



Scandal

When the Best and
the Worst Collide



¹⁹ This was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders sent priests and Temple assistants from Jerusalem to ask John, "Who are you?"

²⁰ He came right out and said, "I am not the Messiah."

²¹ "Well then, who are you?" they asked. "Are you Elijah?" "No," he replied. "Are you the Prophet we are expecting?" "No."

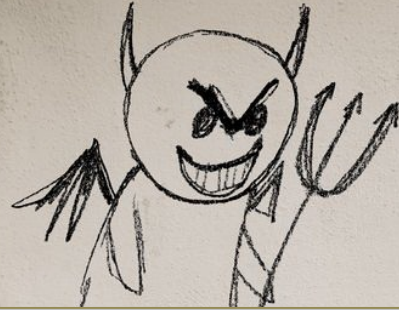
²² "Then who are you? We need an answer for those who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?"

²³ John replied in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Clear the way for the LORD's coming!'"

John 1:19-28 NLT



- ²⁴ Then the Pharisees who had been sent
- ²⁵ asked him, "If you aren't the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, what right do you have to baptize?"
- ²⁶ John told them, "I baptize with water, but right here in the crowd is someone you do not recognize.
- ²⁷ Though his ministry follows mine, I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandal."
- ²⁸ This encounter took place in Bethany, an area east of the Jordan River, where John was baptizing.



Expectations – Where They Can Lead Us



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1. They set up a false reality



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2. Makes us more judgmental and less adventurous



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3. Destroys relationships and kills trust



Expectations – Where They Can Lead Us

1. They set up a false reality
2. Makes us more judgmental and less adventurous
3. Destroys relationships and kills trust
4. Blinds us to God's work