JOHN

The Gospel Of

Made for New Georgia church of Christ

Adult Class 2023

Adam Smith



“And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

John 20:30-31

 Have you ever heard someone tell lies about someone you deeply respect and love? Some stranger is telling anyone who will listen inherently untrue things about your friend, someone you sincerely care about. If you have, then you understand John’s motivation for writing his gospel. John’s gospel stands apart from the other three, the synoptic gospels. It was written about twenty years after Mark and ten years after Matthew and Luke. It doesn’t focus on the same points, it doesn’t mention events the others cover, and it’s not always in chronological order. John is writing to already established Christians. He assumes the readers of John have already read the other gospels.

John was “the disciple whom Jesus loved.” It could be fair to call him Jesus’s best friend when he was in the flesh. John was called to preach about this man he followed, this God he loved, and at this point he has been for at least 40 years if not more. While John is accustomed to persecution from outside the Church, what causes him to write his gospel comes from internal conflict.

Gnostism, a false doctrine taught in the first century, was rife, and is one of the principal issues that John teaches against. Gnostism is a unique false doctrine because its main beliefs are no longer practiced, but its effects can still be felt by the Church today. Gostism’s chief belief is that Jesus was a man possessed by “The Christ Spirit.” Gnostics would point to Matthew 3:17 when God’s Spirit in the form of a dove descended upon Jesus as when the spirit entered the man. Then, Gnostics would point to Mark 15:34 (“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”) as when the spirit left him. This led to the belief that Christ never rose from the dead because the Christ Spirit never died. Without Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, Christianity is pointless. Gnostism did not just teach false doctrine though. Gnostism truly means “Knowing-ism”. The Gnostics would act like their doctrine was the deep secrets and the hidden knowledge that only the elite Christians possessed. Paul deals with this extensively in Ephesians (read Eph 1:7-14). This elitism is something Christians today can imitate. God gives knowledge freely and so must Christians.

John writes this gospel to explain to the false teachers that his knowledge is an authority on Jesus Christ. He doesn’t need to quote one of the other gospels to disprove their teaching, because he lived it.

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life…that which we have seen and heard we declare to you” - 1 John 1:1&3

As we go through this book, look for times that John points out Jesus’s divinity and Jesus’s humanity. Also look for times when John writes about himself being in the story as “The disciple whom Jesus loved.”

In the Beginning…

Chapter 1

1. What other passage does John 1:1 remind you of?
2. What is the Word according to John 1:1? How should we treat the Word of God with this knowledge?
3. Remembering your answer to #1 are there any more references to that chapter you can see in John 1?
4. Fill in the blank

Who were born, not of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, nor of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. What does that mean of our salvation?
2. What John is mentioned in vs 15? Is he the author of this book?
3. What was given through Moses?
4. What was given through Jesus Christ?
5. How does John the Baptist compare himself to Christ
6. What does John the Baptist call Jesus in vs 29? Why that animal?
7. Who is the first disciple to follow Christ?
8. Names and their meanings are important in the Bible. Look up the meaning of the following names.

Jesus-

Christ-

John-

Andrew-

Peter (Cephas)-

Philip –

Nathaniel-

1. What in this Chapter did you notice about Jesus’s divinity?
2. What about His humanity?
3. Where does the apostle John show up?

Miracle #1 and The Temple

Chapter 2

1. Where did this wedding take place?
2. Who told Jesus that they were out of wine? What does that tell us about Mary?
3. What was Jesus’s response?
4. How many water pots were filled?
5. What do we learn about Jesus from this Miracle?
6. What is taking place in vs 13? What did that feast represent?
7. Why were animals being sold? Why was money being changed?
8. Were the actions of those in the temple in and of themselves wrong? What were they doing wrong?
9. What lesson can we take away from how we treat the Church?
10. What does Jesus reference for the first time in vs 19?
11. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
12. What about His humanity?
13. Where is John in this chapter?

