

Week 2 Sunday Sept 13, 2026: John 1:19-51 Jesus Says, Come, Follow Me

John 1:19-28 A Voice of One Crying in the Wilderness (Matt. 3:1–12; Mark 1:1–8; Luke 3:1-20) The Testimony of John the Baptist

Jhn 1:19 Now this is the testimony (**or witness**) of John (**the Baptist**), when the Jews (**Most Jewish leaders often hostile to Jesus**) sent “priests and Levites” from Jerusalem to ask him(**John**), "Who are you?"

Jhn 1:20 He(**John**) confessed, and did not deny, but confessed (**made known clearly**), "I am not the Christ (**not the Messiah, Anointed One of God**)."

Luk 3:15 Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ (**the Messiah, the Anointed One**) or not

Jhn 1:21 And they (**priests and Levites representing the Jewish leaders**) asked him(**John**), "What then? Are you Elijah?" He(**John**) said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he(**John**) answered, "No." (**See for homework: Deut. 18:15, 18; Mal 4:5-6, Rev 11:3-12; Mat 17:11**)?"

Jhn 1:22 Then they (**priests and Levites**) said to him(**John the Baptist**), "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us (**Jewish leaders**)? What do you say about yourself? (**What can we tell them?**)"

Jhn 1:23 He(**John the Baptist**) said: "I am THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING (**calling out, proclaiming loudly, shouting**) IN THE WILDERNESS: MAKE STRAIGHT (**a clear path for**) THE WAY OF THE LORD," as the prophet Isaiah said (**so John declare prophetically about 700 years later**) (**Isaiah 40:3**)."

This messenger was to prepare the way for the Lord to come to his people and believe.
Isa 40:3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert, A highway for our God.

Mal 3:1 "**Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,**" Says the LORD of hosts.

The Angel spoke of John the Baptist that he would come in the spirit and power of Elijah.

Luk 1:13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.

Luk 1:16 "**And he(John) will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.**

Luk 1:17 "He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Jesus noting, John's similar appearance and message of repentance.

Mat 11:14 (Jesus said) "And if you are willing to receive (or accept) it, he(John) is Elijah who is to come"

The Jewish religious leaders were looking for the literal, physical Elijah to come back down from heaven. Because Elijah did not die but was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:11).

It requires spiritual insight, rather than looking for a literal, historical figure. John perfectly fulfilled the office, ministry, and spiritual blueprint of the Elijah prophecy in Malachi 4:5.

Jhn 1:24 Now those who were sent (priests and Levites) were from the Pharisees.

Pharisees: leaders and an influential group of Jews who emphasized observance and obedience to the law and their own traditions as the path way to righteousness. Many Pharisees opposed Jesus, but some a few followed him (John 7:50; 19:38–40).

Jhn 1:25 And they(priests and Levites) asked him(John the Baptist), saying, "Why then do you baptize (or what right do you have to baptize, who gave you permission?), if you are not the Christ (Messiah), nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

Jhn 6:14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

Jhn 1:26 John(the Baptist) answered them(priests and Levites), saying, "I baptize with (Gk. can be with, in or by) water (only), but there stands "One" (preeminent One) among you, whom you do not know (or recognize).

Act 19:1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples

Act 19:2 he(Paul) said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

Act 19:3 And he(Paul) said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."

Act 19:4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance (repent for your sin), saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."

Jhn 1:27 "It is He (Messiah, preeminent One) who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose (or untie)." (John is saying that he is not worthy even to remove Christ's sandal).

Jhn 1:28 These things were done in Bethabara (or Bethany) beyond (across) the Jordan (River), where John was baptizing.

Christian baptism

Mat 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Rom 6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Rom 6:6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Rom 6:7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

Rom 6:8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

Rom 6:9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

Rom 6:10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Rom 6:11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1Pet 3:21 There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

1Pet 3:21 (AMP) Corresponding to that [rescue through the flood], baptism [which is an expression of a believer's new life in Christ] now saves you, not by removing dirt from the body, but by an appeal to God for a good (clear) conscience, [demonstrating what you believe to be yours] through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Baptism is a public representation of that which has actually happened in the believer life—confirming in what one has already believe and trust in God as one's personal faith in Jesus: death, burial and resurrection.

John 1:29-34 The Lamb of God (Matt. 3:13–17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22) John the Baptist's testimony of Jesus Christ.

Jhn 1:29 The next day John (**the Baptist**) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! (**Look!**) "The Lamb of God" who "takes away" the sin of the world!

John (the Baptist) is referring to the fulfillment and symbolism of the need for the OT Passover lambs, with which, their death covered sin and which was going to be fulfilled in Christ's sacrifice, the ultimate and final sacrifice to take away our sins.

Quote from David Guzik, on Blue Letter Bible website

ii. **The Lamb of God**: John used the image of the sacrificial lamb, represented many times in the Old Testament. Jesus is the perfect fulfillment of every time that image is displayed.

