

of honor for him in days to come, for what he did in his accomplishment of getting Christian witness to students all over England and also for the way in which he was ready to take a second place to avoid seeking prestige or prominence or glory for himself, but to seek only the advance of the work of His Master.

John the Baptist gave us a most wonderful example in this regard. We find in John 3:30 where John the Baptist speaking of Jesus Christ made the statement: Start with vs. 26: The people came to John and they said, Rabbi, He that was with thee beyond Jordan to ~~whom~~ whom thou barest witness behold the same baptiseth and all men ~~whom~~ whom come to him. John answered and said, A man can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven. Ye yourselves bear me witness that I said, I am not the Christ but I am sent before Him. He that hath the bride is the ~~bridegroom~~ bridegroom but the friend of the bridegroom which standeth and heareth him rejoiceth greatly. Vs. 30: He must increase, but I must decrease." John was happy to honor his Lord, to ~~glorify~~ glorify His Lord, to decrease that Christ might increase.

~~My~~ May God enable us each one to step out, not to be timid in taking hold of opportunities in witnessing for Christ, in doing what He wants us to do. May He give us -- avoiding Saul's early mistake also to avoid Saul's later mistake. May He enable us not to think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, but to make our life and our efforts count for Christ. May He enable us to say always, May Christ increase. May I decrease, but may He increase. And may my life cause people not to honor me, or to ~~glorify~~ glorify me, but to glorify Christ who gave His life that we might be saved. Let us pray:

Our Father, help us we pray not to make hasty ~~judgments~~ judgments about the meaning of your word. Help us not to take a vs. by itself. We have seen how verses seem to contradict each other. Help us to interpret the Word in the light of its entire context. Help us to see the truth as it is given and explained, not as one mere vs. or one group of a few words would present it. Our God help us to step out for God, to accomplish for Him. Not to underestimate our abilities. Protect us all from inferiority complexes. But also protect us from superiority complexes. Help us our Father to have the attitude of John that we may decrease but that Christ may increase and that the government may be upon His shoulder. We ask in Jesus' Name, Amen.