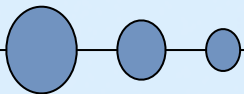


Churches of Christ - Middle East Region (Gulf & North Africa)

Total End 2023: 795 Disciples





He Must Increase

John 3: 22 - 4:3

Moufid & Jessy Tohme





Baptism of Repentance

After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized. Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized. (This was before John was put in prison.)

John 3: 22-24

**Jesus message was the same
as John the Baptist's**

Middle East Video



2024 Some Good News

Lebanon – Deep Roots More than 70 men & Women



South Soudan – Aweel Church





MIDDLE EAST REGION

Disciples of Christ - Middle East Region (Gulf & North Africa)

Total End 2023: 795 Disciples

**Please keep us in your
prayers.**

19 Churches
24 Countries
16 with Churches
8 without Churches

Jesus Approved John's Work & Mission

John the Baptist

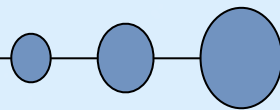
and saying, "Repent,
for the kingdom of
heaven has come
near."

Matthew 3: 2

Jesus

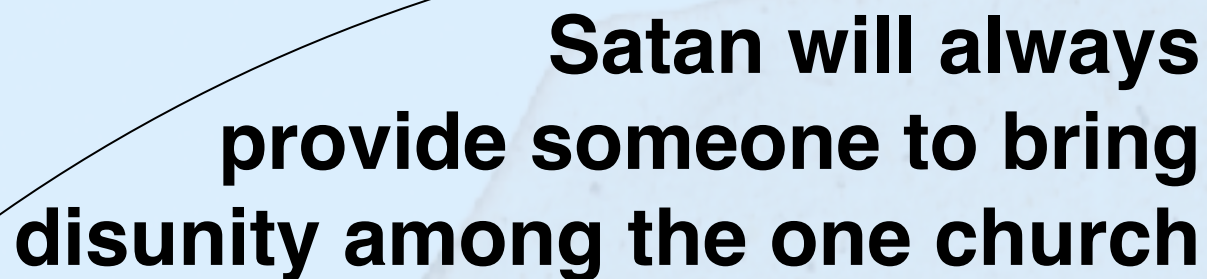
From that time on
Jesus began to
preach, "Repent, for
the kingdom of
heaven has come near."

Matthew 4: 17



Then there arose a dispute between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified-- behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!"

John 3: 25-26



**Satan will always
provide someone to bring
disunity among the one church**

John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease.

John 3: 27-30

**It didn't bother
John at All!!**

4 Things John Understood

01 It is all from God

02 Knew Himself

03 He must Increase & I Must Decrease

04 He is the Best Man

01

**It is all from
God**

Everything is
given to us
from God

We should
receive what
God gives
JOYFULLY!

**To this John
replied, “A
person can
receive only
what is
given them
from
heaven.
John 3: 27**

We should be
grateful that
someone wants to
Hear us!

No one owes us
anything!
We should
lower our
expectations

02 He knew who he was and who he wasn't

**You yourselves
can testify that I
said, 'I am not
the Messiah but
am sent ahead
of him
John 3: 28**

I know what I Am &
what Am Not

You can serve God Anywhere &
Anytime. Not only as a
preacher or a leader

This doesn't mean I am
Nothing

The most helpful thing to know
when we serve God is:
What we are NOT called to do!

**Know
your
Role**

John the Baptist

- I am John the Baptist I am not the lamb of God
- I am the voice of God but I am not the word of God
- I am the best Man but I am not the groom
- I am chosen by God but I am not God !

**That's why I must decrease
and Jesus must increase !**

Jesus

- Jesus knew who he is
- I am the bread of life
- I am the light of the world
- I am the good shepherd
- I am the resurrection
- I am the way
- I am the truth
- I am the life
- I am the true vine!

That's why I must decrease and John increase!
This is humility that brought unity !

