

The Gospel of John

A Brief Overview

Who was Jesus and whom would He serve? These questions are deeply and thoroughly addressed in this gospel. Jesus had to define Himself and the gospel writer walks us through that. Many were, and still are, willing to define who they think Jesus is and more so what they think He should be. Jesus' time in the wilderness gave Jesus the clarity He needed to define His life's work. Jesus set the example for developing and living the Christian life. Some valuable points from this are:

- Jesus needed and wanted others to walk this path with Him;
- Jesus needed solitary time with His Father;
- Jesus needed, and successfully developed, a cadre of supporters;
- Jesus faced adversity and dealt with it with grace, peace, and love.

The purpose of this gospel is to demonstrate, show and convince others that Jesus was and is the Son of God, the Messiah. The gospel writer did not extol himself, and even refused to name himself. The gospel is all about Jesus. After reading, studying and digesting this gospel, one is faced with a dilemma: Is Jesus the Messiah, or is all of this mere fluff and window dressing and a clever story? In either event, what are you going to do about it?

The gospel writer wanted his audience to come to faith in Jesus and to grow that faith into a living life-style. He wanted these to then demonstrate that faith and grow others to follow the same path.

Three appendices provide the reader a brief introduction into the people, places and events of this gospel, based on The New American Standard Bible, 2020 update, online version.

Back to the original questions of this overview. For you, who was (and is) Jesus? Who are you going to serve?

Solo Deo Gratia

Appendix One

The People and chapter

John the Baptist	1	Pharisees	7, 9, 11
Jesus	1	Blind man	9
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Simon Peter	1, 18	Greeks	12
Philip	1, 6, 12	Annas	18
Nathanael	1	Caiaphas	18
Jews	2, 6, 8, 10, 11, 19	Pilate	18, 19
Nicodemus	3, 19	Mary, Mary,	
Royal Official	4	Mary	19, 20
People	6, 7, 8	John	19
Disciples	6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20	Joseph of Arimathea	19

Appendix Two

Places and chapter

Bethany	1	Judea	3
Jordan River	1	Aenon	3
Bethsaida	1	Galilee	4, 7
Cana	2	Sychar	4
Capernaum	2, 6	Mt of Olives	8
Jerusalem	2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 18, 19	Bethany	11, 12
		Ephraim	11
		Gethsemane	18
		Sea of Galilee	21

Appendix Three

Events and chapter

Baptism of Jesus	1	Sabbath healing of	
Water to wine (first sign)	2	Man born blind	9
Cleansing the Temple	2	Good Shepherd	10
Born again	3	Jesus asserts His Deity	10
He must increase, I must decrease	3	Death and resurrection of Lazarus	11
Jacob's Well	4	Conspiracy to kill Jesus	11
(woman at the well, living water, Messiah, Samaritans believed)		No public appearances with Jews	11
Healing (second sign)	4	Mary anoints Jesus	12
Sabbath healing		Triumphal entry	12
(third sign)	5	Jesus foretells His death	12
Presentation of Jesus	5	Hid from Jews	12
(God is His Father, Testimony: John the Baptist, works, Scripture, Father)		Foot washing	13
Feeding 5,000	6	(servanthood, betrayal predicted, Peter's denial foretold)	
Walks on water	6	Comforts disciples	14
Bread of life	6	Oneness with the Father	14
Peter's confession	6	Love: keep My	
Teaching	7	commandments	14
Seek and not find	7	Holy Spirit will be sent	
Adulterous woman	8	Vine and branches	15
Light of the world	8	Disciples relationship with	
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I AM	8	Disciples relationship with	
		the world	15
		Promise of the Holy Spirit	16

Death and resurrection	
foretold	16
High Priestly prayer	17
Disciples in the world	17
Disciples future glory	17
Betrayal	18
Trial	18
Peter's denial	18
Barabbas rather than Jesus	18
Flogging and crown of thorns	19
Crucify Him	19
Crucifixion	19
It is finished	19
Burial	19
Empty tomb, risen Christ	20
Christ appeared	20
Receive the Holy Spirit	20
Second appearance of Christ	20
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Jesus provides	21
The love question	21
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