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three AGREE in one.”
  - iv. Such a powerful verse that people try to doubt that it should be in the Bible
- c. There is another “sign” (if you will) with which John was sent
  - i. Baptism
    - 1. It does not save.
    - 2. It is no sacrament.
    - 3. It is only a SYMBOL.
  - ii. In I John 5:8 - it AGREES with the Spirit and the blood
    - 1. As a WITNESS in earth
    - 2. It is the first step of obedience
    - 3. It is putting on the uniform for service
  - iii. Vs. 33 – John was SENT to baptize
    - 1. It wasn't just his idea
    - 2. It demonstrates the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
    - 3. Even before it happened!

#### IV. WHAT STATEMENT JOHN SPOKE

- a. Very simple words from an uncomplicated man – vs. 34
- b. This IS the Son of God
  - i. I Cor. 12:3 – “Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.”
  - ii. John bore record. That mean a legal testimony
  - iii. He was an first-hand, eye-witness of the Truth
  - iv. And so am I!
- c. I have no doubt that Jesus Christ is the Son of God

**V. WHAT STATEMENT WILL YOU MAKE?**

- a. Do you know Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God?
- b. He taketh away the SIN of the world, and that includes you today.
- c. Will you let Him take YOUR sin away, not in part—but the whole.
- d. Let me show you from the Bible how you can know that you have eternal Life.