For God so Loved the World…

Chapter 3

1. Who comes to speak to Jesus?
2. When does he approach Jesus? Why do you think he does it then?
3. What does he call Jesus? What does that word mean?
4. Fill in the blank

Unless one is born of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he cannot enter

1. Do you think the water birth and the Spirit birth are the same or different? Explain
2. [Research] What bronze serpent is Jesus talking about?
3. In vs 14 what is Jesus alluding is to come?
4. What was Jesus doing in Judea?
5. What does John refer to Jesus as in vs 29? Who is the bride according to Ephesians 5?
6. What does vs 34 mean that “God does not give the spirit by measure”?
7. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
8. What about His humanity?

The Living Water

Chapter 4

1. Why do you think Jesus didn’t baptize people Himself according to vs 2?
2. Where did Jesus travel through? Why was this odd?
3. Who does Jesus speak to, and why would it be socially weird?
4. What does Jesus ask her for? What does He say He can provide?
5. What does Jesus tell her to do? What is he response?
6. What does the woman believe Jesus is?
7. According to vs 21 – 24 what are the most important qualities of our worship?
8. What does Jesus confirm that He is in this chapter?
9. What does Jesus say he has in vs 32? What does this sound like from earlier in the chapter?
10. How does Jesus heal the nobleman’s son?
11. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
12. What about His humanity?

Miracle #2 and Jesus’s Authority

Chapter 5

1. Where is Jesus and the disciples? Why are they there?
2. What is the name of the pools?
3. Why were there people gathered around this pool?
4. Why has the lame man not made it into the pool in time?
5. What is Jesus’s first command to him?
6. What is Jesus’s second command to him?
7. What do we learn about our relationship with Jesus from this miracle?
8. Why were the Jews mad about this miracle? What was Jesus’s response?
9. What does Jesus say is the only thing he can do?
10. Compare this to John 1:18. What does this say about Jesus?
11. How does Moses accuse them?
12. What is the witness to Jesus he is referring to?
13. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
14. What about His humanity?

Miracle #3, Miracle #4, and I AM #1

Chapter 6

1. Why did the great multitude follow Jesus?
2. How many loaves of bread were found? How many fish?
3. How did Jesus distribute the bread? Why do you think he did it this way?
4. How many baskets were remaining?
5. What does this miracle teach us about our relationship with Jesus?
6. What is the next miracle?
7. What does this teach us about our relationship with Jesus?
8. What does Jesus say is the reason these people look for him?
9. What miracle do the people say Moses performed so people would follow him?
10. What is Jesus’s response?
11. What is the “I am” statement here?
12. What is the difference between the manna from heaven and the living bread?
13. What is Jesus referencing in vs 54? Which is a reference to what?
14. What does Peter respond when Jesus asks if they want to leave?
15. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
16. What about His humanity?

The Feast of the Tabernacles

Chapter 7

1. Why did Jesus not want to walk in Judea?
2. What feast was going on? What did it represent? (Lev 23:33-44)
3. Who speaks to Jesus in vs 3-5?
4. Why did the world hate Jesus?
5. What are the Jews still mad about in chapter 7?
6. What is Jesus’s defense?
7. Why was no one able to lay a hand on him? What is this alluding to?
8. What does Jesus say will happen if you believe in Him? What does this remind you of from earlier?
9. What caused the division amongst the Jews?
10. Who defends Jesus? Where have we seen him before?
11. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
12. What about His humanity?

I AM #2

Chapter 8

1. Where did Jesus go after the confrontation in chapter 7?
2. What sin is this woman in and what is the punishment?
3. Who did they forget to bring?
4. Who does Jesus say should cast the first stone? Who then could have done it if he wanted to?
5. Did Jesus condemn her? What did he command her?
6. What should we learn about how Jesus treats us while we are in sin?
7. What is the “I am” statement? What does it remind you of from earlier?
8. Who bears witness of Jesus?
9. Who does Jesus say that He is?
10. What does Jesus allude to in vs 28?
11. What was we do to be Jesus’s “disciple indeed”?
12. How where these people enslaved?
13. Who do the Jews put there trust in here?
14. Why is Jesus better than him?
15. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
16. What about His humanity?

