



The Transition | John 3:22-36

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The final part of John's introduction of Jesus is a transition that teaches us to finish well and to start with Jesus.

John 1 through 3 is an extended introduction to the book, meant to support its purpose by establishing the veracity and authority of Jesus Christ.

1. Finish Well – John the Baptist is filled with joy, even as his ministry of preparing the way for the Messiah is coming to a close (3:22-30).
2. Start with Jesus – The focal point of John's gospel should be our heartbeat as well: Loving, worshiping and witnessing to Jesus Christ and His gospel (3:31-36). John serves this point by focusing on the supremacy, truthfulness, and power of Jesus Christ.

The **supremacy** of Jesus is seen in:

His origin

His person

His proximity to the Father.

The **truthfulness** of Jesus is rooted in the fact that He is God.

The **power** of Jesus is both in His sinless self, and from the Holy Spirit who is given to Jesus without measure.

In light of the supremacy, truthfulness, and power of Jesus Christ, all of humanity divides around our response to Him (3:36):

Those who are trusting in Jesus Christ

Those who are disobeying Jesus Christ

Questions to Consider

1. Keeping in mind the purpose of John's gospel (John 20:31), what important role do the first three chapters of the book play?
2. What have we gleaned about the purpose of the baptisms administered by John and by the disciples of Jesus?
3. Can you relate to John's disciples, feeling as if you or someone you know is not receiving the attention or gratitude that you believe is deserved?
4. Generally, what should finishing well look like for a Christian?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7. How does that help us to minister well?
6. In what ways has the supremacy of Jesus Christ been declared in the first three chapters of John's gospel?
7. Why is it crucial for John to establish the truthfulness of what Jesus says?
8. How does John 3:36 inform our lives and ministry in the world?