



## **SERMON NOTES**

September 11, 2016

Scripture: John 1:19-28 (NAS)

Topic: "The Witness of John"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 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."
- 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.

### **I. THE LOCATION OF HIS MINISTRY**

- A. Bethany
- B. The East Side Of The Jordan

### **II. THE PROPHET JOHN**

- A. Jesus' Evaluation Of John The Baptist *Matthew 11:11*
- B. John's Was Not Great By Many Of Our Evaluators
- C. John's Parentage

### **III. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S PREACHING**

- A. Bold and Powerful
- B. Though A Priest's Son, He Was Not Part Of The Establishment
- C. He Was Not Afraid To Step On Toes
- D. His Message Was A Call To Repentance
- E. He Was The First Prophet In 400 Years *John 5:35*

### **IV. JOHN WAS A HUMBLE MAN**

- A. He Was Humble Like His Savior
- B. He Claimed To Be Unworthy Of The Lowliest Servant Duties
- C. He Pointed To Christ's Higher Ranking
- D. He Identified Himself Merely As A Voice

### **V. THE INQUIRIES**

- A. Priests And Levites
- B. Sent By The Jews – Sanhedrin
- C. Question – Who Are You?
- D. Looking For Messiah Of Their Own Making (A King)

### **VI. JOHN'S DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

- A. Vehemently Denied That The Suggestion That He Might Be The Christ
- B. Not Elijah *Luke 1:17*
- C. Not The Prophet *Deuteronomy 18:15; Acts 3:22, 7:37*

### **VII. JOHN'S MESSAGE**

- A. The Message Of Isaiah 40:3-5
- B. It Was A Message Of Repentance
- C. It Was A Call To Prepare Hearts To Receive The Savior