

Intro - bigfoot, lochness, megladon, the holocaust, the moon landing, the moon. seeing is not necessarily believing - i would believe Him if i saw Him - remember the Israel - rom 1:18-32

Text:x

That all might believe

John 1:6 ¶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

John 1:7 He came as **a witness**, to bear **witness** about the **light**, that all might believe through him.

John 1:8 He was not the **light**, but came to bear **witness** about the **light**.

a man sent from God - contrast with 1:1-5 - the preexistence of the Word

As a witness - to point to the light - 1:7, 15, 32-34, 36, 40;

not John the baptist but John the witness - the Word had come into the world

this gospel is a witness- 19:35; 20:26-31 -that all might believe - seeing is not believing

The world who rejected and murdered their Christ are not without a witness. Before His ministry they had John the Baptist; after His ministry they have the apostolic witness.

Seeing is not believing

John 1:9 ¶ **The true light**, which gives **light** to everyone, was **coming into the world**.

John 1:10 He was **in the world**, and the **world** was made through him, yet the **world** did not know him. (relationally)

John 1:11 He **came to his own**, and his **own** people **did not receive** (**aorist**- the historical rejection of Israel in view) him.

(9) light to everyone - Jn 3:19-21

(10) the world did not know Him -(Eph 2:1-3;)

(11) came to His own - (Matt 10:5) - they rejected Him - Jn 6:29-30; 12:35-43

Believing

John 1:12 But to **all who did receive** (**aorist**) him, **who believed** (the ones believing - present participle) in his name, he gave (**aorist**) the right (empowered) to become children of God, (**He gave to the ones believing in His name** - describes the aorist receive with present tense participle)

John 1:13 who **were born** (**aorist**), not of blood (lineage) nor of **the will** of the flesh (natural descent) nor of **the will** of man (human decision), but **of God**.

but - John 1:4-5 - darkness has not overcome

born of God - Jn 3:1-8; (Eph 2:8-10)

the ones believing were born not of natural descent or of human decision but of God -

Jn 9:1-7, 24-25, 35-41; 11:38-44 (blind have in common with the dead- inability)

receiving Him is not a process -aorist

Him giving us the right/empowerment- is not a process -aorist

being born again is not a process - aorist -

Believing is seeing - main idea

Is Seeing (Jn 11:40)

John 1:14 ¶ **And the Word** (plato forms) **became flesh and dwelt** (tabernacled- aorist) **among us**, and **we** (the ones believing- born again of God not man) **have seen** (**aorist**) his glory, glory as of the **only Son** from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:15 (**John bore witness** (historical present- bearing witness about him) about him, and cried out (**has cried out**), "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me (**Jn 1:1**), because he was before me.'" - **John's witness still cries out**

John 1:16 For from his fullness **we** (the ones believing- born again of God not man) have **all received** (**aorist**), grace upon grace.

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came (**aorist**) through Jesus Christ.

John 1:18 **No one has ever seen God** (plato - true essence); the **only God**, who is at the Father's side, **he has made him known**. (**aorist**- incarnation event punctiliar)

(17-18) made known - exegeted perfectly - the glory of God

do you see Him - believing is seeing - Jn 14:1-11

do you show Him -Jjn 17:20-26; 1 John 4:8-12; 2 Cor 3:16-4:10

- Jesus made the invisible God visible- we make the invisible Christ visible

Main Idea: Believing is seeing

implication:

Jesus made the invisible God visible - Jn 14:1-11

Application: do you see Him?

Only Son, Only God - Christianity can never be syncretistic - it can never be
Jesus and Mohamed, Jesus and buddha, Jesus and Joseph smith, Jesus and
John the baptist

We make the invisible Christ visible - Jn 17:20-26; 1 Jn 8-12; 2 Cor 3:16-4:10

Application: do you show Him?

do you see Him?

<http://www.bethinking.org/can-we-know-anything/is-seeing-believing>

Jesus made the invisible God visible

<http://www.gty.org/resources/sermons/1201/the-image-of-the-invisible-god>

we make the invisible Christ visible

<http://www.jesus.org/following-jesus/evangelism-and-missions/how-can-we-be-the-light-of-the-world.html>

yet here is a word of caution regarding overextending the incarnation aspect of our mission

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2012/july-august/the-problem-with-incarnational-ministry.html>