

The Best Man

John 3:22 – 4:2

by Don Falkos

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Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside and the disciples began to baptize those who placed their trust in Jesus. At the same time, in a different place, John the Baptist continued to baptize.

John's disciples said to him, "Teacher, you know that man you were with on the other side of the Jordan, the one you talked about? He's baptizing now, and everyone's going to him instead of coming to you."

John replied, "Each of us has our own God-given task. Remember, I told you, I am not the Messiah. The task God has given me is to prepare the way for the Messiah, to point him out to the people of Israel. The bridegroom gets the bride; but his friend serves as the Best Man; he stands nearby and is overjoyed to hear the bridegroom take his vows. So you see my joy is fulfilled by his success. From now on, he will become more important, while I become less important.

"We are mere earthlings. But he has come from heaven above to tell the world what he has actually seen and heard. He speaks God's words. Few believe what he has to say, but those who accept him acknowledge that God is trustworthy. God has given him the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has put everything in his hands. Those who believe in God's Son have eternal life. But those who don't trust the Son will never experience eternal life; they will remain subject to the consequences of their own disobedience."