

(late 80's)

## New Testament Survey

### JOHN

(Allegory)

**Author:** John, the Apostle

The author must be a Palestinian Jew who was an eye witness of the events recorded. John 21:24 & 21:20 demand that he is one of the Twelve. A careful study of the other disciples eliminate them as the writer and so leave John as the "one whom Jesus loved." Eusebius, Origen, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Ireneus (who was the disciple of Polycarp, a disciple of John) and Papias, who was a direct disciple of John, all agree that the apostle John wrote the Gospel account given his name.

John & his brother James, were sons of Zebedee and Salome (Mark 1:19; 16:1 cf. Mt. 27:56). Zebedee seems to have been a prosperous fisherman in Galilee (either Bethsaida or Capernaum). Salome is the sister of Mary, Jesus' mother, so John and James are cousins of Jesus. John had been a disciple of John the baptist, and then followed Jesus and became one of Jesus' inner circle (Peter, James & John) present at the Transfiguration and the Garden of Gethsemane. He may have been present at Jesus' trial (John 18:15) and was present at the crucifixion where Jesus entrusted the care of His mother to him (John 19:26,27).

John is in Jerusalem for many years as one of the "pillars of the church" (Gal. 2:9; Acts 15:6). He left Jerusalem before the Jewish War and possibly as early as A.D. 59. There is indication that he was in Asia Minor by at least A.D. 69 where he was instrumental in the conversion and discipleship of Polycarp. John lived in Ephesus for several years, and then sometime during the reign of Domitia (A.D. 81-96) he was banished to the island of Patmos, about 75 miles southwest of Ephesus. He received and wrote Revelation during that period. He returned to Ephesus during the reign of Nerva (A.D. 96-98) and died in Ephesus at the beginning of Trajan's reign (c. A.D. 98). His close relationship to the Ephesian church is seen in his three Epistles, especially 2 & 3 John which were written to individuals Ephesus.

**Date:** Tradition holds that John wrote his gospel from Ephesus, which would place the writing either before or after his exile to Patmos. This would mean that it could be as early as A.D. 80 and as late as A.D. 98.

**Theme:** Jesus as the Son of God. Written to all men that *"you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."* (John 20:31).

**Misc.** John's purpose is stated directly in John 20:31 (above). The focus is on the person of Jesus Christ Himself with special emphasis on His deity.

In writing his gospel account he also supplements the synoptic accounts with more detail, especially about Jesus' early ministry and the events just prior to the crucifixion. He also corrects the gnostic error of Cerinthus that denied the deity of Jesus.

John is much more exact than the Synoptics indicating the timing and place of events. This has allowed us to determine the length of Christ's ministry.

The teaching of Christ dominates the Gospel of John, but the teaching is not given in parables, but rather it is in elaborate discourses which was Jesus' method in His early ministry and the appropriate form when privately teaching His disciples.

## **Brief Outline**

- I. That You May Believe. (1-12)
  - A. Incarnation of the Son of God. 1:1-1:18
  - B. Presentation of the Son of God. 1:19-ch 4
  - C. Opposition to the Son of God. 5-12
- II. That You May Have Life. (13-21)
  - A. Preparation of the Son of God's Disciples. 13-17
  - B. Crucifixion & Resurrection of the Son of God. 18-21

**People to Know:** Jesus, John the Baptist, Peter, James, John, Andrew, Nathanael, Judas, Thomas, Mary, Martha, Lazarus, Scribes, Pharisees, Caiaphas, Annas, Pilate.

