

## John 1:35-51 **At John's Introduction – First Disciples Follow Jesus**

<sup>35</sup> Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup> And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!"

<sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).

<sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

<sup>43</sup> The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote-- Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

<sup>46</sup> And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✚ John was baptizing at Bethabara, the ford of the Jordan River in the territory of Judea near Jericho. [John 1:28]
- ✚ Jesus had come from Nazareth of Galilee to John to be baptized in the Jordan River. [Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22]
- ✚ After Jesus was baptized He went immediately to the wilderness where He was tempted after fasting 40 days. [Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13]
- ✚ Apparently, from the text in John, Jesus returned to the area where John was baptizing and lingered a few days, so He could be identified by John as He walked by and was among the crowd. [John 1:26, 29, 35-51]
  - ✧ John first said, "**There is One among you Whom you do not know.**" [John 1:26-27]
  - ✧ John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "**Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world!** John then gave his testimony of the convincing evidence, and declared emphatically, "**This is the Son of God.**" [John 1:29-34]
  - ✧ John was looking at Jesus as He walked, and said, "**Behold the Lamb of God!**" [John 1:35-36]
- ✚ Two disciples of John heard John speak and followed Jesus, staying with Him the remainder of the day from the tenth hour. [John 1:37-39]

- ✧ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. [John 1:40]
- ✧ The other, because he is not named was most likely John the writer of the book of John, because John never names himself in his account of the Gospel.
- ✧ John and Andrew started out as disciples of John the Baptist.
- ✧ They called Jesus, "Rabbi" which is translated, "Teacher." [John 1:38]
  
- ✧ Andrew found his brother Simon ( whom is known in Scripture as Simon Peter) and brought him to Jesus saying, "We have found the Messiah," (Messiah is translated Christ). [John 1:40-41]
- ✧ Jesus demonstrated His omniscience as He expressed knowledge of the identity of Simon, son of Jonah, and Jesus at this time gave him the name Cephas (translated, A Stone). [John 1:42]
- ✧ Simon Peter is called Cephas six times in Scripture. [John 1:42, 1 Corinthians 1:12, 3:22, 9:5, 15:5, Galatians 2:9]
- ✧ The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." [John 1:43]
- ✧ Peter, Andrew, and Philip were from the town of Bethsaida, which was the eastern most of the three cities north of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus did most of His ministry. [John 1:44, Matthew 11:20-24, Luke 10:13-15]
- ✧ The three cities of Galilee were Capernaum, Chorazin (Korazim), and Bethsaida.
- ✧ Peter moved from Bethsaida to Capernaum where he had a house in which Jesus abode when He was in Capernaum. [Matthew 4:12-16, 8:5-17, 17:24-27, Mark 1:21-34, 2:1, 9:33, Luke 4:31-41]
  
- ✧ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." [John 1:45]
  - ✧ The reference of "**Him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets, wrote**, is a reference to the prophet of Whom Moses had said, "The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear. [Deuteronomy 18:15]
  - ✧ Yehowah had said to Moses, "I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him." [Deuteronomy 18:18-19]
- ✧ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." [John 1:46]
- ✧ Jesus again demonstrated His omniscience:
  - ✧ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" [John 1:47] Jesus not only knew who Nathanael was but also knew his character to be free of deceit.
  - ✧ Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" [John 1:48]
  - ✧ Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." [John 1:48]
  - ✧ That was enough evidence to convince Nathaniel that Jesus is indeed the Messiah, "Rabbi, You are the **Son of God!** You are the **King of Israel!**" [John 1:49]
  - ✧ Jesus promised Nathaniel that he would see much greater evidence than just the statement that Jesus had seen him under the fig tree before Philip called him. [John 1:50-51]

✧ You will see greater things than these. Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man. [\[John 1:51\]](#)