



7th December 2014

Danny Hunt

Through the eyes of John the Baptist

Matthew 3: 1-11

Danny's first point was that John's message was *"There is more to come..."* but that central point of John's was delivered within the context of John's personality. What kind of a man do you perceive John to be? Fiery? Outspoken? Aggressive? Critical? An appropriate appointment to be the herald of Jesus coming?

Read Matthew 11: 1.19 Why was John questioning (from prison, where he ultimately lost his life) whether Jesus was indeed the one when in Chapter 3 he had been so certain?

And, why did Jesus respond the way he did about John? (No-one greater than John the Baptist yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he?) Isn't that a mixed message?

Do we see ourselves, with a very different modus operandi to John, as having a similar role ... simply to announce the Saviour's coming? Is there a role for all personality-types to do this?

Danny's second point was to do with *"Fire."* *"I baptise with water for repentance. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire!"*

What does this mean ... within your experience? What is the relevance of "Fire" within your experience? Is God a Consuming Fire in your experience?

Was John simply speaking within his own personality when he said "His winnowing fork is in his hand and he will clear the threshing floor ..."

Because he, from prison, heard of Jesus' message of Peace, of Rest, of Comfort etc ... is this why he questioned Jesus' authenticity IN Ch 11?

In light of all this, how do you see John the Baptist as being an agency through whom we can see Jesus, close-up, in our lives today?