
John 1:50 Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that."

John 20:24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

John 1:51 He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

The Skeptic: Nathanael

Encounters with Jesus--part 1

February 9, 2014

■ Jesus, the "Explanation" or "Reason" ■

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Honestly Considering the Claims of Christ

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

John 1:43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee...

... Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

John 1:44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

John 1:46a "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

Intellectual Honesty

Dismissiveness is deadly.

Numbers 14:11 The LORD said to Moses, "How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?"

Personal Investigation

John 1:46b "Come and see," said Philip.

The Skeptic Finds Faith

John 1:47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false."

John 1:48 "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

John 1:48 Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

John 1:49 Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel."