Miracle #5

Chapter 9

1. What was this man’s ailment? How long did he have it?
2. What is the question that his disciples asked? Why do you think they asked it?
3. What is the reason Jesus gives?
4. What day did Jesus heal him on?
5. What argument is used against the pharisees?
6. Why do the blind man’s parents dodge the question?
7. What does the blind man say when the Pharisees call Jesus a sinner?
8. Where do the pharisees say Jesus is from? What does this remind you of from chapter 7?
9. Who is speaking vs 30-33?
10. Why did Jesus come into the world?
11. What does vs 41 mean?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

I AM #3 and #4

Chapter 10

1. Who enters by the door? Who enters by another way?
2. What is the “I am” statement?
3. What does this mean?
4. What is the next “I am” statement?
5. What does this teach us about our relationship with Christ?
6. What do people accuse Jesus of having? How do others defend Him?
7. What Feast is going on? What is another name for this feast? (Look at the end of vs 22 for a clue)
8. Why did the Jews not believe Jesus?
9. Who is given eternal life? How does Jesus describe it in vs 28-29?
10. What does vs 30 remind you of?
11. What argument does Jesus use to prove that He and the Father are one?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

Miracle #6 and I AM #5

Chapter 11

1. Who is sick? What are his sisters’ names?
2. Why is he sick?
3. What does Jesus do when he hears the news?
4. What is Jesus’s response when his disciples ask him if he is going to Judea?
5. What does Jesus say Lazarus is doing? How does this compare to how the rest of the New Testament refers to death?
6. What does sleeping imply?
7. What does Martha say to Jesus? What does this say about her?
8. What is the “I am” statement? What does this mean for us?
9. Has anyone been raised from the dead in the bible before now?
10. What is the importance of Lazarus being dead for 4 days (besides the smell)?
11. What do we learn about prayer from vs 41-42?
12. Why do the Jews want to kill Jesus after this?
13. What does the high priest do without knowing?
14. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
15. What about His humanity?

The Triumphal Entry

Chapter 12

1. What feast is about to take place?
2. Who is Jesus still with?
3. Why do you think the chief priests want to kill Lazarus?
4. What does “Hosanna” mean?
5. When did the disciples understand? When did that take place?
6. Why did the Greeks approach Philip? And why did Philip approach Andrew?
7. What is Jesus alluding to in vs 26 about who will be in the church?
8. What is Jesus’s response to His soul being troubled?
9. Who is the ruler of this world who will be cast out?
10. What reason is given for the way the Jews are acting?
11. How do we see the Father? Compare this to John 1:18?
12. What judges and Who saves?
13. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
14. What about His humanity?

Washing the Disciples Feet

John 13

1. What feast is taking place?
2. What is already in Judas’s heart?
3. What does Jesus do?
4. What lesson is Jesus teaching his disciples?
5. Who is vs 20 talking about? Who was sent by Jesus?
6. How does Jesus show who is going to betray Him?
7. What did the disciples think Judas was going to do?
8. How is God glorified in this chapter?
9. What is the new commandment? How is that new?
10. How should the world know that we are Jesus’s disciples?
11. What does Jesus ask Peter?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

I AM #6 and the Holy Spirit

Chapter 14

1. What are in Jesus’s Father’s house?
2. If Jesus is preparing a place for us what does that mean he is going to do once they are ready?
3. What is the “I am…” statement?
4. What does this mean about Jesus?
5. How do we know the Father?
6. Who is Jesus speaking to in this chapter?
7. What is Jesus alluding to in vs 12?
8. What does Jesus pray for? Who is that?
9. What does Jesus say he will not do to His disciples?
10. Who is it that loves Jesus according to this chapter?
11. How does Jesus show that He loves the Father?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

I AM #7

Chapter 15

1. What is the “I am…” statement?
2. What does this mean about our relationship with Jesus?
3. What does the Lord do to every branch that bears fruit? What do you think that means?
4. How is God glorified according to this chapter?
5. What is the greatest love according to this chapter? What does that mean about Jesus’s sacrifice?
6. What is the difference between a servant and a friend?
7. What does it mean if the World hates us?
8. If we hate Jesus, who do we also hate?
9. Who is the Helper coming to? What will He do when He comes?
10. Who is bearing witness? Why?
11. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
12. What about His humanity?

