

ANSWER SHEET

A Study of the Gospel according to John Session 3 – Witnesses to Jesus Christ (Part 2)

Read: John 1:29 – 51

1. Read Exodus 29:38 – 42 and Isaiah 53:7. What is the significance of John seeing Jesus and saying, “Behold the Lamb of God”?

Jesus is the one who would be led to slaughter like a lamb, to pay the penalty for sin, a life had to be given – and God chose to provide the sacrifice himself. The sins of the world were removed when Jesus died as the perfect sacrifice.

2. What is the difference between the baptism conducted by John the Baptist, the baptism conducted by Jesus and the baptism conducted by your Pastor?

John the Baptist’s baptism with water was preparatory, because it was for repentance and symbolized the washing away of sins.

Jesus’ baptism was with the Holy Spirit. He would send the Holy Spirit upon all believers, empowering them to live and to teach the message of salvation. This outpouring of the Spirit came after Jesus had risen from the dead and ascended into heaven.

The baptism conducted by your Pastor is a combination of both. The Pastor asked for a renunciation of sin and profession of faith before baptism. Then thanksgiving over the water asks God to pour out his Holy Spirit to bless the water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that dying and being raised with Christ they may share in his final victory.

Unlike John the Baptist, the Pastor baptizes in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

3. Read verses 1:36 – 49. What are the names that these new disciples used for Jesus?

1:36 – Lamb of God

1:41 – Messiah

1:49 – Son of God

1:49 King of Israel

4. Who were the two disciples that heard Jesus speak in verse 37?

Andrew

John (John in writing about this experience remembered the hour some fifty years later.)

5. What was Andrew's first concern in witnessing Jesus? Why is this significant to us as believers in Jesus Christ?

His first concern was to tell his brother Simon. He could not contain the peace and joy he felt. He had to tell his loved ones immediately. He wanted them to experience the love and joy and peace of Christ.

We should be just as excited to share the Good News with our loved ones, so they can experience the love and joy and peace and salvation of Christ.

6. What is unique about Philip's experience in witnessing Jesus Christ?

Jesus went forth and sought Philip.

Philip was not seeking Jesus. The initiative came from Jesus entirely.

Jesus made the move to find and save Philip and to enlist Philip in His mission.

Jesus is seen fulfilling His mission in seeking and saving Philip. He came into the world for the very purpose of seeking and saving the lost.

7. What was Philip's first concern after witnessing Jesus?

His first concern was like Andrew's. He wanted to reach his friend Nathanael. Jesus had challenged Philip to "follow" Him, to become just like Him, and Philip did. He went out and did exactly what Jesus had done to him. He went out and found his friend Nathanael.

8. Why was it difficult to lead Nathanael to Christ?

Nathanael was a man of prejudice and strong feelings, yet he knew despair and hopelessness. This is seen in his response to Philip as he rejected Philip's testimony and did it in a negative, skeptical, reactionary spirit, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

His prejudice is seen in his slur against Jesus because Jesus was from Nazareth.

He struck out at what Philip had said. He questioned it; he would not accept it nor believe it.

9. What significant things did Jesus know about Nathanael?

- a. Jesus knew Nathanael's beliefs. This is seen in Jesus' calling Nathanael an "Israelite indeed." He was the epitome of an Israelite, everything an Israelite should be. He believed the promises of God. He tried to live up to the covenant name, the standard God had set for Israel, and he was looking for that blessed hope and glorious appearing of the Messiah.
- b. Jesus knew his character. Nathanael was a man without deceit. He did not deceive, bait, or mislead people. He did not hide what he thought; he said what he thought and acted what he felt. He was straight-forward, open and honest, not deceptive or hypocritical. This trait had just been demonstrated in his response to Philip. He would not hide his true thoughts. These were excellent qualities for a disciple.