

Pastor Ron Case
10/20/24

“Steve Alton”

“He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.” (John 5:35)

The Kingdom Man

Matthew 3:1-3 – ¹ “In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ ³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’”

The Self-effacing Man

John 3:26-30 – ²⁶ “And they came to John and said to him, ‘Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him.’ ²⁷ John answered, ‘A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease.’”

The “Bound up” Man

Matthew 14:3 – “For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife,”

Mark 6:20 – “...Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.”

Matthew 14:12-13 – ¹² “And his disciples came and took the body and buried it, and they went and told Jesus ¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.”

The Blessed Man

Revelation 14:13 – “And I heard a voice from heaven saying, ‘Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’ ‘Blessed indeed,’ says the Spirit, ‘that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!’”

Matthew 25:21 – “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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