

The Messiah Introduced

Introduction

In this study we turn our attention to the remainder of John chapter 1. The section begins with John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus (1vs19-34) followed by encounters between Jesus and Andrew (together with an unnamed disciple), and then Jesus and Peter, Phillip and Nathanael respectively (1vs20-51). Two things are of key importance in this section - (1) the role played by the witnesses who, having encountered Jesus personally, then speak about Him to someone else; (2) what is said about Jesus in the narrative's build up to Nathanael's testimony in verse 49.

Study Questions

These questions help you to see clearly what the text is saying. This is a vital first step towards understanding what the section means. The questions should be answered from the text itself.

Read John 1vs 19-51. Answer the following questions:

1. Why did the Jerusalem authorities send a team to question John? (John 1vs24) What did they want to know? (John 1vss21-22)
2. What was John's answer? (John 1vss20-23)
3. What was John's testimony about Jesus? (John 1vs26-34)
4. What authority did John's testimony carry? (Give two reasons for your answer)

5. What is the correct response to John's testimony once Jesus arrives? (John 1vs35-39; see also John 1vs43)

6. What do Andrew and Phillip say and do? (John 1vss40-45)

7. What is Nathanael's testimony about Jesus? (John 1vs48) Why should we believe it? (John 1vs47, vs50-51)

8. What greater things would Nathanael see?

Think it Through

1. From this passage, what would you answer if someone asked you:
 - A. Who Jesus is?

 - B. What He came to do?

 - C. The way in which people become followers of Jesus?

2. Which Old Testament promises does Jesus fulfil?