

Believe and Have Life

The Gospel of John

John 1:19-34

Read John 1:19-34.

1. What is John the Baptist doing and where? (v. 28; Mk. 1:4-8)

2. John's baptism (immersion in water performed by another for forgiveness of sins) was not a regular part of Jewish religious practice. In the Jewish system how were sins forgiven? (Lev. 4:27-35)

3. How do the religious authorities from Jerusalem react to John the Baptist and his activities?

4. Why do you think they were questioning John's preaching and baptism so intently?


5. After many years of brutal Roman occupation, what kind of hopes and expectations did the Jewish people have?
 Dt. 18:15, 18

 Is. 9:6-7

 Is. 11:1-5

 Zech. 6:12-13

 Mal. 4:5

6. John denies being the fulfillment of any of these expectations (vv. 19-21). What has he been sent to do? (1:6-8, 15, 20, 23, 31;  * Is. 40:1-5)

7. How does John describe Jesus?
- a. vv. 15, 30
 - b. v. 27
 - c. v. 29
 - d. v. 33
 - e. v. 34
8. How does John find out who Jesus, his cousin, really is? (vv. 32-34; Mk. 1:9-11)
9. Commentator Grant Osborne says, “There was a saying that a disciple would do everything for his Rabbi that a slave would do except ‘untie the straps of his sandals.’ That was considered too menial a task.”¹ How does John view himself in relation to Jesus? (v. 27; 3:30)
10. What Old Testament images is John referring to when he calls Jesus the “Lamb of God” (v. 29)? (Ex. 12:3-17; Lev. 4:32-35; Is. 53:1-7)
11. How does Jesus fulfill these Old Testament images of the Lamb of God? (1 Pet. 1:18-20; 2:22-25)
12. John says that Jesus is “the Lamb of God, **who takes away the sin of the world**” (v. 29). Bruce Milne writes, “Without any exception, every kind of sin and evil is covered. There is no sin too heinous, no wickedness too terrible, no habitual failure too often repeated, that it cannot be ‘taken’ away by Christ, our heavenly Lamb.”²
- What sin, guilt or shame are you struggling with today? On a separate piece of paper, be honest and make a list. Write next to each item, “Jesus, the Lamb of God has taken away my sin!” Now pray and ask for forgiveness and believe that you have received complete cleansing.

¹Grant R. Osborne, *The Gospel of John*. Cornerstone Biblical Commentary, Volume 13. Carol Streams Ill: Tyndale House. 2007. p. 31.

²Bruce Milne, *The Message of John: Here is Your King!* The Bible Speaks Today, Downers Grove, Ill: Inter-Varsity Press, 1993. P.54.