A Man Sent from God

Erwin Lutzer

I. Introduction.

- A. John the Baptist was sent to prepare people for Jesus. (John 1:6)
- B. Jesus called John the greatest man born of women.
- C. Characteristics of a man who is driven.
 - 1. He is grabbed only by accomplishment.
 - 2. He sees people as a means for success.
 - 3. He is filled with anger but seldom gives into it.
 - 4. He is manipulative.
- D. Text: John 3.
- II. John the Baptist was humble.
 - A. The greatest characteristic is humility.
 - B. A man is humble because he has surrendered.
 - C. We must give our career to God in order to find true peace and security.
 - D. John was not concerned about his waning popularity.
- III. John submitted his desires.
 - A. His primary responsibility was to bring attention to and please Christ.
 - B. Our purpose too is to magnify Christ—this is where true joy can be found.
- IV. John surrendered his reputation.
 - A. He was okay with the decline in his popularity for the increase in Christ's.
 - B. The giving up of one's reputation is the most difficult thing that a person may do.
- V. How John became a humble person.
 - A. His background.
 - B. The Word of the Lord came to him in the desert.

- 1. We learn to listen to God in the deserts of our experience.
- 2. We must not be overcome with busyness. (Matthew 11:11)

Application questions:

1. How does John contrast with the driven person?	
2. Which area of John's submission stands out to you? What strikes you?	
3. How can you increase your sensitivity to God's voice? Explain.	