

## **John the Baptist Questions Jesus Matthew 11:2-19; Luke 7:18-35**

**“Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?” – John the Baptist** What is behind this question of John’s? Let’s examine the facts of Scripture, it will give us the hints we need to understand.

### **I. Question of John the Baptist - “Art thou he that should come? Or look we for another?”**

**“And the disciples of John showed him of all these things. (“Now when John had heard in the prison the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ,” Matthew 11:2) <sup>19</sup>And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come (Lit. - \_\_\_\_\_)? or look we for another? <sup>20</sup> When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? <sup>21</sup>And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. <sup>22</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John (“again” Matthew 11:4) what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended (Gk - \_\_\_\_\_) in me.” Luke 7:18-23**

➤ John’s Situation –

➤ Jesus’ Answer –

### **II. Commendation of John the Baptist – “much more than a prophet.”**

**“And \_\_\_\_\_ the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people (“multitudes” Matthew 11:7) concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A \_\_\_\_\_ shaken with the wind? <sup>25</sup> But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously appareled, and live delicately, are in \_\_\_\_\_ courts. <sup>26</sup> But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and \_\_\_\_\_ than a prophet. <sup>27</sup> This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.” Luke 7:24-27**

- “reed shaken with the wind?” –
  
- “man clothed in soft raiment?” –
  
- “A prophet?” –

“(‘Verily’ Matthew 11:11) For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not (‘risen’ Matthew 11:11) a greater \_\_\_\_\_ than John the Baptist: but (‘notwithstanding’ Matthew 11:11) he that is least in the kingdom of God (‘heaven’ Matthew 11:11) is \_\_\_\_\_ than he. (‘And from the days of John the Baptist \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup> For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. <sup>14</sup> And if ye will receive it, this is \_\_\_\_\_, which was for to come.’ Matthew 11:12-14) <sup>29</sup> And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified (Lit - \_\_\_\_\_) God, being baptized with the baptism of John. <sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel (Lit. \_\_\_\_\_) of God against themselves, being not baptized of him (‘He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.’ Matthew 11:15).” Luke 7:28-30

- “he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” –
  
- “the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.” –
  
- “this is Elijah, which was for to come.” –
  
- “all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God,” –
  
- “Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves,” –
  
- “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.” –

### III. Condemnation of “this generation”

“And the Lord said, Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like? <sup>32</sup> They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept. <sup>33</sup> For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. <sup>34</sup> The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners! <sup>35</sup> But wisdom is justified of all her children.” Luke 7:31-35

- “men of this generation?...what are they like?” –
  
- “danced;”/“wept” –

- John the Baptist/Son of Man
- “But wisdom is justified of all her children.” –

#### IV. Why these questions of John? - “Art thou he that should come? Or look we for another?”

Facts:

- John had convincing \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ was the Messiah.
- If John really doubted, why ask Jesus? An \_\_\_\_\_ would only lie.

Possible Motives:

- Desired to see Christ come out more \_\_\_\_\_ as the Messiah.
- Desired to see the \_\_\_\_\_ put down.
- Desired release from \_\_\_\_\_.
- Desire to see \_\_\_\_\_ on the wicked.

#### Believer’s Application:

Why do we question God’s ways?

- We don’t understand His \_\_\_\_\_.
- We don’t think God is moving \_\_\_\_\_ enough.

- We want release from our \_\_\_\_\_ situation.

Christ still answers questions!

- Look at the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ!
  
- Look at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Scripture!
  
- Trust Him \_\_\_\_\_!

***“And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.” - Jesus***