



BELIEVE

The Gospel of **John**

Belief requires:

Willingness to BEHOLD Jesus &

Commitment to BECOME like Him.





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."

John 1:19-21



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.”

John 1:22-23



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."

John 1:24-27



**29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said,
“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
30 This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks
before me, because he was before me.’**

John 1:29–30



31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.”

32 And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

John 1:31-32



33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

John 1:33-34



What's going on in this passage:

I. John Baptizing / Jews send Priests & Levites to investigate

II. Jesus Baptism

III. John proclaims Jesus "Lamb of God" & "Son of God"

IV. Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit



What's going on in this passage:

I. John Baptizing / Jews send Priests & Levites to investigate

- Who is John? Messiah? Elijah? Prophet?**
- Baptism of repentance to prepare people to behold the Messiah.**

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. 6 And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

Malachi 4:5-6



10 This is he of whom it is written,
“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way
before you.’ 11 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has
arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the
kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 14 and if you are willing to accept it,
he is Elijah who is to come.

Matthew 11:10-11, 14



11 He answered, “Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. 12 But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands.” 13 Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Matthew 17:11-13





**John's priority was
pointing people
to Jesus**

“I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness” – John 1:23

***A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God. – Isaiah
40:3***



What's going on in this passage:

I. John Baptizing / Jews send Priests & Levites to investigate

- Who is John? Messiah? Elijah? Prophet?
- **Baptism of repentance to prepare people to behold the Messiah.**

John's humility allowed him to rightly Behold & Proclaim Jesus.

John 1: 26-27 "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."



John's humility allowed him to rightly Behold & Proclaim Jesus.

“Every service which a slave performs for his master’, said one rabbi, ‘a disciple will perform for his teacher, except to untie his sandal-strap.’”

- David Guzik Commentary on John 1 (Bruce)



What's going on in this passage:

II. Jesus Baptism (by John)

- Refers to previous Baptism of Jesus**
- Recorded in Synoptic Gospels**

Subjects	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
The Baptism of Christ				
Ministry of John the Baptist	3:1-12	1:1-8	3:1-18	1:15-31
Baptism of Jesus Christ	3:13-17	1:9-11	3:21-22	1:32-34
The Temptation of Christ				
The temptation	4:1-11	1:12-13	4:1-13	

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. **14** John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” **15** But Jesus answered him, **“Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”** Then he consented.

Matthew 3:13–15



And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17



What's going on in this passage:

III. John proclaims Jesus is:

- "Lamb of God" vs. 29

OT reference - Isaiah 53:7

NT Prophecy - Rev. 6:15-17, Rev. 13:8

- "Son of God" vs. 33-34

Messiah / Chosen one of God

Legal witness to Jesus' divinity



What's going on in this passage:

IV. Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit

- **Initial demonstration at Pentecost (Acts. 2)**
- **Holy Spirit given at Conversion & we are commanded to Baptize**
 - * **Matthew 28:18-20 = Great Commission**
 - * **Acts 2:38 = First Believer's Baptism in NT**

**When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.
2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.
4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.**

Acts 2:1-4



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And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38



“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

John 14:15-17



Belief requires:

Willingness to BEHOLD Jesus &

Commitment to BECOME like Him.



Making it personal:

1. BEHOLD JESUS -

Today, We are able to Behold Jesus in:

- The Word of God (John 5:39)
- Creation (Romans 1:19-20)
- Holy Spirit / Written on hearts (Ecclesiasties 3:11)
- Eye Witness Testimony (Gospels, NT Authors, First Century Martyrs)



Making it personal:

2. BECOME LIKE JESUS

Believe & Be Baptized

- Combines Beholding & Becoming**
- Personal faith / not Private**



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19



Baptism

