



MOMENTUM: THE GOSPEL IN MOTION
A TESTIMONY OF FAITH | JOHN 1:19-34
Pastor Mark Owens

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." – John 1:19-34

Does my testimony build or damage the momentum of the Gospel?

Is my testimony a declaration of truth?

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Threefold Purpose for John's Testimony:

1. He fulfilled Old Testament prophecy
2. He called people to repent
3. He drew people's attention toward Jesus

Bold and clear message

"In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." – Matthew 3:1-2



"But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come. Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." – Matthew 3:7-10

Fully surrendered to God

Living with urgency

The Signs of Our Testimony

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Honesty
- Humility
- Faith
- Evangelism
- Serving

Does my testimony lead others to ask questions?

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Is my testimony pointing others to Jesus?

"The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." – John 1:19-34

- The Lamb of God
- Complete forgiveness
- Hope

And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.
– Genesis 3:21

Impact of sin:

- Sin takes you farther than you want to go
- Sin keeps you longer than you want to remain
- Sin costs you more than you will ever want to pay

Our Testimony Proves:

- God still changes lives
- God is still at work
- God provides encouragement to persevere

Does my testimony build or damage the momentum of the Gospel?