

# John 1:6-11. the Witness.

by Favell Lee Mortimer

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of being a witness to others and receiving Jesus into our hearts, highlighting the significance of Jesus as the only light and Savior.*

**Topics:** "Faithful Witness", "Jesus Savior"

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## Description

Favell Lee Mortimer preaches about John the Baptist's role as a faithful witness to Jesus, emphasizing the importance of believing in Christ through the testimony of ministers and other Christians. Jesus is the only light and Savior for all, yet many remain in darkness by not recognizing Him. Mortimer highlights the heartbreaking reality that Jesus was not recognized by His own people, urging listeners not to reject the loving Savior who longs to bring them happiness and salvation.

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## Transcript

Before the Lord Jesus came into the world, God sent a man called John to be a witness to him. He is called the Baptist, and was not the same John who wrote the history we are now reading.

John the Baptist was a faithful preacher, a burning and a shining light, but he was not that light; he was not the Son of God.

He was only a man; but he loved the Son of God, and he desired that all men through him, that is, "through his preaching," might believe in Jesus. It is the desire of every faithful minister, that through him men should believe in Christ. God does make men the instruments of turning the hearts of their fellow-creatures to God. Many of the children of Israel did John turn to the Lord their God. It is not ministers only who turn the hearts of sinners; but other Christians also. There is an account of a poor gipsy woman who, by her conversation, converted no less than twelve people. What an honor it would be to us if God should cause any one to believe in Jesus through us--through what we said or did! May our light so shine before men, that they, seeing our good works, may glorify our Father who is in heaven!

In the ninth verse it is said that Jesus lights every man that comes into the world. This means that Jesus is the only light--just as there is only one sun in the sky to give us light--so there is only one Savior to save us. But Jesus does not light those who never heard of him. The heathen sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Neither does he enlighten all who have heard of him. He shines around us--but if we are blind, he does not give light even to us.

How striking it is to read that his own world did not know him when he appeared, that his own nation the Jews, his brethren according to the flesh, did not receive him! "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." As if a mother were to appear among her children, and they should deny that she was their mother. How many people are there now who are not ashamed to say, "I do not pretend to be religious," which means, "I do not pretend to love God," as if they had nothing to do with God, as if he had not made them, and did not feed them, and watch over them continually. What would we think of a child who would say of an affectionate parent, "I do not pretend to care for him?" What would a parent feel, who heard a child speak thus? There is no parent who feels so tender an interest in his children, as Christ felt for his people the Jews. Remember the tears he shed over Jerusalem, when he uttered those touching words, "How often would I have gathered your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you would not!"

Are there any here who now refuse to receive the loving Savior into their hearts? Let me entreat you no longer to grieve him by treating him thus. You are the work of his hands. He longs to make you happy. Open your hearts to him, and receive him as your Lord.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/favell-lee-mortimer/john-16-11-the-witness/>

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