

Early Judean Ministry—John Superseded by Jesus (April–November 30)

John 3:22–36

22 After this, Jesus and his disciples came into Judean territory, and there he spent time with them and was baptizing.

23 John was also baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming to him and being baptized.

24 (For John had not yet been thrown into prison.)

25 Now a dispute came about between some of John’s disciples and a certain Jew concerning ceremonial washing.

26 So they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, the one who was with you on the other side of the Jordan River, about whom you testified—see, he is baptizing, and everyone is flocking to him!”

27 John replied, “No one can receive anything unless it has been given to him from heaven.

28 You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but rather, ‘I have been sent before him.’ [cf. [Mal 3:1](#)]

29 The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands by and listens for him, rejoices greatly when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. This then is my joy, and it is complete.

30 He must become more important while I become less important.”

31 The one who comes from above is superior to all. The one who is from the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is superior to all.

32 He testifies about what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony.

33 The one who has accepted his testimony has confirmed clearly that God is truthful.

34 For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he does not give the Spirit sparingly.

35 The Father loves the Son and has placed all things under his authority.

36 The one who believes in the Son has eternal life. The one who rejects the Son will not see life, but God’s wrath remains on him.

Early Judean Ministry—John’s Imprisonment (November/December 30)

Matthew 14:3–5

Mark 6:17–20

Luke 3:19–20

3 For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife,

4 because John had repeatedly told him, “It is not lawful for you to have her.”

5 Although Herod wanted to kill John, he feared the crowd because they accepted John as a prophet.

17 For Herod himself had sent men, arrested John, and bound him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because Herod had married her.

18 For John had repeatedly told Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”

19 So Herodias nursed a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not

20 because Herod stood in awe of John and protected him, since he knew that John was a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard him, he was thoroughly baffled, and yet he liked to listen to John.

19 But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of Herodias, his brother’s wife, and because of all the evil deeds that he had done,

20 Herod added this to them all: He locked up John in prison.

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