

John : 1 John : 2 John : 3 John

1 – John 1:1-18—The Word—Jesus

Why does John begin this with “In the beginning”? How does this fit so well with Genesis? What other key words tie in with the book of Genesis? Why is this so important? John the evangelist and disciple writes this, who is this other “John”? Why is he important? One of the themes of John the evangelist is that we are children of God - how does he introduce this theme? Another major theme is “who is Jesus”? What are the many ways he answers this in these verses?

2 – John 1:19-51—John And Jesus

How would you answer (your confession) the question: “Who are you?” What is the significance of John quoting Isaiah? What was the difference between John’s baptism and Trinitarian baptism? Why did John call Jesus “the Lamb of God”? (What Old Testament references does this name include?) What do we know about Jesus’ baptism? What do we know about Jesus’ first disciples? How were they chosen? Why were they chosen? What promises did Jesus give to them? What does this say to us today?

3 – John 2—First Miraculous Sign

How does this miracle speak to our situation of re-definition of marriage today? What did Mary expect of Jesus? What did Jesus mean when He answered His mother in that way? How many of the guests learned what Jesus did? Why did Jesus do this miracle?

4 – John 3:1-21—Nicodemus

Why did Nicodemus come to Jesus at night? What does it mean to be “born again”? Why does Jesus say 3 times, “I tell you the truth”? Why do “men love darkness” rather than coming to the light? How do we live in the light?

5 – John 3:22-36—Pointing To Jesus

What was the question about baptism? What kinds of question do people today have about baptisms? Why would people think that John was “the Christ”? Note what John says in v.27, how is he able to explain about Jesus and His mission so well? Was John listening too to the conversation with Nicodemus?

6 – John 4:1-42—Woman At The Well

Why would Jesus leave if His disciples were baptizing so many people there? Note that Jesus “had” to go through Samaria - He has a “date”... Note also the connection between “born again” in the waters of baptism and the “living water” Jesus teaches this Samaritan woman. What does it mean to “worship in spirit and in truth”? From “living water” to “food” - what interesting analogies Jesus, the Master Teacher uses! What is our “food”? - v.34.

7 – John 4:43-54—Second Miraculous Sign

Why does a prophet have no honor in his own country? How does that also apply to Jesus in our lives? How does Jesus help this royal official to “believe”? Did the father ever thank Jesus for His miracle? Why did the official and his household believe? Why do we believe?

8 – John 5:1-15—Healed On The Sabbath

Lots of traveling in these last couple of chapters! Why is Jesus back in Jerusalem? Why did Jesus heal this man? How many others were around the pool who weren’t healed? How did Jesus use this healing to help this man “believe”?

9 – John 5:16-47—Scriptures Testify Of Jesus

What was the double reason the Jews wanted to kill Jesus? Note again the repeat (3 times) of “I tell you the truth”. Why so much repetition? Why all the talk about “the dead”? Note the appeal to those who testify to the truth (v.31-47) - but even with such convincing testimony, why did so many (who do so many today) still not “believe”?

10 – John 6—Jesus, The Bread Of Life

How does feeding the physical body tie in with feeding the spiritual body with Jesus, the Bread of Life? Why were there 12 baskets of “left overs” from the feeding of the 5,000+? How does Jesus walking on the water fit in with Jesus, to whom the Scriptures testify and Jesus, the Bread of Life? (see v.26) Why did the Jews who followed Jesus across the lake, fail to receive what Jesus came to give them? (v.26-27; 41-42) Why do we sometimes fail to receive what Jesus came to give us? Why did so many disciples desert Jesus? How does this say to those who want to “pick and choose” what to believe about Jesus today?

11 – John 7:1-52—Unbelief Of Leaders

Note how the theme of unbelief continues... When would “the right time” for Jesus be? (v.6) Who were Jesus’ brothers? Since Jesus was so well known (feeding 5,000, miracles, etc.) how could He “go to the feast in secret”? Half-way through the feast the crowds would have been at the maximum. What does Jesus do at this time? Why? Why was Jesus so free to publicly teach such controversial things when the Jews were trying to kill Him? (v.30) And what is the great truth of Jesus’ teachings? (v.31) With “streams of living water” refer back to [John 4](#). Note also Nicodemus – v.50-52.

