

## QUESTIONS:

### “Shall We Look For Another?”

*Luke 7:18–19 (ESV)*

<sup>18</sup> *The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John,*

<sup>19</sup> *calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying,*

**“Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”**

The question we must answer today, is why would John ask this question?

How could John the Baptist express such doubt at to who Jesus was?

- \* This is the same man who was filled with the Holy Spirit even in his mother’s womb and came in the spirit of Elijah as a forerunner to declare the coming of the Lord (Luke 1:13–17).
- \* This is the same man who understood clearly who he was and was not (John 1:19–23).
- \* This is the man who, when he matured, began to carry out his calling as the forerunner (Luke 3:3–4).
- \* This is the same man who not only baptized Jesus, but experienced the anointing of Jesus by the Spirit from the Father. He actually heard the voice of God declare Jesus to be His Son (Luke 3:21–22).
- \* This is the man who was the first to recognize Jesus for who He was; John described Him, both as the lamb of God and the Son of God. (John 1:29–34)
- \* This is the same man who selflessly released his disciples to follow Jesus because He was the Messiah (John 3:22–30).

So, think about this. John knew he was ordained by God to be the forerunner of the Messiah. He was in the water, standing right by Jesus when he saw the Holy Spirit literally descended upon Jesus like a dove. He heard the voice of the Father declare Jesus to be His Son. He was so sure that Jesus was the Messiah that he publicly declared Him to be the Lamb of God and the Son of God. He was so certain that Jesus was the Messiah that he rejoiced when his disciples left him to follow Jesus. And yet, he sends two of his disciples to ask Jesus, are you the one who is to come or shall we look for another?

After all he experienced, what caused John to question if Jesus was the Messiah?

The answer seems to lie within the way in which John described the role of the Messiah (Matthew 3:11–12).

John thought the Messiah would come to judge the world. John, as with all Jews, was looking for a Messiah who would overthrow the Romans and bring them freedom. Jesus was not meeting John’s expectations. John was right in that the Messiah would usher in the Holy Spirit; that happened on the Day of Pentecost. But all the rest of John’s language is describing the Messiah when He comes to judge the world in the end times.

Jesus stated His mission this way:

John 12:47 “..for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.”

### REFLECTION:

Declare to the Lord that you believe and have come to know that He is the Holy One of God.

Affirm to the Lord that you are looking only to Jesus for your hope of eternal life.

Trust in Him even when you don’t understand what He is doing in your life.