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The Gospel of John

PART 3
John 1—Introducing the Introducer

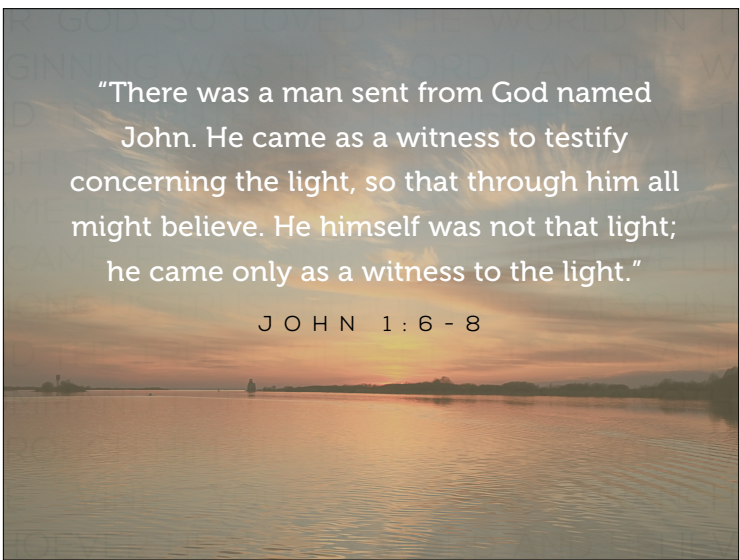


the
Word

The reasoning mind, creative power and guiding force of God became a person in Jesus Christ.

"There was a man sent from God named John. He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not that light; he came only as a witness to the light."

JOHN 1:6-8





John
the
Baptist

1

JOHN THE MINISTER
WAS JUST A MAN.

"there was a man..." JOHN 1:6

Jesus the Christ *was* fully God;
John the Baptist *was* merely man.



John
the
Baptist

2

JOHN'S MINISTRY
WAS TO INTRODUCE.

"From God, he came as a witness."
JOHN 1:7

John's mission was divine, his purpose
prophetic, his ministry significant.



John
the
Baptist

3

JOHN'S MINISTRY
BENCHMARK WAS BELIEF.

*"So that through him all might
believe."* JOHN 1:7

Everything John did was to lead
people to belief in Christ.

“To those who receive him—who believe in his name—he gives the right to become the children of God.”

JOHN 1:12

“Whoever believes in him will have eternal life.”

JOHN 3:16

“This Gospel is written so that you may believe Jesus is the Son of God, and by believing, have life in His name.”

JOHN 20:31

THE BIBLICAL BENCHMARK

*To lead all people to
greater, stronger,
more consuming
belief in Jesus as
personal Savior
and Lord.*


John *the* Baptist

4

JOHN'S MINISTRY SCOPE
WAS LIMITED.

*“He himself was not that light—only
a witness to the light.”* JOHN 1:8

The Gospel intentionally presents John
the Baptist in a depreciating light.



the depreciation of
JOHN THE BAPTIST

- ▶ He had unusual personality, leadership and communication gifts.
- ▶ A sect had formed around his baptism ministry. (Acts 19)
- ▶ He was the first prophet to speak after 400 years of Divine silence

“He must increase, I must decrease.”
JOHN 3:30

EVALUATING YOUR FAVORITE MINISTRY

Are they decreasing so Jesus can **increase**?

JOHN'S

HUMILITY

*He had **uncommon ability** as a public speaker*
—yet never used it to highlight his own importance.

*He gained **uncommon allegiance** among the people*
—yet never parlayed it into advancing his own ministry.

*He operated with **uncommon authority***
—yet never leveraged it to perpetuate his own longevity.

OUR

HUMILITY

To have a compelling sense of our divine mission
—yet embrace our human limitations.

To appreciate God-given ability, allegiance and authority
—yet refuse to leverage it for our own elevation.

To recognize greater favor upon another's ministry
—yet applaud it authentically.

