

The Gospel of Matthew #16

MATTHEW 3: JOHN PREPARES THE WAY FOR JESUS:

Four: CONTRASTING JOHN AND JESUS

Matthew 3:11-17

John's greatest act in preparing us for Jesus was not in causing us to see ourselves as we really are, but to see **Jesus** as He really is

John 1:29: Behold the Lamb of God...

He calls attention to 4 characteristics of Jesus.

If they not true, Jesus is wrong to allow a false impression

If Jesus is not God, He is wrong to let John say these things about Him!

I. **P** _____
3:11 One Who is more powerful than I: O

II. **P** _____
3:11 Whose sandals I am not fit to carry

III. **J** _____ **of people's ultimate destiny**
3:11b-12 Transforms by the Spirit or destroys by Fire

IV. **P** _____

3:13-14, cf. 17 No confession; gets God's full approval!

Baptism signifies identification: us with Jesus

Here: Jesus with **us**!

This is the Jesus I want you to see.

What is your estimation of Jesus?

How powerful in your life?

How pre-eminent in your life?

Confident facing Him as Judge of your life?

Focus, not just on your imperfections, but His glorious perfection?