NEW TESTAMENT · GOSPELS · BOOK 43 OF 66

John

Written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (20:31)

21	7	7	c. A.D. 80–95
Chapters, 879 Verses	Signs	"I Am" Sayings	Date Written

STRUCTURE

The Book in Five Parts

John falls into two halves: **signs to the world** (chapters 1–12), where Jesus shows His glory through miracles and public teaching, and **glory through the cross** (chapters 13–21), where He prepares His disciples, dies and rises again.



Each bar shows that part's share of the 879 verses.

I 1:1–18 · 18 verses

Prologue

The eternal Word becomes flesh and dwells among us.

II 1:19–12:50 · 568 verses

Signs and Sayings

Witnesses, seven signs, the feasts, and Lazarus raised.

III 13–17 · 155 verses

The Upper Room

Washing feet, the new commandment, the Comforter, the prayer.

IV 18–19 · 82 verses

The Passion

The arrest, the trials before Annas and Pilate, the cross.

V 20–21 · 56 verses

Resurrection

The empty tomb, Thomas, the purpose of the book, Peter restored.

CHAPTER 1:1–18

In the Beginning Was the Word

John opens before creation, with words that echo Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

> *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*
>
> John 1:1 (KJV)

1:3 · CREATOR

All Things Made by Him

"All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made."

1:4–5 · LIFE AND LIGHT

The Light Shineth

"In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness"

1:12 · CHILDREN OF GOD

As Many as Received Him

"as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God"

1:14 · INCARNATION

The Word Made Flesh

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us … full of grace and truth."

CHAPTER 1:18

"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him." Jesus makes the unseen God known.

JOHN AT A GLANCE · PART 2 OF 4

Seven Signs and Seven “I Am” Sayings

POINTING TO JESUS

Seven Signs and the Greatest

John calls Jesus’ miracles “signs” because they point to who He is (2:11; 20:30–31).

1 2:1–11
Water into Wine
A wedding at Cana: “This beginning of miracles”

2 4:46–54
The Nobleman’s Son
Healed from a distance: “thy son liveth”

3 5:1–15
The Man at Bethesda
Infirm thirty and eight years: “Rise, take up thy bed”

4 6:1–14
Feeding the 5,000
Five barley loaves and two small fishes

5 6:16–21
Walking on the Sea
“It is I; be not afraid”

6 9:1–41
A Man Born Blind
“whereas I was blind, now I see”

7 11:1–44
Lazarus Raised
Four days dead: “Lazarus, come forth”

† 20:1–29
Jesus Is Risen
The empty tomb, the greatest sign

> *“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe”*
>
> John 20:30–31 (KJV)

IN HIS OWN WORDS

The Seven “I Am” Sayings

1 JOHN 6:35
The Bread of Life
“I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger”

2 JOHN 8:12
The Light of the World
“I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness”

3 JOHN 10:9
The Door
“I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved”

4 JOHN 10:11
The Good Shepherd
“I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.”

5 JOHN 11:25
The Resurrection and the Life
“I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live”

6 JOHN 14:6
The Way, the Truth, the Life
“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.”

7 JOHN 15:5
The True Vine
“I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit”

CHAPTER 8:58

“Before Abraham Was, I Am”

Jesus also says simply “I am” (8:24, 28, 58; 18:5–6). It echoes the name God gave Moses at the burning bush: “I AM THAT I AM” (Exodus 3:14). His hearers took up stones to cast at Him (8:59).

JOHN AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 4

Conversations, Feasts and the Upper Room

FOUND ONLY IN JOHN

Conversations with Jesus

John slows down to let us listen to Jesus one person at a time.

3:1–21
Nicodemus
A ruler of the Jews comes by night.
“Ye must be born again.”

4:1–42
The Woman of Samaria
At Jacob’s well, at noon.
“whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst”

9:1–41
The Man Born Blind
Questioned by the Pharisees.
“one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.”

11:17–27
Martha
At Bethany, four days after Lazarus died.
“I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God”

20:11–18
Mary Magdalene
At the empty sepulchre.
“Rabboni; which is to say, Master.”

21:15–19
Simon Peter
By the sea, after three denials.
“Lord, Thou knowest all things; Thou knowest that I love Thee.”

THE JEWISH CALENDAR

Jesus at the Feasts

John follows Jesus to Jerusalem for the feasts, and at each one He shows what the feast pointed to.

2:13
Passover
He cleanses the temple: “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

5:1
A Feast of the Jews
He heals the man at Bethesda on the sabbath.

6:4
Passover
Near the feast He feeds five thousand and says, “I am the bread of life.”

7:2, 37
Tabernacles
“If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.” “I am the light of the world.”

10:22
Dedication
In winter, in Solomon’s porch: “I and My Father are one.”

11:55; 13:1
Passover
His last Passover: the Lamb of God gives His life (1:29; 19:36).

John names three Passovers (2:13; 6:4; 11:55), so Jesus’ public ministry lasted about three years.

CHAPTERS 13–17

Words in the Upper Room

Five chapters tell of one evening. “Having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end” (13:1).

13:14–15
An Example
“ye also ought to wash one another’s feet”

13:34
A New Commandment
“That ye love one another; as I have loved you”

14:1–3
A Place for You
“In My Father’s house are many mansions”

14:16, 26
Another Comforter
“the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost … He shall teach you all things”

14:27; 16:33
Peace
“be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

17:21
His Prayer
“That they all may be one”

JOHN AT A GLANCE · PART 4 OF 4

Confessions of Faith, Themes and Key Verse

WHO IS JESUS?

Confessions of Faith

JOHN THE BAPTIST · 1:29
"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

NATHANAEL · 1:49
"Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God; Thou art the King of Israel."

THE SAMARITANS · 4:42
"this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world."

PETER · 6:68–69
"Thou hast the words of eternal life … Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God."

MARTHA · 11:27
"I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

THOMAS · 20:28
"My Lord and my God."

> *"these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name."*
> John 20:31 (KJV)

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

Jesus Is God
The Word was God and became flesh.
1:1, 14; 8:58; 20:28

Believe and Live
Believing in Jesus is the way to receive life.
1:12; 3:16; 20:31

Eternal Life
Knowing God now and living with Him for ever.
3:36; 10:28; 17:3

Light and Darkness
Jesus shines as light in a dark world.
1:5; 8:12; 12:46

Love
God loves the world; we love one another.
3:16; 13:34–35; 15:13

The Holy Spirit
The Comforter who guides into all truth.
14:16–17, 26; 16:13

KEY VERSE

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16 (KJV)