



GOSPEL OF JOHN

INTRODUCTION

SUNDAY EVENING • 7 OCTOBER 2007

INTRODUCTION

Author: JOHN

1. Nicknamed “Son of Thunder” by Jesus. This speaks of his zeal and impulsive temperament. (Mk. 3:17, Jn. 9:52-54)
2. Son of Zebedee, a fisherman of Galilee, and Salome, probably the sister of Jesus’ mother Mary making Jesus and John cousins. (Mk. 1:19-20, Mt. 27:56, Mk. 15:40, Jn19:25)
3. Also called the “Beloved Disciple” or “the one Jesus loved.” Jesus and John had a very close relationship. John was probably closer to Jesus than anyone else.
4. Among the Galileans who followed John the Baptist until they were called to follow Jesus. (Jn. 1:19-51)
5. Tradition says he later went to Ephesus.
6. Exiled by the Romans for a time to the island of Patmos.

Date: c. 60-90

Key Word: SON of GOD

Key Events: UPPER ROOM Discourse, Appearance to disciples at Sea of Tiberius

Key People: Jesus, John the Baptist, Nichodemus, Samaritan woman, Lazarus

Features: John shows Jesus to be the Son of God through seven signs and seven “I Am” statements of Jesus.

Jesus’ Seven “Signs” in the Gospel of John

1. Changing water into wine in Cana (2:1-11)
2. Healing an official’s son in Capernaum (4:46-54)
3. Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem (5:1-18)
4. Feeding the 5,000 near the Sea of Galilee (6:5-14)
5. Walking of the water of the Sea of Galilee (6:16-21)
6. Healing a blind man in Jerusalem (9:1-7)
7. Raising dead Lazarus in Bethany (11:1-45)

Jesus’ Seven “I Am’s” in the Gospel of John

1. “I am the Bread of Life” (6:35)
2. “I am the Light of the world” (8:12)
3. “I am the Gate for the sheep” (10:7; cf. v. 9)
4. “I am the Good Shepherd” (10:11,14)
5. “I am the Resurrection and the Life” (11:25)
6. “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life” (14:6)
7. “I am the true Vine” (15:1 cf. v. 5)

John draws mainly upon events and discourses not found in the other gospels to prove to his readers that Jesus is God in the **FLESH** the eternal Word come to earth, born to die as God’s sacrifice for human sin. Seven miraculous signs prove that “Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name” (20:31).

Just as a coin has two sides, both valid, so Jesus Christ has two natures, both valid. Luke presents Christ in His humanity as the Son of Man; John portrays Him in His deity as the Son of God. John’s gospel is topical, not primarily chronological, and it revolves around the seven miraculous signs and seven “I am” statements of Christ. - Talk Thru the Bible

Key Words: Father 121x
 Believe 98x
 World 79x
 Jews 71x
 Know
 oida 61x “to know intellectually, to comprehend”
 ginosko 56x “to know experientially, to understand first hand”
 Truth 66x
 Light 24x
 Love 57x
 Life 50x
 Abide 41x

Purpose: “These are written that you may **BELIEVE** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have **LIFE** in his name.” Jn. 20:31

Theme: **BELIEVE** in the **LIGHT** from God and you will experience **LIFE** from God.

God has revealed Himself and truth about real life and relationship with Him through the living Word, Jesus Christ. **LIFE** can only be found by believing in Him and abiding in Him. This life will produce supernatural **LOVE**.

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| | Appearances | 20:11 20:26 | |
| | Resurrection | 20:1 PROOF 21:25 | 2 1 2 1 |
| | Burial | 19:38 19:42 | |
| | Crucifixion | 1 1 1 3 | |
| | Rejection | 13:1 PASSION 19:42 14:13 16:43 | |
| | Upper Room Discourse | 1 2 1 3 | |
| | Last Supper | PRIVATE MINISTRY:26 13:1 14:20 | |
| | Public Ministry | 2 1 1 5 | |
| | Presentation | 1:19 1:58 | |
| | Prologue | 1:1 PUBLIC MINISTRY 12:50 1 1 1 1 | |
| | OUTLINE | | |
| | MAJOR SECTIONS | | |