

IDENTIFYING FACTORS

John 1:19-34

**Today let's look at John the Baptist's identifying factors
and learn from him about testifying for Christ.**

I. JOHN IDENTIFYING HIMSELF (19-28)

- Three Q & A exchanges

A. WHO ARE YOU? (19-21)

1. John's Ruckus (19)

- He was causing a stir among the Jerusalem religionists

2. John's Responses (20-21)

a. Humbly choosing no limelight

b. Quickly denying their conjectures

c. I am insignificant ... a nobody!

B. WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT YOURSELF? (22-23)

1. Another Angle (22)

2. Another Answer (23)

a. I am a voice!

b. I am a lone, loud, loathsome and longing voice

C. WHY ARE YOU BAPTIZING? (24-28)

1. Their Confusion (25)

- How could a man with no credentials summon Jews to repent and publically indicate that by submission to baptism?

2. His Clarification (26-27)

- I baptize to reveal and prepare for the coming One (See Mark 1:9-11)

SUMMARY: John the Baptist identified himself as an insignificant voice revealing to the Jews the One they did not recognize whom he was not worthy to serve.

II. JOHN IDENTIFYING THE SAVIOR (29-34)

- Three critical announcements

A. BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD (29-31)

1. His Manner
 - a. The Passover Lamb - Ex. 12:13
 - b. The sacrificial Lamb - Isaiah 53:4-7
2. His Mission
 - a. Taking away sin - I John 3:5
 - b. Far better than Old Testament sacrifices - See Heb. 10:1-4, 10
3. His Mercy
 - Taking away the sin of the world!
4. His Majesty (30)
 - This One is far greater than John
5. His Manifestation (31)
 - Christ being made known to Israel

B. BEHOLD, THE CONFIRMED OF GOD (32-33)

1. The Spirit's Decent (32)
2. The Father's Decree (33)

C. BEHOLD, THE SON OF GOD (34)

1. John's Experience - See I John 1:1-4
2. John's Exclamation
 - a. This is the Son of God
 - b. John repeats what he heard The Father say at Christ's baptism - Mark 1:11

CONCLUSION:

John's Identifying Factors: I am not important ... Look at Jesus!

Because John humbly and faithfully identified Christ, five significant men became Christ's followers They include:

1. Andrew (37, 40)
2. John (37, 40)
3. Simon Peter (41-42)
4. Phillip (43-44)
5. Nathanael (45-51)

What affect are your identifying factors having on others?

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