- He is the lamb slain before the foundation of the world (1Pet 1:19–20, Rev 13:8)
- He is the animal slain in the Garden of Eden to cover the nakedness: first sinners (Gen 3:21).
- He is the lamb God would Himself provide for Abraham as a substitute for Isaac (Gen 22:7–8).
- He is the Passover lamb for Israel (Exodus 12:13, 1Cor 5:7).
- He is the lamb for the guilt offering in the Levitical sacrifices (Leviticus 14:12–12, Heb 10:11-12).
- He is Isaiah's lamb to the slaughter, ready to be shorn (Isaiah 53:7)
- Each of these lambs fulfilled their role in their death; this was an announcement that Jesus would die, and as a sacrifice for the **sin of the world**.

Jhn 1:30 "This is He(**Messiah**) of whom I said, 'After me, comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me (**He is far greater than I, and has existed before I was born**).'

Jhn 1:31 "I did not know Him (**only as a relative, not as the Messiah**); but that He should be revealed (**made known publicly**) to Israel, therefore I(**John**) came baptizing with (**in or by**) water."

John the Baptist was approximately six months older by birth than Jesus and were related through their mothers, Elizabeth and Mary (relatives Luke 1:36), but Jesus was unknown as the Messiah until God revealed it to John the Baptist at the beginning of Jesus' ministry.

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

Mat 3:4 Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

Mat 3:5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him

Mat 3:6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.

Mat 3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

Mat 3:8 "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,

Mat 3:9 "and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Mat 3:10 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Mat 3:11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Jhn 1:32 And John (the Baptist) bore witness (gave further evidence, and testified), saying, "I saw the Spirit (Holy Spirit) descending from heaven "like" a dove, and He (Holy Spirit) remained upon Him (Jesus, Messiah).

Looking at a different Gospel, provides additional clarity on how eyewitnesses could have perceived this supernatural event: Luke 3:22 adds a physical component: "...and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like (a simile = a comparison) a dove upon Him(Jesus), (This tells us the manifestation was visible to the physical eye, not just a private spiritual vision), and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

Compare: Mat 3:17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (In Luke and Mark, the voice speaks directly to Jesus (notice: "You are my..."), serving as personal, divine affirmation. But in Matthew, the Father shifts the grammar to the third person ("This is my..."), effectively introducing and revealing Jesus directly to the bystanders and the surrounding crowd (from GotQuestions.org).

The descent of the Holy Spirit identified Jesus in His humanity and prepared Him for His ministry as the Messiah (100% man and 100% God, with the Holy Spirit upon Him). When Jesus the preexistent One came to earth, born of a woman. He willingly emptied Himself of the independent use of His divine attributes to live a fully human life (a concept known as Kenosis from Philippians 2:7). Jesus demonstrated that a perfect human life is lived in total dependence on the Holy Spirit.

This moment perfectly fulfilled Isa 61:1 "The Spirit (Holy Spirit) of the Lord GOD is upon Me (Christ, Jesus), Because the LORD (God the Father) has anointed Me (Christ, Jesus) (we see the Godhead at work) To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

His Miracles: Jesus perform His miracles through the power of the Holy Spirit (Mat 12:28).

His Temptation: Immediately after His baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to defeat Satan as a man, using the powerful and living Word of God rather than His raw divine power (Luke 4:1).

Jhn 1:33 "I did not know (or recognize) Him (Jesus, Messiah), but He (God the Father v1:6) who sent me(John) to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him(Jesus), this is He (the One) who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

This moment beautifully displays the Godhead (doctrine of the Tri-unity or Trinity), God the Father ("He" who sent John) gives the command, and God the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, upon God the Son (Messiah Christ, Jesus) who is revealed to the world.

Jhn 1:34 "And I (John the Baptist) have "seen and testified" (first hand) that this is the Son of God (or My Chosen One)

Isa 42:1 "Behold! My Servant whom I (God the Father) uphold, My Elect One (My Chosen One) (Jesus Christ, the Messiah) in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit (Holy Spirit) upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles"

Psa 2:7 "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You (I reveal you today as my Son, and I have become your Father)

Luk 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

Jhn 11:24 Martha said to Him(Jesus), "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jhn 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

Jhn 11:26 "And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Jhn 11:27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come, into the world."

John 1:35-42 The First Disciples: Andrew and Peter Follow Jesus (Behold the Lamb of God)

Jhn 1:35 Again, the next day, John (the Baptist) stood with two of his disciples.

Jhn 1:36 And looking at Jesus as He walked (by), he(John) said, "Behold! the Lamb of God!"

John the Baptist sought to point his own disciples to Jesus Christ and not to draw attention to himself. We need to point everyone to Jesus and not ourselves

We are saved and redeemed by believing in the precious blood of Christ Jesus His death and resurrection, as of a lamb without blemish

1Pet 1:16 because it is written (in the scripture's), "Be holy, for I am holy."