## **Key Chapters & Verses:** (Bold required for Elders)

- 1:1-5.** "In the beginning was the Word" -Eternal Pre-existence & equality of the Word with God.
- 1:12-13** believing & receiving the Word, becoming children of God by the will of God
- 1:14.** The Word became flesh and revealed God
- 2** . . . . Wedding in Cana (first miracle/sign); First cleansing of the temple.
- 3:1-21.** Nicodemus comes to Jesus - you must be born again - God's love for the world
- 4:21-24** The woman at the well - the nature of true worship (in spirit & in truth)
- 5:18-47** Jesus' equality with God: the witness of John, His works, the Father, the Scriptures
- 6:1-25** Feeding the 5,000; Jesus walks on water
- 6:35-37** "All that the Father gives Me shall come..." - Irresistable grace; "the one who comes" - human responsibility.
- 8:12.** Jesus is the light of the world
- 8:31-32** Abiding in Jesus' word makes you a true disciple who knows the truth & is made free
- 10.** . . . Good Shepherd: Debate on His deity
- 10:30.** "I and the Father are One" Deity of Christ. (Neuter pronoun - ἓν / HEN - asserts unity of nature or essence. Jews understood and sought to stone Him for blasphemy).
- 11** The death and resurrection of Lazarus
- 11:25-26** Jesus is the resurrection
- 13.** . . . Last Supper/Foot-washing; Judas' betrayal; Peter's denial predicted.
- 13:34-35** The new commandment to love one another as Jesus loves and prove to be his disciples
- 14-16.** The Olivet Discourse
- 14:1-4.** Jesus' promise to prepare a place in heaven and return to take us to be with Him.
- 14:6.** Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. The Father can only be reached through Him.
- 14:17.** "The Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive..." An essential difference between believers and the world.
- 14:28.** Prophecy of His own resurrection. "Father is greater than I" refers to His position, not essence.
- 15.** . . . Relationships: God-Vine/Branches; Believers-"Love one another", World-"hates you."
- 16.** . . . Holy Spirit to come, Jesus death & resurrection foretold.
- 16:7-15** The ministry of the Holy Spirit
- 17.** . . . Jesus' High Priestly Prayer
- 18-19.** The betrayal and crucifixion of Jesus
- 20.** . . . Jesus' resurrection and proofs to the disciples

Detailed Outline of John  
(Modified from Wilkinson)

Part One: That You May Believe. [1-12]

I. Incarnation of the Son of God. 1:1-1:18

A. The Word in creation (1-5)

B. The Word in His incarnation (6-14)

C. The Word in revealing the Father (15-18)

II. Presentation of the Son of God. 1:19-4:54

A. The Presentation of Christ by John the Baptist 1:19-34

1. John's Witness about himself (19-28)

2. John's Witness about Jesus at His Baptism (29-34)

B. The Presentation of Christ to John's Disciples 1:35-51

1. Andrew and Peter Follow Jesus (35-42)

2. Philip and Nathanael Follow Jesus (43-51)

C. The Presentation of Christ in Galilee 2:1-12

1. Jesus' First Miracle: Turning the Water into Wine (1-10)

2. Jesus' Disciples Believe (11,12)

D. The Presentation of Christ in Judea 2:13-3:36

1. Jesus' First Cleansing of the Temple (2:13-25)

2. Jesus' Witness to Nicodemus (3:1-21)

3. John the Baptist's Witness about Jesus (3:22-36)

E. The Presentation of Christ in Samaria 4:1-42

1. Jesus' Witness to the Woman at the Well (1-26)

a. Jesus Goes to Jacob's Well (1-6)

b. Jesus Talks with the Samaritan Woman (7-26)

2. Jesus' Witness to the Disciples (27-38)

3. Jesus' Witness to the Samaritans (39-42)

F. The Presentation of Christ to the nobleman 4:43-54

III. Opposition to the Son of God. 5-12

A. Opposition at the Feast in Jerusalem 5:1-47

1. Healing at Bethesda (5:1-9)

2. Opposition Because Jesus Healed on the Sabbath (5:10-16)
3. Opposition Because Jesus Claimed Equality with the Father (5:17,18)
4. Jesus' Claim of Deity (5:19-47)
  - a. Equality with God in Power (19-21)
  - b. Equality with God in Authority (22-30)
  - c. The Witness of John the Baptist (31-35)
  - d. The Witness of Jesus' Works (36)
  - e. The Witness of the Father (37-38)
  - f. The Witness of the Scriptures (39-47)

