

The First Three Disciples

John 1:35-42

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Text:

John 1:35-42,

35. Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples,

36. and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!”

37. The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

38. And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, “What do you seek?” They said to Him, “Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?”

39. He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” So they came and saw where He was staying; and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.

40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.

41. He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which translated means Christ).

42. He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Commentary:

John 1:35, 36, Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!”

I. John was standing with two of his disciples when Jesus was seen again in the area.

II. John again boldly proclaimed Jesus to be “the Lamb of God!”

III. There was no doubt in John’s mind. “Behold, the Lamb of God.”

John 1:37, 38, The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, “What do you seek?” They said to Him, “Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?”

I. The two disciples left John and followed Jesus! John must have had mixed feelings about this.

II. Jesus turned to them and asked them what they wanted.

III. They addressed Jesus as Teacher (Rabbi) and asked where he was staying in the area.

A. We say, “Where do you live?”

B. In the South Carolina Low Country they say, “Where do you stay?”

C. When talking of a short term residence as when on vacation, we ask, “Where did you stay?”

IV. Who were these two disciples?

A. One was Andrew. See verse 40.

B. The other disciple must have been John who, in this book, never speaks of himself by name.

V. The disciples'/followers' answer to Christ's question, "What seek ye" was very reserved and may indicate the awe and respect with which they viewed Christ.

John 1:39, He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they came and saw where He was staying: and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.

I. Jesus encouraged these disciples to follow him.

II. Jesus encourages us to follow him.

III. Jesus wants us to abide with him and he wants to abide with us!

IV. The disciples accepted the invitation of Jesus to stay with him. It was now the tenth hour of the day or about 4 p.m. in the afternoon.

V. This was a monumental day, the day on which John and Andrew met the Savior! It was so memorable that John decades later when he wrote this book recalled even the time of day.

John 1:40, One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

I. Andrew is here introduced as the brother of Simon Peter who was well known when the Gospel of John was being written to be a more prominent figure than Andrew.

II. Andrew was excited, elated to have found Jesus! He did not want to keep this great discovery to himself. He wanted to share this wondrous discovery with his beloved brother.

III. Evidently John and Andrew were the first disciples to follow Jesus. With Peter there were now three.

IV. As the news of the great Discovery continued to spread, eventually there were millions who claimed to be disciples.

V. We must share the good news as well!

John 1:41, He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which translated means Christ).

I. The meaning evidently is that Andrew and John were so impressed with Jesus that they went to tell their brothers about having found the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed of God.

II. Andrew appears to have found Simon first; that is, before John found James. Both were seeking loved ones to bring to Jesus. Now there were four. Evidently all four had been looking for the Messiah.

John 1:42, He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

I. When Simon approached Jesus, the Lord knew him well! No introduction was needed. Jesus also knows us well!

II. Jesus said Simon was “Son of John (Jonas) [Example: William – Bill]. He was to be known hereafter as Peter (Syriac) meaning “pebble,” a piece of a bigger rock.

III. The Messiah was to reveal himself as one of quick understanding.

A. Isaiah 11:3, And He will delight in the fear of the Lord, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;

B. John 1:47, Jesus saw Nathaniel coming to Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed in whom there is no deceit!”

C. John 4:18, “for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.”

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Questions

1. _____ was standing with _____ of his _____, and he looked at _____ as he walked, and said, “Behold, the _____ of _____!”
2. The two _____ Jesus.
3. One of these two disciples was _____, _____’s _____. He first found his own brother _____ and said to him, “We have found the _____.”
4. _____ brought _____ to Jesus who changed his name to _____ (which is translated _____).
5. _____ and _____ were sons of _____.
6. One of the two disciples John directed to Jesus was _____. The other one is unnamed but is thought to have been _____.
7. _____ brought his brother _____ to _____. Name persons below you have brought to Jesus: _____, _____, _____, _____.
8. Cephas, Peter means “_____,” a piece of a _____.

9. Where will following Jesus take you? He said to them,
“ _____, and _____
_____.”

10. This was a monumental day for Andrew, John and Peter. It was the day they met Jesus. Tell about when you met Jesus. _____

