

THE TESTIMONY OF THE MESSIANIC FORERUNNER JOHN 1:19-28

I. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TWO QUESTIONS OF THE PRIESTS AND LEVITES (1:19 & 1:25)

- A. They Provide The Backdrop To The Transition To The Ministry Of The Lord Jesus Christ
- B. They Provide A Sterling Example Of The Way A Truly God Sent Witness Should Respond

II. "WHO ART THOU" THE IDENTITY OF THE MESSIANIC FORERUNNER (1:19-24)

- A. The Impact Of The Ministry Of John The Baptist On The Jews Of His Day
- B. The Selfless Denials Of Himself Despite The Impact His Preaching (1:19-21)
 - 1. "I Am Not The Christ" (1:20)
 - 2. "I Am Not [Elias]" (1:21a)
 - 3. "I Am Not *That Prophet*" (1:21b)
- C. An Affirmation Which Is So Exemplary For Men Of God Today (1:22-24)
 - 1. It Was Completely In Keeping With Scripture
 - 2. It Pointed To A Strategic Prophecy That Identified Him In Terms Of His God Ordained Function

III. "WHY BAPTIZETH THOU" THE IRONY OF THE MINISTRY OF THE MESSIANIC FORERUNNER (1:25-28)

- A. The Question: "If You Are As Insignificant As You Say You Are, By What Authority Then, Are You Baptizing?" (1:25)
- B. The Answer: "Let Me Tell You About My Baptism In Comparison With That Of Messiah" (1:26-28)