

GOD the SON - "Move Aside for Jesus!" Pt.2 - John 3:22-36

NKJV- "After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized. Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized. For John had not yet been thrown into prison. Then there arose a dispute between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified—behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!" John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease. He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. And what He has seen and heard, that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony. He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true. For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

I. The **CONFRONTATION** of Jews. (v.22-26)

II. The **HUMILIATION** of John. (v.27-30)

III. The **EXHALTATION** of Jesus. (v.31-36)

II. The **HUMILIATION** of John. (v.27-30) - "John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease."

QUESTION: What is this thing called "**HUMILITY**"??(Pride??)

"John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven..."

- When someone is successful, **God gave it to them!!**
- If you are blessed, **you can't brag!!**
 - **1 Cor 4:7(NLT): "What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift?"**
- **Rejoice** in another's accomplishments.. Be happy just to be **a part** of the process!!
- This is the attitude of John the Baptist... **"I am what I am, by God's grace!!"**

"You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the

bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled."

- - "The friend of the bridegroom had one special duty and that was to guard the bridal chamber and to let no false lover in. He would only open the door when in the dark he heard the bridegroom's voice and recognized it. When he did, he was glad and he went his way rejoicing for his task was complete." - William Barclay
 - John the Baptist is saying, "I'm the best man at the wedding and I'm so happy that my friend, my cousin, who is also my Lord, is getting the bride."

"He must increase, but I must decrease."

- - **John 3:30 is the Great Antidote for SELF-FOCUSED Living!!** There's so much of that today. "What about me? What about my needs?" John's disciples were trying to make it all about John. John is saying, "Quit making this about me? This is not about me. This is about Him. More of Him, less of me."
 - When William Carey, the great missionary to India was dying, he turned to his friend, he said, "When I'm gone, don't speak about William Carey. Speak only about William Carey's Savior."
- - John's statement is also a statement of **NECESSITY**. - If the King has come, the servant should simply fade away. It's wrong to lift up, and focus on a servant, when the **KING** Himself is here!
- - It's as if John is saying to his followers: "He **must** increase. I **must** decrease and diminish! This has to happen, boys, because I'm **simply a messenger**. My job, my role, was the forerunner of the Messiah. I, I pointed the way, but now... **HE is here**. Therefore, Jesus **must** increase, I **must** decrease!! HE must become **greater and greater** in your eyes, and I must simply **fade away!!**

III. The EXHALTATION of Jesus. (v.31-36) - "He who comes from above **is above all**; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who **comes from heaven** is above all. And what He has seen and heard, that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony. He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true. For He whom God has sent **speaks the words of God**, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given **all things into His hand**. He who **believes in the Son has everlasting life**; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

- Col 1:15-16(NLT): Christ is the **visible Image of the invisible God**. **He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation**, 16 for **through Him God created everything** in the heavenly realms and on earth.... **Everything was created through Him and for Him.**"

“Once and For All” (by Lauren Daigle)

*God I give You all I can today
These scattered ashes that I hid away
I lay them all at Your feet
Oh Help me to lay it down
Oh Lord I lay it down
Oh let this be where I die
My lord with You crucified
Be lifted high as my Kingdom's fall
Once and for all, once and for all
Oh Lord I lay it down
Oh Lord I lay it down
Help me to lay it down
Oh Lord I lay it down
Oh let this be where I die
My Lord with You crucified
Be lifted high as my Kingdom's fall
Once and for all
Once and for all*