

The Gospels - John

- I. Written By: John
 - a. "The One Jesus Loved" – never uses his own name throughout his gospel (Other disciple)
 - b. One of the twelve apostles, one of the three closest to Jesus (Peter, James, John)
 - c. One of the "Sons of Zebedee" – Mother was Salome (Matthew 4:21) – James
 - d. Fisherman by trade
 - e. Some scholars believe that he was one of the followers of John The Baptist – (John 1:35-40)
 - f. One of the first disciples to believe in Jesus' resurrection (John 20:1-8)
 - g. Feud with Peter – Outran Peter (John 20:1-4) – Peter asks what happens to John (John 21: 21-22)
 - h. Possibly the youngest disciple (beloved often used for young individuals, projected dates of writings)
 - i. The one Jesus commits His mother (John 19:25-27)
 - j. Stayed active as a church leader (Acts 3:1; 4:13; 8:14; 15:2, 22-23)
 - k. Escaped Neronian persecution of late 60's -70's
 - l. Banished to Patmos by Roman Emperor Domitian (Rev 1:9)
 - m. Author of four other books in New Testament (1-3 John, Revelation)
- II. Evidence for Johannine Authorship
 - a. Author was Jewish due to the understanding of word, symbols, customs, and OT knowledge.
 - b. Eyewitness accounts of persons, time, numbers, places, manners, and other details.
 - c. Process of elimination (Peter, Thomas, Philip, Andrew, all mentioned by name, James died in AD 44)
 - d. Early fragments of John confirm first century authorship
 - e. Early testimony of Irenaeus, disciple of Polycarp — disciple of John
 - f. Early sources confirm authorship (Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, and Eusebius)
 - g. Wasn't disputed until the second century with the Alogoi sect (denied deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit)
- III. Date of Writing
 - a. Written between AD 90-98
 - b. Well after the fall of the temple to Nero in AD 70 (no mention)
 - c. Well before Irenaeus (cites the work in the early second century)
 - d. One of the earliest fragments (John Ryland Fragment) was found in Egypt and dated to AD 117 – 138
 - e. Must have been written before the death of John (AD 98 according to Irenaeus)
 - i. During reign of Domitian (AD 81-96)
- IV. Audience
 - a. Christians in Asia Minor
 - b. Probably centered around Ephesus (Modern day Turkey)
- V. Intent/Emphasis

- a. Show Christ as the Messiah, the Son of God, Fully God, Fully Man,
 - i. More than the “activity” of Christ, John is focused on the “identity” of Christ.
 - ii. Specific emphasis on the Deity of Christ.
 - iii. Shows more of the humanity of Jesus
 - 1. Tired (4:6)
 - 2. Wept (11:35)
 - 3. Thirsty (19:28)
 - 4. Suffered (19:18)
 - 5. Died (19:30)
- b. “That you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in Him you will have life by the power of His name” John 20:30-31
- c. Supplement and provide additional biographical information –
 - i. There is debate whether John had the other three Gospels at the time of his writing.
 - ii. Confirmed by Eusebius, Papias, Clement, Iranaius, Jerome, Gregory of Nasianzus, and St Augustine of Hippo
 - iii. Over 90% unique from the other Gospels
- d. One-Third of John’s Gospel is centered around the last eight days of Christ’s ministry and life.
- e. Emphasis can be found in the repetition of certain words
 - i. Jesus and Christ are used about 170 times
 - ii. Believe about 100 times, behold about 60 times
 - iii. Know over 135 times

VI. Outline

- a. Introduction
 - i. Prologue (1:1-18)
 - ii. John The Baptist (1:19-51)
- b. Miraculous Signs and Controversies
 - i. Institutions of Judaism (2-4)
 - 1. Wedding
 - 2. Ritual Purification / The Temple
 - 3. Rabbi
 - 4. Sacred Well
 - ii. Jewish Feasts
 - 1. Sabbath (5)
 - 2. Passover (6)
 - 3. Tabernacles (7-10)
 - 4. Dedication/Hanukkah (10b)
 - iii. Raising Lazarus (11-12)
 - iv. Washing Disciples Feet (13)
 - v. Jesus Final Words (14-16)
 - vi. Jesus’ Prayer for Disciples (17)
 - vii. Death & Resurrection. (18-20)
 - 1. Arrest (18a)
 - 2. Crucifixion (18b-19)
 - 3. Resurrection (20)

viii. Epilogue (21)

