

That You Might Believe

◆ A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN ◆



"These things are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you might have life in His name." John 20:31

A 'Tuesday Night at the Crescent' Series

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TUESDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 1994

Subject: 'Call the first witness' (John 1:19-34)

1. John the Baptist was the first witness. Who was he?
 - a) He was human, but not ordinary.
 - b) He was a lamp, but not the light.
 - c) He was a voice, but not the Word.
 - d) He was useful, but not indispensable.
 - e) He was a witness, but not the object of worship
2. John the Baptist was an incredibly humble man showing the essential qualities of a true witness. How?
 - a) As a spokesperson he did not highlight his own importance (v. 15).
 - b) As a leader he did not exploit other people's ignorance (v. 20).
 - c) As an authority he was not afraid to openly admit he was still a learner (v. 31-33).
 - d) As a very popular person he was humble enough to see God's hand in another's life and applaud it (3: 27-29).
 - c) **He had the cardinal secret of humility: a constant commitment to the increase of Christ and the decrease of self (3:30).**

"I believe that the first test of a truly great man is his humility. I do not mean by humility, doubt of his own power. But really great men have a curious feeling that the greatness is not in them, but through them. And they see something Divine in every other man and are endlessly, foolishly, incredibly merciful."

- JOHN RUSKIN