



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Are You the Expected One?

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In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Capernaum and the Galilee region became Jesus' unofficial ministry headquarters. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly shared the Kingdom of God. On this occasion, John sends two of his disciples to ask if Jesus is the Expected One.

“The disciples of John reported to him about all these things. Summoning two of his disciples, John sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?”(Luke 7:18-19 NASB)

Who was John the Baptist? John the Baptist was the first child and son of elderly parents, Zacharias and Elizabeth. John was chosen by God to turn many of the people of Israel back to God and would go as a forerunner the Messiah. (Luke 1:5-18) Malachi referred to John in the OT, *“Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me.” (Mal 3:1)* and also by Isaiah, *“A voice is calling, “Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.”(Is 40:1)* John was that voice in the wilderness and cleared a way for the Messiah, the Expected or Coming One. John was not just any prophet he was the prophet that would herald the Messiah. John's voice or message made him a target for the existing religious leaders and rulers of that day. John was arrested and put in prison. However, he still had contact with his disciples or followers.

His disciples shared all of the miracles, healings and things that Jesus had done. John sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus the question, *“Are you the Expected (Lit. - Coming) One, or do we look for someone else?”*

Why did John ask the question? John, as a relative, had already met and subsequently baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. Additionally, John was a witness to the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus like a dove and heard the voice of God say about Jesus, *“You are My beloved Son, in you I am well-pleased.”(Lk 3:21-22)* John had heard about Jesus mercy and grace through the healings of the blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf and raising the dead. John, in prison, possibly had a different perception of what the Messiah would or should be doing. Doubt could have entered John's mind. Luke records earlier in his gospel that the Messiah will, according to John, *“He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. “His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” (Lk 3:16b-17)* John may have been looking for the Messiah to have aggressively over turned the government and religious leaders and freed the loyal followers.

While Jesus did and does set His people free, He does it in His timeline and His way. Many saw the loving, kind and merciful actions of Jesus as a sign of weakness and not as a King, Messiah or Expected One and may have had doubts.

For Your Consideration:

- Who is Jesus to you? Do you know Him as the Expected One and Messiah?
- Are you expecting God to be on your timeline or are you attempting to be on God's timeline?
- What expectations do you have about Jesus?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44