VII. Jesus' Words

- a. Emphasis on the Teachings of Jesus in John
 - i. 419/866 verses are Jesus' words, 48%
- b. Fourteen Discourses
 - i. New Birth (3:1-21)
 - ii. Water of Life (4:1-26)
 - iii. Source of Life (5)
 - iv. Bread of Life (6:22-58)
 - v. Source of Truth (7:14-24)
 - vi. Light of the World (8:12-19)
 - vii. True Object of Faith (8:21-29)
 - viii. Liberation by Truth (8:31-58)
 - ix. Good Shepherd (10:1-18)
 - x. Oneness with Father (10:22-38)
 - xi. Redeemer of the World (12:23-36)
 - xii. Return to the Father (13:31-14:31)
 - xiii. Abiding in Christ (15)
 - xiv. Holy Spirit and Future Ministry (16)
- c. Seven I Am's
 - i. Bread of Life (6:35)
 - ii. Light of the World (8:12)
 - iii. Door for the Sheep (10:7,9)
 - iv. Good Shepherd (10:11, 14)
 - v. Resurrection and the Life (11:25)
 - vi. Way, Truth, Life (14:6)
 - vii. True Vine (15:1)
- d. Private Conversations
 - i. Nicodemus (3:1-21)
 - ii. Woman at the Well (4:6-38)
 - iii. Upper Room Discourse (13-15)
 - iv. High Priestly Prayer (17)
 - v. Other shorter convos (7-12)
- e. There are no parables in the book of John

VIII. Actions of Jesus

- a. Miracles
 - i. Changing Water to Wine (2:1-11)
 - 1. Earliest miracle
 - 2. John has only record of Jesus' early Judean Ministry (2-4)
 - ii. Healing of Official's Son (4:46-54)
 - iii. Healing invalid man (5:1-16)
 - iv. Feeding five thousand (6:5-14)
 - v. Walking on Water (6:16-21)
 - vi. Healing a man born blind (9:1-7)
 - vii. Raising of Lazarus (11:1-44)

- b. People
 - i. Healed people
 - ii. Knew People(John 2:24)
 - iii. Helped hurting/helpless people
 - iv. Cleans fish
 - v. Washes disciples feet
 - vi. Prays
 - vii. Forgave
- c. Confrontations
 - i. John 5 – Healing on the Sabbath
 - ii. John 7-10 – Teaching He’s the Messiah (John 7:14-29)
 - iii. John 8 – Woman caught in Adultery.
 - iv. John 9 – Healing Blind Man
 - v. John 10 – Teaching that He’s the Good Shepherd (John 10:24)
 - vi. John 11 – Raising Lazarus from Dead (John 12:10)
 - vii. John 12 – Triumphal Entry

IX. Highlights

- a. Prologue - John 1:1-18:
 - i. The Word
 - 1. Significance
 - 2. History
- b. John the Baptist – John 1:19 -34
 - i. Testimony of John
- c. Calling of Disciples – John 1:35-50
- d. Wedding at Cana – John 2:1-12
- e. Clearing the Temple (the first time) – John 2:13-22
 - i. Passover – Deut 16:1-6
- f. Nicodemus (2:23-3:21)
- g. Woman at the Well (4:1-42)
- h. Healings – Official’s Son, Lame Man (4:43-5:15)
- i. Claims to be Son of God (5:16-47)
- j. Feeds 5,000 & Walks on Water
- k. Teaching of Jesus (7:1-36)
- l. Feast of Tabernacles (7:37-8:20)
- m. Further Teachings (8:21-10:42)
- n. Healing of Lazarus (John 11)
- o. Passion (12-20)
 - i. 17 – Priestly Prayer of Jesus
- p. Epilogue (21)