

ENCOUNTER #3: John 1:19-34 CAN I GET A WITNESS?

When I say CAN I GET A WITNESS U – **affir/agree truth – STAKING TRUE - COURT**

- John Baptiser was that.....and more **THE WITNESS FORETOLD** (not apostle)

Look For: Israel loose right capital punishment, from Judah, house of David, born in Bethlehem, darkness in Galilee, **WITNESS ID VERIFIED (unlikely character/way)**

- Jewish persp.... **THE MOMENT – royal herald - THAT'S WHAT KINGS HAD**

MP: John the baptizer's life had enormous prophetic significance, massive Messianic importance and is a powerful prototype for the Christian witness.

Remember: I write believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God – believing life (**EVIDENCE**)

A GOD GIVEN CALLING – LUKE 1:41

Eliz and Zechariah – Godly momdad / dad was a pastor (**levite priest**) - **UNBELIEF**

- **STRANGE:** Leapt in WombEliz: **GOD GIVEN ABILITY RECOG MESSIAH**
 - o There was a predetermined plan for JOHN – **TRUE FOR YOU**

P1: Every true Christian has a real calling from God.

- **PLAN:** Child of God – your adoption into his family was predestined – with adoption came His calling – **GOD KNEW HIS CALL FOR YOU (Jeremiah/paul)**

Billy Graham God makes three calls. First, He calls us to the Person of Jesus Christ.

Second, He calls us to consecration. Third, He calls us to serve (witness) Him. **ROBUST**

- WJ: Being a witness is more than stating facts about Jesus it's about radiating the king and his kingdom thru your life. **RADIATE vs REFLECT SUN vs MOON**
 - o **USHINE** – as: employer, business owner, engineer, parent, friend

COURAGE WAS REQUIRED FOR THE CALLING

A MAVERICK: Not for sake being different – **GOD WAS DOING SOMETHING DFF**

- **Profile:** Wild Man, Desert Dweller, Camel's Hair, Leather Belt, Locust and Honey

REQ NEW WINE SKIN: Not serving in temple, **not emerge religious institution prob**

- Paying attention – “If the prophet looks like this what will Messiah be like”
 - o **JOHN WAS A PIONEER – like all pioneers was attacked by status quo**

P2: Be courageous about your calling to be a witness.

- Don't be afraid to do it the Kings Way – you never lose – mock vs honor

Any real work of God's Spirit will rub man's institutions the wrong way.

JOHN'S CONFIDENCE WAS IN GOD NOT HIMSELF

WHERE'S YOUR PERMIT – Pharisees demanded BY WHOSE AUTHORITY – **yes/no**

THE PROPHECIES ABOUT ME ARE MY PERMIT – MALACHI $\frac{3}{4}$ - THE WITNESS

Isaiah 40:3 A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

- **BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE – preparation/alignment/identification**

- **V.33 he sent me to baptize said “the one whom you see” LISTENED**

PA3: Listen to God so that your confidence can come from Him, not yourself.

The main responsibility of the prophet is not to declare God’s word it is to hear God’s voice.

- How can you fulfill the calling if ur not listening to the **ONE WHO CALLED U**

GOD AUTHENTICATED JOHN’S CALLING WITH HIS POWER

THE WITNESS OF THE FATHER – THE VOICE – PLEASURE IN THE SON

THE WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT – GOD GIVEN SIGN

On whom you see the Spirit descend and remain – **SPIRIT DESCENDING**

- **Identified by the Spirit – Empowering of the Spirit – filled with – Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Baptized with the Spirit – He empowers others w Spirit/fire**

PA4: God authenticates your calling with His power.

With His calling comes His enabling. **STOP LIVING IN FEAR, STOP RELYING ON URSELF**

1 Thessalonians 5:24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

- **You do what I say and I will handle the rest.... AWAKEN TIJUANA**

JOHN’S WITNESS: This is the Son of God (**not only the Messiah but the Son of God**)

PA5: With the calling comes the struggle.

- Even after all that he struggled **do we look – NOT WHAT HE EXPECTED**

(SIGNS) Blessed is he who is not offended because of me.