THE HIGHEST
ATTAINMENT
IN LIFE IS TO
BELIEVE IN
CHRIST, THEN
LEAD OTHERS
TO BELIEVE
IN HIM, TOO.

“Andrew, Peter’s brother, heard what John said and then followed Jesus. He went to find his brother and told him, ‘We’ve found the Messiah!’ Then Andrew brought Peter to meet Jesus.”

JOHN 1:40

Didn’t have ability,
authority or public
allegiance

—like John the Baptist

Didn’t achieve fame

—like Peter, the chief apostle

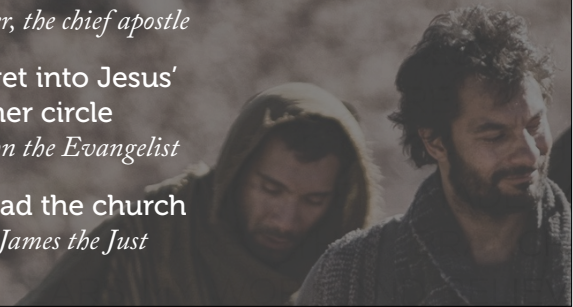
Didn’t get into Jesus’
inner circle

—like John the Evangelist

Didn’t lead the church

—like James the Just

THE
ANDREW
FACTOR

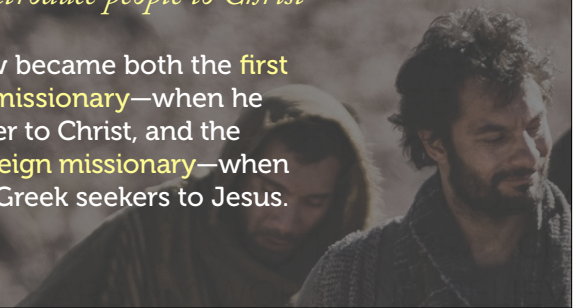


Under the radar,
Andrew was being
used in the most
powerful way of all

—to introduce people to Christ

Andrew became both the **first home missionary**—when he led Peter to Christ, and the **first foreign missionary**—when he led Greek seekers to Jesus.

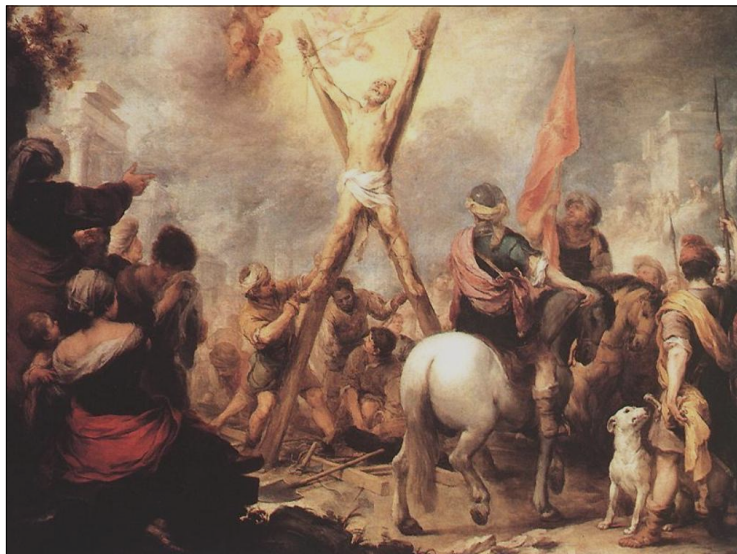
THE
ANDREW
FACTOR



THE
ANDREW
FACTOR

In Andrew, you find a
guy who just kept
bringing everybody
who got near him to

...Jesus.



THE **ANDREW** FACTOR

The watershed moment for Christians
occurs when we come to the realization
that God's greatest purpose for our lives
is introducing our world to his Son.

*"The most important thing is
that I complete my mission...to
tell people the Good News
about God's grace."*

ACTS 20:24

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