



A Witness to the Light | John 1:6-13

***Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor
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We are introduced to John the Baptist and offered some key lessons on evangelism through contrasts between Jesus and John the Baptist.

An introduction to John the Baptist and his bold preaching

1. A Contrast of Identity: A human lamp and a divine light (1:6-8)

Note: John 1:6, in John's original Greek, starts: "Came into being a man sent from God..."

2. A Contrast of Ministry: John was sent to witness while Jesus was sent to save (1:9-11)

3. A Contrast of Ability: John was a limited instrument. Jesus is a sovereign Savior (1:7, 12-13)

Questions to Consider

1. What are some of the fears and/or obstacles that keep you from talking to unbelievers about the gospel of Jesus Christ?
2. What was John the Baptist's message and what was the purpose of that message?
3. What is the significance of John the Baptist being identified as a man sent from God ("was" vs "came into being")?
4. What did Jesus call John the Baptist in John 5:35? What are the implications of that title and what might be applications for you?
5. Are there other passages that describe believers as lights giving witness to Jesus Christ?
6. Some teach that John 1:9 points to universalism, in which everyone is ultimately saved. How would you rebut that notion?
7. What are the crucial elements of the gospel that people should understand in order to respond?
8. John 1:12-13 reinforce a spiritual truth about the inability of those who are spiritually dead to give themselves life. What does it mean that believers must be born of God?