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 That You May Believe
 - Studies in John's Gospel
Part 8
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 – "It's a Matter of Credentials"
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 John 3:22-36
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 – Sunday August 2, 2020
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22 After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He was spending time with them and baptizing.

23 John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there; and people were coming and were being baptized—
24 for John had not yet been thrown into prison.

25 Therefore there arose a discussion on the part of John's disciples with a Jew about purification.

26 And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified, behold, He is baptizing and all are coming to Him." *(cf. Jn. 4:2)*

27 John answered and said, "A man *is not able to* receive *one thing* unless it has been given him from heaven.

28 "You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent ahead of Him.'

29 "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full.

30 "It is necessary for that One to continue to increase, but for me to continue to decrease.

31 "He who comes from above is *considerably superior to* all *(men and their domain)*, he who is of the earth is from the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is *considerably superior to* all.

32 "What He has seen and heard, of that He *is witnessing*; and no one *is receiving* His testimony.

33 "He who *has received* His testimony has set his seal to this, that God is true.

34 "For He whom God has sent speaks the *spoken* words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure.

35 "The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand.

36 "*The one believing* in the Son has eternal *(ageless)* life; but *the one unpersuaded by (& therefore obstinate toward)* the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God *remains* on him."

It is necessary . . .

Credentials:

- He who has received/believed
- He who is unpersuaded