

**Series "Jesus: God And Savior"**  
**"God Be Magnified"**  
**John 3:22-36**  
**Part-10**

**John 3:22-36**

**Matthew 11:11**

**John 3:30 – "He must increase, but I must decrease."**

**Public Ministry: (3 years) John 1:19-12:50**

**Theme Of John – "Jesus: God And Savior"**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** John's Goal Of Ministry Should Also Be Ours, "Jesus Must Increase, But I Must Decrease."

**1. Verses 22-26 – The Partisan Controversy**

**2. Verses 27-36 – The Selfless Testimony**

**1. Verses 22-26 – The Partisan Controversy:**

John 3:22

"After these things" – What things is John speaking of? John 3:1-21 – Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus.

Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea. Israel was divided into 3 areas – Judea, Samaria and Galilee.

John 3:23

"John also was baptizing" – Had to overlap because John had to point to Jesus!

"Aenon" – which means "abounding in springs"; "near Salim,"

John 3:24 – "for John had not yet been thrown into prison." – Mathew 4:12; Mark 1:4; Luke 3:19. Only John covers this overlapping ministry.

John 3:25

"Therefore" – "What is the therefore, there for?" Jesus and John are overlapping ministries, both groups preaching/baptizing.

“on the part of John's disciples with a Jew about purification.” – We would say, “What Is The Value of Baptism?” Which one is the right one?

John 3:26

“Rabbi, He” – (John’s envious disciples don’t even say Jesus’ name) – “He who was with you beyond the Jordan,”

“to whom you have testified,” – John had said, “Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”

## **2. Verses 27-36 – The Selfless Testimony:**

John 3:27

### **5 Truth’s To Keep The Testimony Selfless:**

**1. Verse 27 – God Sovereignly Gives To His Servants:** “A man can receive nothing, unless it has been given him from heaven.”

(NLT)1 Corinthians 4:7 – “For what gives you the right to make such a judgment? What do you have that God hasn’t given you? And if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift?”

Hannah’s Song of Thanksgiving – 1 Samuel 2:7-8

Psalm 75:6-7

**2. Verse 28 – We Are Servants To Jesus Who Is Lord:** “You yourselves bear me witness,” – John refers to his own teaching that he never pointed to himself.

“that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent before Him.’” – John recognized the subordinate and temporary character of his own ministry.

1 Timothy 6:6

**“The measure of success for any ministry is not how many people follow the minister, but how many people follow Christ through the minister.”**

John 3:29

“but the friend of the bridegroom,” John is not the bridegroom, Jesus is. John is the friend, master of ceremonies, bringing the bride to the bridegroom.

**3. Verse 29 – We Should Be Joyful When Jesus Is Magnified:**

John 3:29

**4. Verse 30 – Our Goal Should Be For Jesus To Increase:** “He must increase,” – Literally “go on growing”; “but I must decrease.” – Literally “go on decreasing.” Genuine humility calls attention to Jesus Christ, not self!

**5. Verses 31-36 – We Must Center In Jesus:**

**Verse 31 – Supremacy Of Jesus In Origin:** “He who comes from above is above all, He speaks of the supremacy of Jesus Christ.

“he who is of the earth is from the earth and speaks of the earth.” – This is speaking of John the Baptist.

Colossians 2:3-4

**Verses 32-34 – Supremacy Of Jesus Word:** John 3:32

“What He has seen and heard, of that He testifies;” – John 1:14

John 3:33

“that God is true.” – The Testimony of Jesus Always Agrees With God! 1 John 5:10

John 3:34 – “For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God;” – This is the basis of Christian authority; it is Jesus Christ, God’s spokesman.

**Verses 34-35 – Supremacy Of Jesus In Resources:** John 3:34 – “for He gives the Spirit without measure.” (NEB) “so measureless is God’s gift of the Spirit”

Colossians 2:9-10

John 3:35

## **Verse 36 – Supremacy Of Jesus In Life And Death: John 3:36**

John's Last Invitation and Warning: There is no neutrality when it comes to Jesus Christ, you either receive Him or reject Him!

"He who believes" – literally "continues to believe." The belief that he speaks of is present tense; "in the Son has eternal life;" – Present possession.

"but he who does not obey (Rejects, disobeys) the Son shall not see life,"

"but the wrath of God abides on him." – This word "wrath" – "up-surg-ing, it is a passionate expression of outrage against wrongdoing."

### **Application:**

1. Like John, We Must Recognize The Subordinate And Temporary Character Of Our Own Ministry.
2. The Measure Of Success For Any Ministry Is Not How Many People Follow The Minister, But How Many People Follow Christ Through The Minister.
3. FB Meyer Said So Simply, "The Only Hope Of A Decreasing Self Is An Increasing Christ."
4. John's Last Invitation And Warning: John 3:36 – To Believe Is Not Passive Opinion But Decisive And Obedient Action.