- Statistics made in the US, in 2020, show that in the last 20 years, 50% of the believers who attend churches lost their faith, thus more than 20 Million Christians stopped attending churches.
- Life with God is getting harder by the year and the only thing you can control is how to prepare yourself for what is coming

03

**He must increase, but I must decrease
John 3: 30**



Every Christian Leader should have this Attitude!

- Our attitude towards other churches
- The church doesn't belong to the Leaders

Focus on Jesus and He will take care of your
Inheritance and Legacy

04

You are not the Focus of Attention You are just the Best Man



The Church, Jesus' Bride

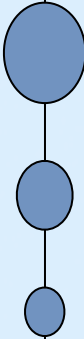
Just as a Best Man is Happy
when he sees the Groom
He was happy witnessing the
start of Jesus' Ministry

**The bride belongs to the
bridegroom. The friend who
attends the bridegroom waits
and listens for him, and is full
of joy when he hears the
bridegroom's voice. That joy is
mine, and it is now complete.
John 3: 29**

**The one who comes from
above is above all; the one who
is from the earth belongs to the
earth, and speaks as one from
the earth. The one who comes
from heaven is above all.**

John 3: 31

Jesus Came from
Above
But I am from earth



**We declare God by accepting
the testimony of Jesus**

**He testifies about what he
has seen and heard, yet no
one receives his
testimony. The one who
has received his testimony
has certified that God is
true.**

John 3: 32-33



The Holy Spirit without Measure!!

In fact, the one whom God has sent speaks God's words, for God gives the *Spirit without measure*. The Father loves the Son and has put everything in his hands. The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who rejects the Son will not see life; instead, God's wrath remains on him.

John 3: 34-36

Put the Focus on
Jesus
Take away from me!

Believe in Jesus & you will
have an Everlasting Life

This is my Wish, Aim.

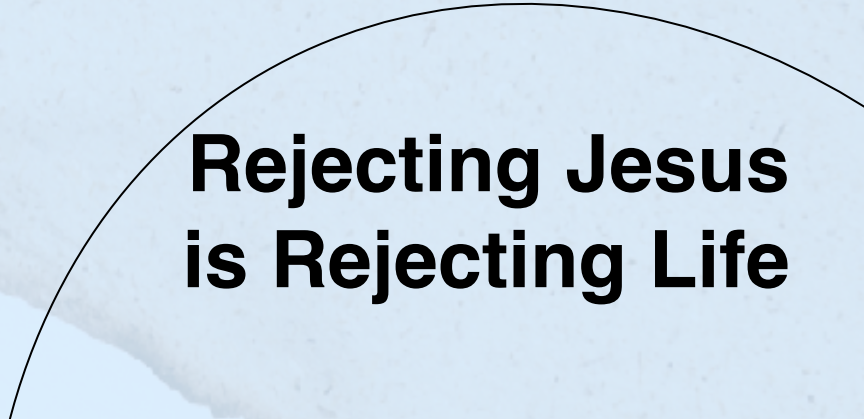




There is a heavy price to Pay

**Whoever believes in the Son has
eternal life, but whoever rejects the
Son will not see life, for God's wrath
remains on them.**

John 3: 36

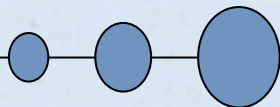


**Rejecting Jesus
is Rejecting Life**

Remember satan is the father of lies

**Jesus found out that the Pharisees
had heard he was making and
baptizing more disciples than John,
though it was not Jesus himself who
was baptizing but his disciples. So he
left Judea and went back again to
Galilee.**

John 4: 1-3



The Musts of Chapter 3

1. The Sinners Must:

You must be Born Again – Vs. 7

2. The Savior's Must:

so the Son of Man must be lifted up – Vs.
14

3. The Sovereign's Must:

He Must Increase – Vs. 30

4. The Servant's Must:

I Must Decrease – Vs. 30

