

What Do You Seek by Following Jesus?

John 1:35-42

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Don White

³⁰Therefore, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)

Setting

³⁵Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples,

(Day 1 - 1:19-28; day 2 - 1:29-34; day 3 - 1:35-42; day 4 – 1:43-5; day 5 & 6 travel days; day 7 – 2:1-12)

John's disciples

John's Testimony

³⁶and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said,

"Behold, the Lamb of God!" (See v. 29)

Lamb imagery in the OT

Exodus 12 – Passover

Isaiah 53 - The Suffering Servant

The Effect of John's Witness

³⁷The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

Jesus' first followers

The call of the disciples in the Synoptic Gospels

Matt. 4:18-22; 9:9; Mark 1:16:20; 2:13-14; Luke 5:1-11, 27-28

The Conversation between Jesus and John's Two Disciples

Jesus' Question concerning Motive

³⁸And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them,

“What do you seek?”

Wrong motives – “...you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.” (6:26)

The Disciples' Response

They said to Him,

“Rabbi (1:49; 3:2; 4:31; 6:25; 9:2; 11:8) Lit. “my great one”. Used as an honorific title.

Used by John's disciples 3:26.

(which translated means Teacher),

Also: 1:41, 42; 4:25; 9:7; 11:16; 19:17; 20:16, 24; 21:2

where are You staying?”

Jesus' Invitation

³⁹He said to them, “Come, and you will see.”

Philip to Nathaniel in 1:46

The Disciples' Response

So they came and saw where He was staying;

and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. (Jewish time 4:00 p.m.)

The Identity of the Disciples

Disciple #1: Andrew

⁴⁰One of the two who heard John *speak* and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

[Disciple #2: Unidentified – Possibly the Apostle John]

Andrew's Witness

⁴¹He found first his own brother Simon and said to him,

“We have found the Messiah” (which translated means Christ).

Both Messiah & Christ mean “anointed” and point to someone with a special God-ordained role, like a king or priest. Here it refers to the ultimate anointed one.

⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

Jesus' Words to Simon

Jesus looked at him and said,

“You are Simon the son of John;

you shall be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Matthew 16:18

Application:

The importance and necessity of witnesses.

Acts 1:8

As a follower of Christ, what are you seeking?

Believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God so that by believing you may have life in His name.