12 – John 7:53-8:59—Faith In The I Am

If the woman was “caught in adultery”, where was the man? What did Jesus write on the ground? Who was the only One qualified to condemn the woman? Why didn’t Jesus do it? What happened to the woman? How does light and darkness relate to adultery and judging others? How are these verses so similar to 5:16-47? Why the continued challenge to Jesus? Who is your “father” (v.31-47)? How do you know? What does this mean for your life? Again, how does this relate to the woman caught in adultery and those who accused her? From wanting to stone the woman, now to wanting to stone Jesus – why were they prevented from doing both (at this time)? What comfort does this give to us today?

13 – John 9—Blindness

Unbelief continues! (A theme of John!) This time Jesus’ disciples ask the wrong question / have the wrong understanding of sin and its results. How does Jesus correct them? Note the “division” of the people (v.16 – another them of John) – why are people divided about Jesus today? Note the simple answer that the man gave – v.25-34. How does this help us when people question our beliefs? What is the double irony in Jesus telling the once blind man that he has “seen the Son of Man”? (v.39-41)

14 – John 10—The Good Shepherd

Is it a compliment or an insult to be called a sheep and need a Shepherd? To whom is Jesus especially directing these words? How do they also apply to us? What are the two groups of “sheep” that Jesus talks about? How is this an important part of the Great Commission (the Church’s marching orders) that He gave at His ascension? Again, they pick up stones to stone Jesus – “but He escaped their grasp” v.39. What does this foreshadow about the time when they will “grasp” Jesus? And again, note the division – in spite of wanting to kill Him, “many came to Him... many believe in Jesus” (v.40-41) Why was this? Why do you believe in Jesus today?

15 – John 11—The Resurrection And Life

From trying to kill Jesus – now Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life – for Lazarus, and for all of us! What did Mary and Martha expect of Jesus? How is their message to Jesus (v.3) similar to Mary’s message at His first sign in Cana (Jn. 2:3)? What does this teach us about our prayers to Jesus? Why did Jesus not come immediately? What does this teach us about how Jesus answers our needs / prayers? Again, with the theme of unbelief, what does this teach us even about some of Jesus’ closest friends? (note the repetition of “believe”). Why did Jesus weep? Why was it significant that Lazarus had been in the tomb 4 days? What was the greatest fear of the Sanhedrin? (v.48) And note the irony of Caiaphas (reminiscent of Balaam in [Numbers 22](#)!) Why was it necessary that “one die for all the people”? (3:16-17 again!) How hypocritical for them to “prepare” for the Passover and yet be looking for Jesus – although why were some people looking for Him? Are there times we aren’t even “looking for Jesus”?

16 – John 12—Palm Sunday

John 11 ended with the plot to kill Jesus – instead of hiding, what does Jesus do? Why does He do this? What is so special about Mary anointing Jesus” v.7 Did Mary and the disciples understand what Jesus was saying? What additional message did Jesus intentionally give by riding on a donkey into Jerusalem? Did the people understand this? v.30-36, 37

17 – John 13—Foot Washing

Another definite “sign” and teaching of Jesus – why didn’t His disciples “understand”? Did Jesus wash the feet of Judas too? Why/ What teaching does Jesus give in washing Peter’s feet? How does Jesus tell the disciples that they will “believe”? v.19 What does it mean, v.27, “Satan entered into Judas”? wasn’t Satan influencing Judas already? What was “new” about the command that Jesus gave? v.34-35

18 – John 14—The Way, Truth And Life

Knowing the chaos and uncertainty that would happen that very night, how does Jesus comfort His disciples? Once again, why didn’t they understand what Jesus was clearly saying? (Why do we often “miss” the message of Jesus?) What does it mean to “ask in Jesus’ name”? v.13-14 What did Jesus say about “peace”? Why was this so necessary at this time?

19 – John 15—The Vine And Branches

What does it mean / how does it look / to remain attached to Jesus, the True Vine? What is the purpose of “bearing much fruit”? Why has Jesus “chosen us out of this world”? Why was Jesus “hated”? Why might Jesus’ disciples, and we, be hated?

