



Come and See... Deeper Study Notes

Don't look at me, look at Him! (John 1:19-34)

"A witness is a sign, pointing to a destination"

- How easy do you find it to talk about the difference Jesus makes in your life?
- How comfortable do you feel suggesting someone looks to Jesus for the answer to their worries or problems?
- How are you doing with your humility? If you're honest, is it important others recognise what you've done or are you ok with knowing that, even if they don't give you the credit, God knows you're working for him, that he sees and is pleased?

Deeper Study Questions

- Why is the fact that 'God is always Jesus-like' important for the way we read the Old Testament?
- John applies four titles to Jesus in this section: Messiah (or Christ), Lamb of God, Baptiser in the Spirit, and Son of God. Exploring 'Lamb of God', take a look at the following passages (and links in some New Testament passages) to see some of the many layers involved in this statement:
 - *The Passover lamb* — Exodus 12
 - Romans 3:24-26; 5:9; 1 Corinthians 5:7; 1 Peter 1:18-22
 - *The 'lamb' of Isaiah* — Isaiah 52-53, esp. 52:7 & 53:6-7
 - Acts 8:30-35; 2 Corinthians 5:20-21
 - *The 'lamb' of daily sacrifices* — Leviticus 14, esp. v25
 - *The triumphant Lamb of Revelation* — Revelation 5:1-14
 - *The lamb provided by God* — Genesis 22

Whilst John's gospel is certainly not specifically alluding to all of these in his text, this certainly points towards Jesus' person and actions are priestly in nature and function. As Edward Klink III helpfully states,

'God offered the Son that he did not demand from Abraham (Gen 22), and he offered the Lamb that no shepherd could offer. ... The church lives in the grace of God through Jesus Christ, and worships the only one who is worthy, a slain Lamb (Rev 5).'

- The awesome truth behind this title is that God is the *source* of this Lamb (just like Gen. 22:7); and the *significance* of this is that it is a gift given to us which we in no way can ever provide for ourselves, for it is *only* the Lamb that 'takes away' sin, and not just our sin but also 'the sin of the world' (John 1:29)! How often do we need to be reminded that nothing we've done or can do will be too terrible for Christ to intercede as the Lamb and wash it clean away (though that is not a reason to go on sinning, see Romans 6). But whilst we may face consequences here on earth, our eternal forgiveness is guaranteed for all who believe in Jesus, the Lamb of God, and his mercy is beyond words. Why not give thanks for God's unbounding love for you.