

The Forerunner

John the Baptist, The Forerunner of Jesus Christ

John 1:6-13

John's Realization of Jesus (John 1:6-10) John had his own eyes opened so that he saw and told what he saw. That is the mission of every believer of Christ. When a believer's eyes are opened we shine the light of Christ. Paul shares this in 2 Cor. 4:4 *"In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."*

a. We are to witness about the light of Jesus Christ. vv.7-8; 19-28

b. We are to witness that the true light came to give light to everyone. vv. 9-10

Light gives distinction and direction, it exposes wrong and excels in what is right. We are to be reflections of Christ the son, the true light. What does the moon do? The moon reflects the sun, we are to reflect the Son! We are not to moon everyone, but to share the His glory! When we truly realization who Jesus Christ is, that He has always existed, that He is God, and that He is the Creator that has made all things, came in the form of man to give mankind life, and to destroy death through faith in Him, we will witness. We have the cure and must share it! Our realization will result in action!

The People's Rejection of Jesus (John 1:11) *"did not receive him."* His people, the Jews of the day did not acknowledge him as the Messiah. They rejected him and put him to death, which fulfilled the prophecy found in Isaiah 53:3-4. ***"He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted."***

God gave us eyes, yet many refuse to see His glory.

God gave us ears, yet many refuse to listen to His words.

God gave us feet, yet many refuse to go for His glory.

God gave us hands, yet many refuse to serve Him.

God gave us a mouth, yet many refuse to speak of His glory.

Listen to Philippians 2:10 ***"so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth."*** Paul is sharing that even though many may reject Jesus Christ as Lord, He is in fact Lord of everyone and everything! One day everyone will acknowledge this! We will either Rejoice in Jesus or Reject Jesus, please do not reject Jesus, please rejoice in Him as your Lord and Savior!

The Result of Receiving Jesus (John 1:12-13)

- a. We become His children. v.12 God has created all things, so every person is a creation of God, but only those who have given their lives to Jesus are called, considered, and commissioned as children of God. We who have placed faith in Christ as Lord and Savior are Children of God by adoption. 1 John 3:1 states: ***"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of***

God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.”

- b. We are born by God. v.13 This refers to the new birth that Christians come to when they surrender their lives to Christ as Lord and Savior. We will see this new birth clearly in John 3:1-21.

Application:

1. When we truly realize who Jesus Christ is, we will shine His light. We will witness, worship, and work exposing His light to the darkness of this world.
2. People may reject Jesus, but at least they have heard the truth.
3. There is no greater privilege than to be called a child of God.