

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, 25TH JANUARY, 1994

Subject: 'The man other men followed' (John 1:15-51)

1. **Two disciples of John, including Andrew, followed the Saviour. This story illustrates the truth, in the prologue, of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling amongst us (v37-39). Note:**
 - a) John made and baptised disciples. He headed a movement.
 - b) The Saviour asked the disciples what they were looking for and they said they wanted to know where he dwelt and they then went and dwelt there with Him.
 - c) The emphasis is on the possibility that all of us have of abiding with Christ.
2. **Simon, the fisherman, followed the Saviour. This story emphasises how we can abide with Christ (v40-42). Note:**
 - a) Simon was to be called 'a stone'. He who was impetuous was to become a solid character.
 - b) Christ's promise to build His church goes back to Peter's confession of Christ as the Son of God (Matt. 16:18).
 - c) We come, in church, and in our hearts to form the Lord a dwelling place by the Spirit (1 Peter. 2:3-5; John 14:23).
3. **Philip was found by Christ and then Philip found Nathaniel and he followed the Saviour; this story emphasises the truth of Christ the light, lightning every person who comes into the world (v44-51). Note:**
 - a) Philip gave the preparatory witness (v45) and Nathaniel shows the crucial difference between a Jew and a Christian (v49; Zeph. 3:13-15).
4. **Nathaniel is taken back to the story of Jacob (v50-51). Note:**
 - a) Angels ascending and descending on 'it'. i.e. the ladder (Gen. 28:12).
 - b) God was at the bottom of the ladder leaning over Jacob (Gen. 28:13).
 - c) Jacob declared God and the government of God ('gate') to be in 'This place' (Gen. 28:16).
 - d) Jacob's vision was a proto-type of Rev. 19:11-16.

"If you find a blind person near a well and keep silent then you have sinned."

- A PERSIAN POEM