1Pet 1:17 - And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;

1Pet 1:18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,

1Pet 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Jhn 1:37 The two disciples heard him(**John**) speak (**Behold! the Lamb of God**), and (**now**) they followed Jesus.

Jhn 1:38 Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "**What do you seek? (What do you want?)**" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?"

Jhn 1:39 He(**Jesus**) said to them (**the two**), "**Come and see.**" They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour) (**probably 10 a.m. Roman time, see note below**)

Romans time started from midnight, so in Roman time the tenth hour would be 10:00 a.m. The Jews started daytime from sunrise (about 6:00 a.m.), so in their system the tenth hour would be 4:00 p.m. Roman time may be more likely because if it were 4:00 p.m. the disciples probably want to go home before evening starts.

Jhn 1:40 One of the two who heard John speak, and (**as a result, now**) followed Him(**Jesus**), was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

We know one of the two was Andrew. The name of the other disciple is not mentioned; probably John the Apostle, the author of this Gospel.

Mat 4:18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

Mat 4:19 Then He(**Jesus**) said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Mat 4:20 They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Mat 4:21 Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them,

Mat 4:22 and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Jhn 1:41 He(**Andrew**) first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). (**Hebrew Messiah or Greek Christ both are titles and mean Anointed One**).

Quote from Pastor Chuck from 3,000 series

I think that sometimes the word Christ has become to us almost a name rather than a designation of **His mission as the Anointed One, the Messiah**.

Jhn 1:42 And he(**Andrew**) brought him(**Simon**) to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "**You are Simon the son of Jonah (or John). You shall be called Cephas**" (which is translated, A Stone). (**Cephas and Peter are both from the word for rock or stone in Aramaic and Greek**)

In the Scriptures, God frequently changes people's names to indicate their special mission or calling (examples Gen. 17:5; 32:28).

Mat 16:13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

Mat 16:14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Mat 16:15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Mat 16:16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Mat 16:17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

Mat 16:18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

John 1:43-51 Philip and Nathanael Follow Jesus

Jhn 1:43 The following day, Jesus wanted to (**and decided to**) go to Galilee, and He(**Jesus**) found Philip and said to him, "**Follow Me**." (**Learn from Me, As My disciple, walk the same path of life that I walk**).

The cost of following Jesus

Jhn 12:20 Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast.

Jhn 12:21 Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

Jhn 12:22 Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

Jhn 12:23 But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.

Jhn 12:25 "He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Jhn 12:26 "If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

Jhn 1:44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida (**northeast of where the Jordan flows into the Sea of Galilee from the north**), the city of Andrew and Peter (**their hometown**).

Philip asked Jesus to show them the Father

Jhn 14:7 "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

Jhn 14:8 Philip said to Him(Jesus), "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

Jhn 14:9 Jesus said to him (Philip), "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Jhn 14:10 "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

Jhn 14:11 "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

Jhn 1:45 Philip found Nathanael (**also possible Bartholomew see Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14**) and said to him, "We have found Him (the One) of whom Moses in the law, and also the Prophets, wrote (**His name is**)--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph (**according to scriptures**)."

Jhn 1:46 And Nathanael said to him(**Philip**), "Can anything good come out of Nazareth (**a very small town approx. 2,000 people**)?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Jhn 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "**Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!**" (**Jesus is saying a descendant of Jacob, in whom there is no guile nor deceit, a man of genuine integrity**)

Psa 32:2 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Jhn 1:48 Nathanael said to Him(**Jesus**), "How do You know (**these things about**) me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "**Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.**"

Jhn 1:49 Nathanael answered and said to Him(**Jesus**), "Rabbi (**Teacher**), You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Psa 2:7 "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

Mat 21:5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey (a quote from Zechariah 9:9).'"

Jhn 1:50 Jesus answered and said to him(**Nathanael**), "**Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe (Me)? You will see greater things than these.**"

Jhn 1:51 And He(**Jesus**) said to him(**Nathanael**), "**Most assuredly, I say to you (I tell you the solemn truth), hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man (Jesus is the stairway or ladder (the bridge) between heaven and earth, Gen. 28:12).**"

Gen 28:12 Then he(**Jacob**) dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it (**the ladder or bridge, Jesus is the mediator between heaven (God without sin) and earth (sinful man).**)

1Tim 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

Heb 9:15 And for this reason He(**Jesus**) is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of (His) death, for the redemption of the transgressions (sin-sinful actions, missing the mark of perfection) under the first covenant, that those who are called (and believe) may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Jhn 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

The Son of Man is a messianic title referring back to Dan. 7:13–14. God gives him rule over all the nations of the earth forever (Matt. 26:64).

Dan 7:13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

Dan 7:14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

Jesus Faces the Sanhedrin and is asked are you the Christ, the Son of God.

Mat 26:63 But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"

Mat 26:64 Jesus said to him, "It is as you said (**Yes**). Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."

End & Prayer