

A mosaic of Jesus Christ's face is positioned at the top center, with only his eyes and forehead visible above a horizontal scroll. The scroll is unrolled and contains the text "JESUS IS" followed by a blank line. The background is a textured, golden-brown color. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers on either side. Below the scroll, a portion of Jesus's hands and a blue and gold robe are visible. At the bottom of the image, there is a horizontal band of light blue color.

JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS....OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

JOHN 3:22-24 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

²²AFTER THIS JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES WENT INTO THE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE, AND HE REMAINED THERE WITH THEM AND WAS BAPTIZING. ²³JOHN ALSO WAS BAPTIZING AT AENON NEAR SALIM, BECAUSE WATER WAS PLENTIFUL THERE, AND PEOPLE WERE COMING AND BEING BAPTIZED ²⁴(FOR JOHN HAD NOT YET BEEN PUT IN PRISON).



JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- A HUGE PART OF OUR CULTURE IS "CELEBRITY"; BEING FAMOUS
- IT'S COUNTER-CULTURAL AND COUNTER-INTUITIVE TO DIRECT ATTENTION AWAY FROM OURSELVES



JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- JESUS STARTS DEVELOPING HIS DISCIPLES; HOW?
- RELATIONSHIP AND MINISTRY
- ARE YOU BEING DISCIPLED?
DISCIPLINING?



JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- JOHN THE BAPTIST'S MINISTRY WAS IN THE DESERT
- AENON= SPRING
- SALIM= PEACE; CAN'T BE SHAKEN
- JOHN'S MINISTRY POINTS PEOPLE TO CHRIST, & THEY'RE TAKEN FROM DESERT TO SPRINGS; LIFE THAT CAN'T BE SHAKEN



JESUS IS _____

- WHY DID CHRIST GO WHERE JOHN WAS ALREADY MINISTERING?
- TO SET UP A CONFRONTATION AND CALL PEOPLE TO MAKE A DECISION

JESUS IS....OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

JOHN 3:25-26 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

²⁵NOW A DISCUSSION AROSE BETWEEN SOME OF JOHN'S DISCIPLES AND A JEW OVER PURIFICATION. ²⁶AND THEY CAME TO JOHN AND SAID TO HIM, "RABBI, HE WHO WAS WITH YOU ACROSS THE JORDAN, TO WHOM YOU BORE WITNESS—LOOK, HE IS BAPTIZING, AND ALL ARE GOING TO HIM."



JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- THEY'RE DEBATING BAPTISM & PURIFICATION & JESUS; AND THEY MISS THE POINT!
- THE POINT: WE ARE SLAVES TO SIN AND CHRIST CAME TO GIVE US FREEDOM
- WHAT IS FREEDOM?
- TO BE PURIFIED FROM SIN, DELIVERED FROM REBELLION, FREE FROM SATAN



JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- JOHN'S DISCIPLES ARE JEALOUS
- CHRIST IS CONTROVERSIAL
- WHEN WE MEASURE SUCCESS BY NUMBERS OR COMPARISON TO OTHERS, WE ARE ALREADY IN THE SAME BONDAGE!
- THIS IS JOHN'S WHOLE POINT ~ "GO TO JESUS!"; BUT THEY DO NOT BELIEVE
- THEY WANTED A PROPHET OR KING, NOT A SAVIOR

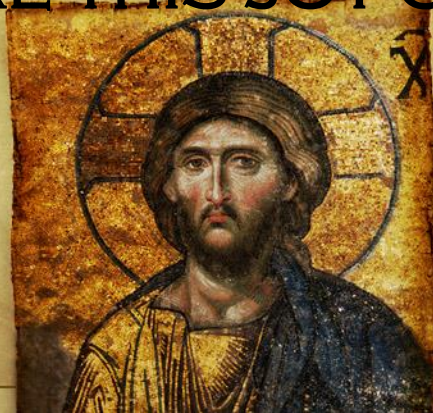


JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:27-29 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

²⁷ JOHN ANSWERED, "A PERSON CANNOT RECEIVE EVEN ONE THING UNLESS IT IS GIVEN HIM FROM HEAVEN. ²⁸ YOU YOURSELVES BEAR ME WITNESS, THAT I SAID, 'I AM NOT THE CHRIST, BUT I HAVE BEEN SENT BEFORE HIM.' ²⁹ THE ONE WHO HAS THE BRIDE IS THE BRIDEGROOM. THE FRIEND OF THE BRIDEGROOM, WHO STANDS AND HEARS HIM, REJOICES GREATLY AT THE BRIDEGROOM'S VOICE. THEREFORE THIS JOY OF MINE IS NOW COMPLETE.



JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- THE MARK OF A GREAT MINISTRY ISN'T HOW MANY FOLLOW THE MESSENGER BUT HOW MANY FOLLOW CHRIST
- BEWARE MINISTRY THAT CALLS FOR ATTACHMENT TO A MINISTER
- BEST MAN: VERY IMPORTANT, BUT FADES AWAY
- NO JEALOUSY IN JOHN



JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS....OUR PURIFICATION
JOHN 3:22-36

JOHN 3:30 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

³⁰ HE MUST INCREASE, BUT I MUST
DECREASE."



JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- JOHN ANSWERS THE PURIFICATION ISSUE
- THERE'S SOMETHING IN ME THAT GRATES ON THIS ISSUE- MAKE MUCH OF ME!
- WE MUST COME AS THE EMPTY-HANDED BEGGAR BEFORE WE ARE FRIENDS OF GOD



JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS....OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:31-35 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

³¹ HE WHO COMES FROM ABOVE IS ABOVE ALL. HE WHO IS OF THE EARTH BELONGS TO THE EARTH AND SPEAKS IN AN EARTHLY WAY. HE WHO COMES FROM HEAVEN IS ABOVE ALL. ³² HE BEARS WITNESS TO WHAT HE HAS SEEN AND HEARD, YET NO ONE RECEIVES HIS TESTIMONY. ³³ WHOEVER RECEIVES HIS TESTIMONY SETS HIS SEAL TO THIS, THAT GOD IS TRUE. ³⁴ FOR HE WHOM GOD HAS SENT UTTERS 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.



JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- HOW COULD JOHN DO THAT? HOW CAN WE?
- 1) CHRIST IS FROM HEAVEN
- 2) JESUS IS TRUTH
- 3) CHRIST HAS THE FULLNESS OF THE SPIRIT
- 4) CHRIST IS SUPREME



JESUS IS _____

JESUS IS....OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

JOHN 3:36 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

³⁶ WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THE SON HAS
ETERNAL LIFE; WHOEVER DOES NOT OBEY
THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE, BUT THE
WRATH OF GOD REMAINS ON HIM.



JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- WRAP UP OF JOHN 1-3 & CONVERSATION WITH NICODEMUS: JESUS IS THE POINT; IT ALL HINGES ON HOW YOU RESPOND TO HIM!
- THIS IS THE POINT OF JESUS TO NICODEMUS AND JOHN TO HIS FOLLOWERS AND GOD TO US:
- JESUS DEMANDS THAT WE LOVE & OBEY & CHERISH HIM MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE
- HOW WILL YOU RESPOND?



JESUS IS —

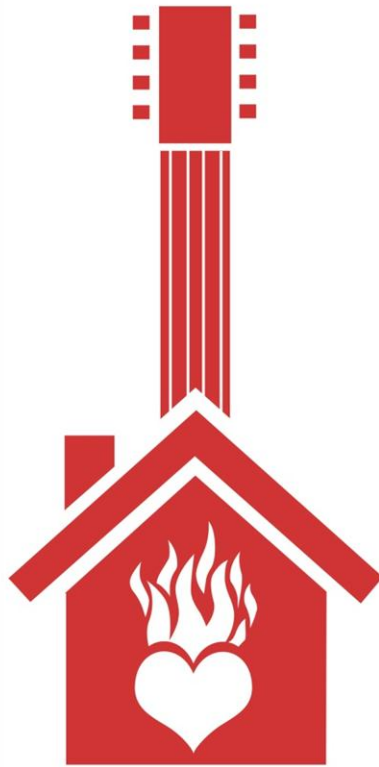
JESUS IS...OUR PURIFICATION

JOHN 3:22-36

- WHAT ARE YOU WORKING FOR? WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE KNOWN AS GREAT?
- JESUS CAME TO CONFRONT & CHALLENGE US
- JESUS IS GOD & WORTHY OF OUR LIVES
- JESUS CAN BE TRUSTED & WHAT WE DO WITH THAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ETERNAL LIFE & ETERNAL WRATH



JESUS IS _____



HOUSE FIRES

Thursday, April 7th @ 7 PM

RSVP for childcare

A wicker picnic basket with a handle and a latch is placed on a blue and white checkered picnic blanket. The background is a blurred green lawn. The text is overlaid on the basket and blanket.

Church Picnic
April 10th / 5 pm
Bonbrook
Plantation

Baptisms: Sunday, April 24

Do you want to be baptized?

**Join us for a mandatory meeting
Sunday, April 17th,
after morning worship**

New Life Group Begins You're Invited!

- +** Join us for a Cook-Out
- +** Sunday, April 17, 5:30 pm
- +** For info or questions write us at info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com



Hearts & Hammers

April 2nd and 9th / 9-4PM

Help the Fort Bend Corps repair
homes for families in despair

Sign up at the resource center

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 23 @ 10 AM

