

Gospel of John

(9) John's Clear Witness

John 1:19-28 ESV

19 And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." 22 So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

24 (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) 25 They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" 26 John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, 27 even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." 28 These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

(4) Major questions for John.. Jn.1:19-27

Who 'formally' questions John? **1:19, 7:32; Nu.3:6-10, 18:2-4** Who sent them? **1:19, 24**

Why would John's preaching, Mt.3:1-2, be 'offensive' to them? **Lu.18:9-14** Application?

And what is the *first question* from the priests/Levites? **1:19, 27; Acts 13:25, 19:4**

What is significant about John's response to 'who are you'? **1:20, 3:25-36** See **Mt.11:11**

So what is their follow-on question? **1:21** Answer? **1:21** Why Elijah? **Mal.4**

But what's 'the rest of the story'? **Lu.1:8-17; Mt.11:1-15, 17:9-13; Rev.11:1-14** **42mo...**

What's their next question / answer? **1:21b, 6:14, 7:40; Deut.18:15-19, 34:4-12; Acts 3:22-23**

Well, if you're *not* the Christ, nor Elijah, nor Prophet, *who are you??* **1:22-23; Isa.40:3**

What does John clearly recognize about himself? **3:25-30; Isa.9:7; ICor.3:5**

Well, since you're 'nobody', *why are you baptizing?* **1:24-25; see Mt.21:23; Acts 4:5-7**

NEXT: John introduces Jesus, the Lamb of God

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Who 'formally' questions John? **1:19, 7:32; Nu.3:6-10, 18:2-4** Who sent them? **1:19, 24**

The priests and Levites, Jewish 'security police'! Sent by Pharisees, from 70 Sanhedrin.

Why would John's preaching, Mt.3:1-2, be 'offensive' to them? **Lu.18:9-14** Application?

John's preaching was 'repent'! They were self-righteous and needed no repentance!

And what is the *first question* from the priests/Levites? **1:19, 27; Acts 13:25, 19:4**

The most important... Who are you? Implied, are you the Christ (Messiah)? Testing!

What is significant about John's response to 'who are you'? **1:20, 3:25-36** See **Mt.11:11**

The multiple emphasis! Very emphatic, I am NOT the Christ! No misunderstanding!

So what is their follow-on question? **1:21** Answer? **1:21** Why Elijah? **Mal.4**

If not the Messiah, are you Elijah? NO! Elijah will come to Israel before Day of Lord.

But what's 'the rest of the story'? **Lu.1:8-17; Mt.11:1-15, 17:9-13; Rev.11:1-14** **42mo...**

John the Baptist was Elijah (spirit / power of Elijah); Elijah is still to come (w/Moses)?!

What's their next question / answer? **1:21b, 6:14, 7:40; Deut.18:15-19, 34:4-12; Acts 3:22-23**

Are you the Prophet (like Moses)? Jesus, Messiah, is the Prophet. But John is NOT.

Well, if you're *not* the Christ, nor Elijah, nor Prophet, *who are you??* **1:22-23; Isa.40:3**

John replies humbly that he is only the voice of one crying in the wilderness, get ready!

What does John clearly recognize about himself? **3:25-30; Isa.9:7; 1Cor.3:5**

He understood. Losing his disciples to Jesus was Ok! He must increase! I must decrease!

Well, since you're 'nobody', *why are you baptizing?* **1:24-25; see Mt.21:23; Acts 4:5-7**

I simply baptize with water but standing among you is the Messiah! He is Supreme!

NEXT: John introduces Jesus, the Lamb of God