

# John 1:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?

## Analysis

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The delegation demands John define himself, seeking to categorize him within their theological framework. This question ('What sayest thou of thyself?') invites self-testimony, but John will respond by pointing to his mission rather than his person. True Reformed ministry focuses on office and calling, not personal glory.

## Historical Context

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Religious authorities in Jerusalem held responsibility for investigating prophetic claims and potential false teachers. Their demand for an answer reflects administrative accountability in Second Temple Judaism.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. When asked about our identity, do we point to our roles in God's plan or to our personal achievements?
2. How does our self-understanding align with or differ from how God defines our calling?

## Interlinear Text

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εἶπον οὖν αὐτῷ τί εἰ ἵνα ἀπόκρισιν δῶμεν  
said they Then unto him What art thou that an answer we may give  
G2036 G3767 G846 G5101 G1488 G2443 G612 G1325

τοῖς πέμψασιν ἡμᾶς· τί λέγεις περὶ σεαυτοῦ  
G3588 to them that sent us What sayest thou of thyself  
G3992 G2248 G5101 G3004 G4012 G4572

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