I Have Overcome the World

Chapter 16

1. What things are promised will happen to the disciples?
2. What pronoun is used for the Holy Spirit? What does this imply?
3. Why did Jesus send the Holy Spirit according to this chapter?
4. What does Jesus compare his sacrifice to in this chapter? How do they relate?
5. What emotion does Jesus say his sacrifice will bring?
6. Why does the Father love these disciples?
7. Who are the promises in this chapter made to?
8. What does Jesus say that the hour is now coming for?
9. What are the reasons given in this chapter for Jesus telling them “these things”?
10. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
11. What about His humanity?

Jesus’s Prayer

Chapter 17

1. What does it mean that “the hour has come”?
2. How would Jesus be glorified?
3. How does this allow Jesus to glorify the Father?
4. What is eternal life according to this chapter?
5. How does Jesus finish the Father’s work?
6. Who is Jesus praying for starting in vs 9?
7. What does Jesus pray for them?
8. Why would Jesus not want them to be taken out of the world?
9. How can they be “Sanctified through truth”?
10. In vs 20 who does Jesus start praying for?
11. What does Jesus pray for them?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

Jesus is Betrayed

Chapter 18

1. Where did Jesus go with the disciples?
2. Why did those who sought Jesus fall back?
3. Which disciple fights?
4. Who was Jesus taken to?
5. What was Caiaphas’s advice? Why is this ironic?
6. Who all questions Peter?
7. What is Jesus’s response to the questions asked him?
8. According to who’s law do the Jews want Jesus to be judged? Why?
9. What accusation do the Jews bring against Jesus before Pilate?
10. Why would Pilate ask if Jesus was a king?
11. How does Jesus explain that He is a king?
12. What does Pilate try and fail to do?
13. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
14. What about His humanity?

The Crucifixion

Chapter 19

1. What all does Pilate do to Jesus before the crucifixion?
2. Why do you think Pilate does this then says he finds no fault in Him?
3. According to who’s law is Jesus put to death?
4. What does Jesus say in response to Pilate claiming to have power?
5. What does this mean about Jesus’s death?
6. What did the chief priest complain about?
7. Who all is at the cross?
8. Who did Jesus give responsibility of His mother?
9. What did they put the sponge with sour wine on?
10. Why would they want to take the bodies down before the Sabbath?
11. Who buried Jesus? Who helped?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

He is Risen

Chapter 20

1. Who was first to come to the tomb?
2. What is she convinced happened?
3. Who was next?
4. In what state where the linens?
5. Who does Mary first see at the tomb?
6. Why do you think Mary did recognize Jesus?
7. Why did the disciples have the doors shut?
8. Who is the Holy Spirit given to here? How does Jesus give it to them?
9. Who was missing?
10. Who is blessed in this chapter? Who is that?
11. Why are these signs written according to this chapter?
12. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
13. What about His humanity?

Breakfast by the Sea

Chapter 21

1. Why do you think Peter wanted to go fishing?
2. What does Jesus command them to do? Compare this to Luke 5:4-7
3. How does Peter react to recognizing Jesus?
4. What does Jesus feed them?
5. What 3 questions does Jesus ask Peter?
6. What 3 commands does Jesus give Peter?
7. Why do you think Peter is singled out?
8. Who follows Jesus and Peter?
9. What is Jesus’s response to Peter’s question?
10. Who wrote this book?
11. What do you see in this chapter about Jesus’s divinity?
12. What about His humanity?