

Gospel of John – The Eternal Word
Sermon 3- Behold, the Lamb of God
John 1:19-34

Question: *Who was John the Baptist? What function did he fulfill in God's unfolding of the revelation of the Word? What did the OT say about him?*

v19-23, The Priests and Levites: both descendants of Aaron, but obviously sent to interrogate John. Their question, "**Who are you?**": was a challenge: *By what authority do you do these things? What is your pedigree? (and incidentally, are you going to stir trouble in our relationship to Herod and the Romans?)*

Who was John, and where did he fit in the scheme of things?

-Matt 11:7-15: John's place in the dispensations and prophets.



-v21-There was tremendous expectation of the coming of Messiah the Prince based on Daniel 9:25.

Malachi 4: The prophesy of the Day of the Lord for Israel, and Elijah (or someone with his prophetic spirit) was promised to come.

-**"Are you The Prophet?"** Deut 18:15- The prophecy was about Christ, but the Jews wrongly separated The Prophet from Messiah. Acts 3:22-23

-v23-**Isaiah 40:1-5**: Using the prediction of Israel's return over 900 miles of wilderness from Babylon back to Jerusalem as a type, John sees himself as the anti-type, the fulfillment.

v24-28, John sees himself for what he is, compared to the One.

V29, Behold the Lamb of God:

- The **Passover Lamb**:Exodus 12:3

- Isaiah's **Messianic, suffering Lamb**,Isaiah 53:7

But John does something magnificent... **prophetically he extends the work of the Lamb to the whole world, not just Israel!**

-Looking forward in time, and upward in perspective,Revelation 5:6

v30-34, The pre-existence of the Word.

-Baptism with Jordan's water, vs Jesus' baptism with the Holy Spirit of God!

This One is, by John's estimation, the very Son of the eternal God!