

## John the Best Man (John 3:22-36)

Dr. John H. Niemelä

Water of Life Bible Class

April 14, 2022

### Introduction

Where was Jesus?

Where was John the Baptist?

Where would John soon go?

#### Timetable of this section of the four Gospels

Jesus' Baptism	Temp-tation	Lamb of God	First Six Disciples	Water to Wine	Temple Cleansed	Jesus Baptizing	John's Arrest	Fishers of Men
Matt 3	Matt 4	—	—	—	—	—	Matt 4	Matt 4
Mark 1	Mark 1	—	—	—	—	—	Mark 1	Mark 1
Luke 3	Luke 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	John 1	John 1	John 2	John 2	John 3	—	—
<b>Before John's Arrest</b>							<b>After John's Arrest</b>	

3<sub>22</sub> After these *things* Jesus and His disciples went to the Judean countryside, and He spent time there with them and was baptizing.

3<sub>23</sub> Now John also was baptizing in Aenon, near Salem, because much water was there. And *people* were coming and being baptized,

3<sub>24</sub> for John was not yet cast into prison.

3<sub>25</sub> Therefore a dispute arose between some of John's disciples with a Judean about *ritual* purification.

**What might the dispute have concerned?**

3<sub>26</sub> So they came to John and told him: “Rabbi, the *One* who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you testified— look, He is baptizing, and all are going to Him!”

3<sub>27</sub> John said in response, “A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven.

3<sub>28</sub> You • testify that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but ‘I am one who was sent before Him.’

3<sub>29</sub> He who has the bride is *the* bridegroom. But the bridegroom’s friend, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy at the bridegroom’s voice. So this joy of mine has been fulfilled.

3<sub>30</sub> “He must increase, but I *must* decrease.

3<sub>31</sub> “He who comes from above is above all. The *one* who is from earth is from earth and from earth speaks. The *One* who comes from heaven is above all.

3<sub>32</sub> And what He has seen and heard, this He testifies, but no one receives His testimony.

3<sub>33</sub> The *one* who receives His testimony has set *his* seal to this: that God is true.

3<sub>34</sub> For He whom God sent speaks God’s words, since God does not give the Spirit by measure.

3<sub>35</sub> The Father loves the Son and has given all *things* into His hand.

3<sub>36</sub> The *one* who believes in the Son has everlasting life; but the *one* who disbelieves the Son will not see life, but God’s wrath remains upon him.”

## Conclusion