B. Opposition in Galilee 6:1-71

1. Jesus' Feeds the Five Thousand (6:1-14)
2. Jesus' Withdraws from the People (6:15)
3. Jesus' Walks on Water (6:16-25)
4. Jesus Teaches the Multitude (6:26-40)
  - a. Jesus reveals their motives (26-29)
  - b. Their desire for a sign (30-34)
  - c. Jesus is the Bread of Life (35-40)
5. Jesus Teaches the Jews (6:41-59)
  - a. The Jews grumble (41-42)
  - b. Jesus is the Living Bread from Heaven (43-59)
6. Jesus Teaches His Disciples (6:60-71)
  - a. Many Disciples Withdraw from Jesus (60-66)
  - b. Peter Confesses Jesus is the Holy One from God (67-69)
  - c. Jesus warns that one of the twelve is a devil (70-71)

C. Opposition at the Feast of Tabernacles 7:1-10:21

1. Before the Feast (7:1-13)
  - a. Jesus Withdraws to Galilee because of Opposition (1-2)
  - b. Jesus Brothers Do not Believe Him (7:3-9)
2. The Beginning of the Feast (7:10-13)
  - a. Jesus Goes Privately instead of Publically (10)
  - b. The Multitudes Grumble Concerning Jesus (11-13)

3. The Middle of the Feast (7:14-36)
  - a. Jesus Goes to the Temple (14)
  - b. Jesus Teaches about His Relationship to the Father (7:14-36)
    - i. Jesus' teaching is from the Father (14-24)
    - ii. Jesus' origin is from the Father (25-31)
    - iii. Jesus will return to the Father (32-36)
4. The Last Day of the Feast (7:37-53)
  - a. Jesus Teaches about "Living Water" (37-39)
  - b. The people are confused about Jesus (40-44)
  - c. The Pharisees oppose Jesus (45-53)
5. After the Feast on the Mount of Olives (8:1-10:21)
  - a. The Woman Caught in Adultery (8:1-11)
  - b. Jesus Teaches the People (8:12-59)
    - i. Jesus is the Light of the World (12-20)
    - ii. Jesus foretells His crucifixion (21-30)
    - iii. Jesus teaches about discipleship, truth and freedom (31-47)
    - iv. Jesus is rejected by some "who had believed in Him" (48-59)
6. Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind (9:1-41)
  - a. The Miracle (1-12)
  - b. The First Inquiry by the Pharisees (13-23)
  - c. The Second Inquiry by the Pharisees (24-34)
    - i. The Pharisees' accusation (24)
    - ii. The blind man rebukes them (25-33)
    - iii. The Pharisees' reject him (34)
  - d. Jesus Reveals Himself to the Former Blind Man (9:35-39)
  - e. The Blindness of the Pharisees (9:40-41)
7. Jesus Teaches He is the Good Shepherd (10:1-21)
  - a. Jesus' Teaching (1-18)
  - b. The Confusion of the People (19-20)

D. Opposition at the Feast of Dedication 10:22-42

1. Jesus Asserts His Deity (22-30)
2. The Jews Seek to Stone Him for Blasphemy (31-39)
3. Jesus Withdraws to the Jordan (40-42)

E. Opposition at Bethany 11:1-12:11

1. Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead (11:1-44)
  - a. Lazarus Dies (1-16)
  - b. Jesus Goes to Martha (17-29)
  - c. Jesus Weeps (30-37)
  - d. Jesus Raises Lazarus (38-44)
2. The Pharisees Plot to Kill Jesus (11:45-57)
3. Mary Anoints Jesus (12:1-11)
  - a. Mary's Actions (1-3)
  - b. Judas' Greed (4-6)
  - c. Jesus' Defense of Mary (7-8)
4. The Reaction of the Multitudes (12:9-11)
  - a. Multitudes Came (9)
  - b. Chief Priests Plot Murder (10)
  - c. Many Believe in Jesus (11)

F. Opposition at Jerusalem 12:12-50

1. The Triumphal Entry (12-19)
2. Jesus Foretells His Death (20-36)
3. The Fulfillment of Isaiah's Prophecy (37-43)
4. Jesus' Call to Believe in Him (44-50)

Part Two: That You May Have Life. (13-21)

