

Gospel of John # 1 “In A Beginning”

John 1:1 John 20:30-31

“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in His name.”

Our subject: God

Our textbook: The Bible

Our objectives:

1. *To know God*
 2. To know man in general and specifically
3. To know God’s plan for man
 - a. Its meaning
 - b. How to enter
 - c. What it promises to provide

Our Author: (3 possibilities)

1. John the Apostle
2. John the Presbyter
3. A disciple of the Apostle John

Our Author was a Jew due to his Jewish style of thought and writing.

He was most likely a Palestinian Jew.

He was an eyewitness of Jesus’ ministry.

He was a member of the inner circle of three along with Peter and James.

He and James were sons of Zebedee called “Sons of Thunder” by Jesus.

John’s Gospel is extremely theological compared to the other three.

John refers to Jesus’ miracles as *signs* and seven are recorded which form the basis for our Lord’s lengthy discourses.

Our Lord’s deity is revealed in every chapter:

1:49; 2:11; 3:16; 4:26; 5:25; 6:33; 7:37; 8:58; 9:37; 10:30; 11:27; 12:32; 13:13; 14:1; 15:5; 16:7; 17:1; 18:37; 19:30; 20:28; 21:22.

There are no parables in *John*.

***Believe* in many verb forms appears about 100 times in *John* but the nouns belief and faith do not!**

John gives Jesus many titles in his book: the Word; the Only Begotten; the Lamb of God; the Son of God; the Bread of Life; the Light of the world; the Good Shepherd; the Door; the Way, Truth and Life; the Resurrection and the true Vine.

John's purpose and theme are stated in John 20:30-31, his key verse:

“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in His name.”

God is not more and God cannot promise more or do more than the Lord Jesus Christ is said to promise, to be or to do.

The Lord Jesus Christ possessed everything and anything any other human being possessed except Adam's original sin and a sin nature.

John, an average simple man was able to do something no other person had been able to do: he broke through the curtain of time, right into eternity past.

John 1:1 tells us that long before any creature existed, the Lord Jesus Christ existed as a member of the Godhead.

It takes the grace of God combined with a faith response from man to understand eternity past and eternity future.

The Word is John's first title used for the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternally existent One.

Of the many men who died by crucifixion in history, only One was unique; the Lord Jesus Christ, the God-man.