

JOHN, THE GOSPEL OF BELIEF

John 3.22-36

John 3:22 After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He was spending time with them and baptizing. **23** John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there; and *people* were coming and were being baptized – **24** for John had not yet been thrown into prison.

A Two “churches” (3.22-24)

John 3:25 Therefore there arose a discussion 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 are coming to Him.” **27** John answered and said, “A man can receive nothing unless it has been given 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 bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. So this joy of mine has been made full. **30** “He must increase, but I must decrease.

B John’s mission (3.25-30)

John 3:31 “He who comes from above is above all, he who is of the earth is from the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. **32** “What He has seen and heard, of that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony. **33** “He who has received His testimony has set his seal to *this*, that God is true. **34** “For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure. **35** “The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand. **36** “He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

C Jesus’ mission (3.31-36)