I. Preparation of the Son of God's Disciples. 13-17

A. Preparation in the Upper Room (13:1- 14:31)

1. Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet (13:1-20)
2. Jesus Predicts His Betrayal (13:18-38)
  - a. Judas is Revealed & Departs (18-30)
  - b. Jesus Gives His New Commandment (31-35)
  - c. Jesus Predicts Peter's Denials (36-38)

3. Jesus Comforts His disciples (14:1-31)
  - a. The Promise of Heaven (1-4)
  - b. Jesus is the Way to the Father (5-7)
  - c. Jesus' Oneness with the Father (8-21)
    - i. Jesus Reveals the Father (8-15)
    - ii. Jesus Will Send the Holy Spirit (16-21)
  - d. Jesus' Disclosure to His Disciples (22-31)

## B. Preparation on the Way to the Garden (15:1-17:26)

1. Jesus Instructions to His Disciples (15:1-16:33)
  - a. The Relationship of the Disciples and Jesus (15:1-11)
  - b. The Relationship of the Disciples with Each Other (15:12-17)
  - c. The Relationship of the Disciples to the World (15:18-25)
  - d. The Future Ministry of Holy Spirit (15:26-16:15)
    - i. The Promise of His Coming (15:26-27)
    - ii. The Prediction of Future Persecution (16:1-6)
    - iii. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit (16:7-15)
  - e. Jesus' Predicts His Death, Resurrection and the Future (16:16-33)
2. Jesus' High Priestly Prayer (17:1-26)
  - a. Jesus Prays for Himself (1-8)
  - b. Jesus Prays for His Disciples (9-19)
  - c. Jesus He Prays for All Believers (20-26)

## II. Crucifixion & Resurrection of the Son of God. 18-21

### A. The Betrayal & Arrest of Jesus 18:1-11

1. Judas Betrays Jesus (1-9)
2. Peter Tries to Defend Jesus (10-11)

### B. The Trials of Jesus 18:12-19:16

1. Before Annas (18:12-23)
  - a. Jesus is led to Annas (12-14)
  - b. Peter's First Denial (15-18)
  - c. Annas' Questioning of Jesus (19-23)
2. Before Caiaphas (18:24-27)
  - a. Jesus Goes Before Caiaphas (24)
  - b. Peter's Second and Third Denials (25-27)

3. First Trial Before Pilate (18:28-40)
  - a. Pilate Questions the Jews (28-32)
  - b. Pilate Questions Jesus (33-38)
  - c. Pilate announces his findings and seeks to free Jesus (38-40)
4. Second Trial Before Pilate (19:1-15)
  - a. Pilate Scourges Jesus (1-3)
  - b. Pilate Presents Jesus (4-5)
  - c. The Jews Call for Crucifixion (6-8)
  - d. Pilate Questions Jesus Again (9-11)
  - e. Pilate Blackmailed by the Jews (12)
  - f. Pilate Pronounces Judgement (13-16)
- C. The Crucifixion of Jesus 19:16-30
  1. Jesus Goes to Golgotha for Crucifixion (16-17)
  2. Pilate's Inscription (18-22)
  3. The Soldiers Gamble for Jesus' Garments (23-24)
  4. Those at the Cross (25-27)
  5. Jesus' Thirst (28-29)
  6. Jesus' Death (30)
- D. The Burial of Jesus 19:31-42
  1. Jesus' Death is Confirmed (31-37)
  2. Jesus is Buried by Joseph of Arimathea & Nicodemus (38-42)
- E. The Resurrection of Jesus (20:1-10)
  1. Mary Discovers the Tomb is Empty (1-2)
  2. Peter & John Confirm the Empty Tomb (3-10)
- F. The Post Resurrection Ministry of Jesus (20:11-21:5)
  1. Jesus Appears to Mary (20:11-18)
  2. Jesus' First Appearance to His Disciples (20:19-25)
  3. Jesus' Second Appearance to His Disciples (20:26-29)
  4. The Purpose of John's Gospel (20:30-31)
  5. Jesus' Appearance at the Sea of Galilee (21:1-14)
  6. Jesus' Questions & Instructions to Peter (21:15-23)
  7. The Conclusion of John's Gospel (21:24-25)