

Ken Letson, Pastor January 8, 2023

"More or Less" John 3:22-30

²² After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. ²³ John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴ (for John had not yet been put in prison). ²⁵ Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶ And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." ²⁷ John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease."

"He must become greater. I must become less." (v. 30, NIV)

Introducing John...the Baptist: Who was he?

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What did he do/why did he come?

What can we learn from him?

1. Know _____ "You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ'..." (v. 28) 2. Know "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"" (John 1:29) "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light." (John 1:6-8) 4. Redefine _____ "... but I have been sent before him," (v. 28) "... Therefore this joy of mine is now complete." (v. 29)

"He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less." (v. 30, NLT)

'He must increase, but I must decrease.'

(Making your life more about Jesus and less about you)