

CHRIST'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

The Gospel of John: The Deity and Teaching of Jesus Christ

"A Lesson in Humility"

John 3:22-36 NASB

[22] After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea; and there He was spending time with them and baptizing.

[23] Now John also was baptizing in Aenon, near Salim, because there was an abundance of water there; and people were coming and being baptized — [24] for John had not yet been thrown into prison.

[25] Then a matter of dispute developed on the part of John's disciples with a Jew about purification. [26] And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified — behold, He is baptizing and all the people are coming to Him."

[27] John replied, "A person can receive not even one thing unless it has been given to him from heaven. [28] You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but 'I have been sent ahead of Him.' [29] He who has the bride is the groom; but the friend of

the groom, who stands and listens to him, rejoices greatly because of the groom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full.

[30] He must increase, but I must decrease.

[31] "He who comes from above is above all; the one who is only from the earth is of the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all.

[32] What He has seen and heard, of this He testifies; and no one accepts His testimony.

[33] The one who has accepted His testimony has certified that God is true. [34] For He whom God sent speaks the words of God; for He does not give the Spirit of God sparingly.

[35] The Father loves the Son and has entrusted all things to His hand.

[36] The one who believes in the Son has eternal life; but the one who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him."

Notes:

Discussion Questions:

1. John's response in verses 27-30 gives us a lesson in humility. (a) What are some of the attitudes we need to be mindful of to keep humility? (b) Is competition and self-promotion opposed to biblical humility?
2. Read verses 31-36. What are some of the reasons for the supremacy of Jesus' testimony?
3. Read verse 36. How can the love-hate relationship that God has for this sinful world be explained?
4. Why must we believe in God's wrath, as difficult as this teaching may be?