20 – John 16—The Comforter

Why didn’t Jesus’ disciples ask “Where are You going?” v.5 Why did Jesus have to “go away” before the “Counselor” would come? How has Jesus overcome the world? What about Jesus’ Body the Church? Have we “overcome the world”?

21 – John 17—The High Priestly Prayer

Where did Jesus pray this prayer? See [14:31](#) and [18:1](#). How does this compare to the prayer of Jesus in Gethsemane? See [Matthew 26:39-46](#); [Mark 14:32-37](#); [Luke 22:39-46](#). Why did Jesus publicly (out loud) pray this very personal prayer to His Heavenly Father? v.13 Note Jesus’ prayer for YOU in v. 15 and following!

22 – John 18:1-27—Trials And Denials

Note how Jesus is fully in charge of everything that will happen. Why did Jesus ask the question? v.4 (similar to the question God asked of Adam and Eve after they sinned) Jesus had said, “take a sword” [Luke 22:36-38](#) and now He says, “put away your sword.” Which one does Jesus mean? Why does He say this? What is the message of having Caiaphas questioning Jesus, before Jesus’ disciples question Him?

23 – John 18:28-40—The Truth

What was Pilate’s source of truth? What was the real truth? How is this so very applicable for today? What was Pilate’s idea of king and kingdom? What is the truth about “the King, and the Kingdom”? How is this so comforting for us today?

24 – John 19:1-16—Jesus: The King

Why did Pilate flog Jesus? Why didn’t Pilate say v.5, “Here is your king” (crown, robe, etc.) (Note v.14-15 and the notice above the cross.) How did Jesus seek to also save Pilate? Why did Pilate finally hand Jesus over to be crucified?

25 – John 19:17-37—Crucified!

Why did Pilate put the notice above the cross of Jesus? Why did the Jews object? How many Scriptures were fulfilled in Jesus’ crucifixion? Jesus had brothers. Why did He ask His disciple John to take care of His mother? Why did Jesus say, “I thirst”? What did Jesus mean when He said, “It is finished”?

26 – John 19:38-20:18—Empty Tomb

What risk were Joseph and Nicodemus taking? Did they also witness Jesus’ resurrection? Why were the women the first to the tomb; why not the men? Why didn’t Mary recognize Jesus in the garden? Why did Jesus tell Mary “do not hold on to Me”? v. 17

27 – John 20:19-31—Commission Of Disciples

Why would Jesus' first words (and repeated words) to His disciples be "peace be with you"? Note the "Office of the Keys" in v.22-23. Why would Thomas have doubted his fellow disciples? Where was Jesus and what was He doing during the week between appearing to His disciples? Why did Jesus wait a week to appear again? What other "miraculous signs" did Jesus do in the presence of His disciples that are not recorded in this book? Why don't we have them recorded?

28 – John 21—Peter's Reinstatement

Why did the disciples return to fishing? Why did they obey the "stranger's" directions? Why do we know that there were 153 fish caught without the nets being torn? Do you love Jesus? What was Peter to do - and how do we continue to do this? What importance / significance was it that Jesus, again, at this time, said "Follow Me" v.19? Note John's personal references at the close of this Gospel.

29 – 1 John: 1-3—How Great The Father's Love

From these verses, what were some of the heresies (darkness) that had come into the church that John is warning against? What does it mean to "love the world"? How can we recognize those who are the Anti-Christ? What does it mean that we are "children of God"? What is love? What difference does this make in our lives?

30 – 1 John: 4-5—Faithful Believers

How are we to "test the spirits"? How do we know if God lives in us? How do we overcome the world? What does it mean that Jesus came "by water and blood"? v.5:6 How does a person "have the Son of God" or "not have the Son of God"? What does 5:18 mean: "Anyone born of God does not continue to sin"?

31 – 2 John And 3 John—Continue In The Truth

Note 2:4 "walking in the truth"; 2:6 "walk in obedience" and 2:9 "don't run ahead". What does this mean in our day and situations? Gnosticism taught that Jesus was not true man because material things are evil. How does John warn against this false teaching? Why did John call the recipients of his letters "my children"? What does John write about hospitality in 3 John? What does this mean for us today?