



Survey of the Book of John

Introduction: The *Book of John stands apart from the Synoptic Gospels for a couple of reasons: 1) there is no mention of the birth and early years of Jesus, 2) John says nothing about choosing the apostles, casting out demons, or the Judgment, and 3) a greater amount of attention is focused on Jesus' final instructions to the apostles.

Since John was written 30-35 years after the circulation of the Synoptic Gospels, there was no need to duplicate their contents. However, John's

purpose was clearly an attempt to supplement what had already been known about Jesus in an effort to produce faith (20.31). His is the simplest in terms of vocabulary and style yet it is, in some ways, the most profound of the four, in terms of the issues it raises. For these reasons, the Book of John is one of the more effective evangelistic "tools" of the New Testament. One reason is because it was written to a universal audience. Discuss why you think this book might be a good place to start when teaching others about Jesus.

MAJOR DIVISION		SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
His PUBLIC Ministry	1-6	<i>Revealing himself</i> (the <u>Lamb</u> 1.19-36, the <u>Messiah</u> 1.37-51) REJECTED (5.19-47; 6.60-66)
	7-10	<i>Tender appeal to sinners</i> (the <u>Light</u> 8.12-9.41, the <u>Good Shepherd</u> 10.1-42) RESISTED (10.33-42)
	11-12	<i>Manifesting as the Messiah</i> (the <u>Resurrection</u> 11.1-57, the <u>Victor</u> 12.12-50) REPULSED (12.37)
His PRIVATE Ministry	13	<i>Issuing and illustrating His "new" commandment by being the Servant.</i> Prediction of Peter's Denial 13.36-38
	14-17	<i>Tenderly instructing His disciples and committing them to the Father's care.</i> Offering Comfort with the Promise of the Holy Spirit (14.12-31) The <u>True Vine</u> 15.1-17, the <u>Unselfish Prayer</u> 17.1-26
	18-19	<i>Dying as a substitute for His people</i> Fulfillment of Peter's denial 18.15-18, 25-27
	20-21	<i>Triumphing Gloriously as the King of the Jews</i> The <u>Resurrected</u> 20.1-31, the <u>Instructor</u> 21.1-25

**The Seven Great
"I AM" Statements**

BREAD of LIFE
6.35

LIGHT of the WORLD
8.12

BEFORE ABRAHAM
8.58

GOOD SHEPHERD
10.11

RESURRECTION and LIFE
11.25

WAY, TRUTH, LIFE
14.6

TRUE VINE
15.1

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jn. 1.35-40 Had been a disciple of John the Baptizer.

Mk. 1.19-20 He was a partner in fishing business with Peter & Andrew.

Mk. 3.17 He and his brother called "Sons of Thunder" by Jesus.

Mk. 5.37-40 Member of the "inner circle" of apostles, close to Jesus.

Jn. 19.25-27 Was present at Golgotha and entrusted with Mary's care.

Gal. 2.9-10 Became one of the "pillars" of the Jerusalem church.

*The earliest fragment of NT in our possession dating AD125-150

REMEMBER THIS...

John 13.12-17—The value of becoming a servant over being served. Did you ever wonder who washed Jesus' feet? No one did but everyone should have! Let's allow this class to help us get out of ourselves and serve others. **Share a meal with someone this week.** Even if it is just popcorn, a bagel, a donut with coffee—there is something special about "breaking bread" together!