

The Gospel According to John

" so that you may believe "

1

John 1:19-28

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

2

John 1:19-28

24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.
25 They asked him, and said to him, "Why then are you baptizing, if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"
26 John answered them saying, "I baptize in water, but among you stands One whom you do not know.
27 It is He who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."
28 These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

3

"I am not the Christ"

Main Message -

- John's testimony *emphatically* confesses that he is not the Christ and yet he contrasts himself with the Christ to show the Christ as being far superior.

4

"I am not the Christ"

1. John Understands Who He is Not

- The Baptist *emphatically* rejects that he is any significant figure worthy of prestige or distinction.

5

"I am not the Christ"

2. John Understands Who He is

- John understands who he is in contrast to the Christ
 - a) He *identifies* his position/role in redemptive history
 - c) He *redirects* the attention back to the Christ

6



7