

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JOHN

THIRTY THREE 21 THREE
GOD REVEALED





LESS IS MORE

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JOHN

JOHN 3:22-36

John 3:22-30

²² After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. ²³ John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴ (for John had not yet been put in prison). ²⁵ Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶ And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him.”

John 3:22-30

²⁷ John answered, “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease.”

The paradox, “Less is More” is beautifully exemplified by John the Baptist. He unmistakably understood the reality that there is more joy to be experienced when others celebrate the infinite glory of Jesus rather than applaud us.

The Human Presumption – “More is More”

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- Personal recognition brings happiness – the more the better

John 3:25-26

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John the Baptist’s Perspective - “Less is More”

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- **God gave me my role**

John 3:25-27

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John the Baptist's Perspective – “Less is More”

- God gave me my role
- **My role is to point**

John 3:25-30

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John the Baptist's Perspective – “Less is More”

- God gave me my role
- My role is to point
- **My fullest joy comes from pointing to Jesus**

John 3:25-30

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The Human Presumption – “More is More”

John the Baptist’s Perspective - “Less is More”

John the Apostle’s Commentary – “Jesus is More”

John 3:31-36

³¹ He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. ³² He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. ³³ Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. ³⁴ For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure.

John 3:31-36

³⁵ The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

John the Apostle's Commentary – “Jesus is More”

- Jesus is above any human

John 3:31

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John the Apostle's Commentary – “Jesus is More”

- Jesus is above any human
- **Many don't recognize Jesus for who He is**

John 3:31-32

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John the Apostle's Commentary – “Jesus is More”

- Jesus is above any human
- Many don't recognize Jesus for who He is
- **Recognizing Jesus is getting it right**

John 3:31-33

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John the Apostle's Commentary – “Jesus is More”

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- Many don't recognize Jesus for who He is
- Recognizing Jesus is getting it right
- **Jesus is God and speaks as God**

John 3:31-34

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John the Apostle's Commentary – “Jesus is More”

- Jesus is above any human
- Many don't recognize Jesus for who He is
- Recognizing Jesus is getting it right
- Jesus is God and speaks as God
- **Whoever believes is good**

John 3:31-36

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- **Positive to have a good reputation**

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- **Desiring our recognition more than Jesus is not good**

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- **Getting a more full picture of Jesus is inspiring**

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- Positive to have a good reputation
- Desiring our recognition more than Jesus is not good
- Getting a more full picture of Jesus is inspiring
- **Pointing others to Jesus is the best**