



# The Gospel of John Evidence That Demands A Verdict

## Lesson One: Who is Jesus, John 1

What are two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

1. To create belief
2. To move our belief to our gaining everlasting life

### John 1 Who is Jesus?

- A. The Word, 1:1** "Equal with God"
- a. Name three ways Jesus is equal with God
    1. "In the beginning" implies: eternal, not created
    2. "With God" implies: He is the message (Word) He knows all
    3. "Was God" implies Equality with God, part of godhead
  - b. Why is Jesus called the "Word?" Hint: What's the purpose of words?  
Words are essential to good communication
- B. Creator, 1:3-4** "Maker and Sustainer of the Worlds"
- How was each member of the Godhead involved in the creation?
- God, the Father—Genesis 1:1 Commanded the creation  
Salvation: Created Plan
- God, the Spirit—Genesis 1:2 Hovered over waters, design  
Salvation: Communicated Plan
- God, the Son—John 1:3, Hebrews 1:2, Colossians 1:16 Did creating  
Salvation: Enacted Plan Through Death
- C. The Tabernacle, 1:12-18** "God with us"
- a. Who gives us opportunity to become children of God? V. 12-13  
Price has been paid, it is our decision to obey
  - b. Why is verse 14 called the pivot verse for the this entire chapter?  
This is where God became "flesh" and dwelt among us
  - c. What is the difference between Christ and Moses?  
Moses was a fallible man with a fallible plan—Christ is perfect
- D. The Lamb of God, 1:29, 36** "Ultimate Victim For Our Sin"
- a. What question did Isaac ask when he and his father went to the sacrifice? Genesis 22:7-8  
Where is the sacrifice?
  - b. Who is the ultimate answer to that question? John 1:29 Christ

**E. The Son of God, 1:34**

“God’s Special Possession”

- a. What is your most precious possession?  
**Nothing is more special to God than his Son**
- b. Describe the significance of “only begotten as used in John 3:16  
**One of a kind, special, word only used of Isaac and Abraham**

**F. Rabbi, 1:38, 49**

“Master Teacher”

- a. What do the teachings of Christ prove?  
**No man taught as this man, Jesus is the expert**
- b. Summarize the teachings of Christ concerning:  
love, John 13:34-35  
forgiveness, Matthew 5:38-42  
hope, John 14:1-6  
faith, Matthew 6:25-33

**G. The Messiah, 1:41**

“Fulfillment of the Old Testament”

- a. Around how many prophecies did Christ fulfill during his earthly ministry? **At least 333, some say 600**
- b. The role of Messiah entails three roles. How are these fulfilled?  
Prophet **Told of God’s Plan**  
Priest **Offered perfect sacrifice**  
King **Reigns for eternity over His Kingdom**

**H. The King of Israel, 1:49**

“The Highest of Royalty”

- a. What is the significance of God’s Kingdom being a monarchy?  
**We don’t vote, we obey**
- b. What does the Bible tell us concerning our having a king, Luke 16:13  
**We must obey him**

**I. The Son of Man, 1:51**

“One of Us”

- a. How many times did Jesus refer to himself by this title in the gospels?  
**83 times**
- b. What is its significance? Hebrews 4:15  
**Jesus was one of us, he endured what we endure**

**Now the Big Question is “What Will You Do About It?”**

1. Come to Jesus, John 1:12
2. Prepare the way for Jesus, 1:6-27
3. Bring others to Jesus, John 1:40-42



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### **Lesson Two: Jesus in the World, John 2 & 3**

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

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#### **Marriage and the Miracle, John 2:1-11**

A. What two lessons does the presence of Jesus at this wedding provide?

1. **Marriage is approved by God**
2. **Jesus could have fun, laugh, smile**

B. Explain the response of Jesus to his mother in John 2:4

**"Woman" in Aramaic was sign of respect, Jesus was not allowing any one to push him into his work, he was in charge**

C. If everyone followed the advice of Mary in John 2:5, what would happen to our society, our congregation and to each of us as individuals?

**Seemingly small command, but it would transform society**

D. Alcohol and the Christian

What are two common misconceptions taken from this passage?

1. **Wine then is the same as wine today is content and power**
2. **This enables social drinking today**

List three facts about wine usage in the first century

1. **Water in that day was unsafe, wine was a supplement, nourishment**
2. **Wine was always diluted, typically five times weaker than today's**
3. **Often used a prescription**

What are two dangers of social drinking today?

1. **Loss of control**
2. **Loss of influence**

E. Discuss some differences of man's work and the work of God seen in John 2:10. **God does not tire or let up in his love and work. He finishes what he starts**

### **The Zealous Son of God, John 2:13-25**

A. How many Passovers are mentioned in the Gospel of John?

**3 (2:13, 6:4, 11:55) This makes the ministry of Jesus last little of 3 years**

B. What were the businessmen in the Temple doing wrong? How does this apply to our situation today? John 2:14-16

**Probably started as good practice, but selfishness took over**

C. Name three prophecies fulfilled by Christ clearing out the Temple

**Psalm 69:9, Zachariah 14:21, Malachi 3:1**

D. What was the date of this event?

Hint: Herod began to rebuild Temple in 19 BC

27 AD, Makes Jesus 31, Jesus born 4 BC

E. List some passages from the Bible that will serve us well to remember in our Christian walk, John 2:17.

F. What is the significance of God reading our hearts? John 2:23-25

### **John 3 The Divine Teacher**

A. What is the significance of Nicodemus' statement in John 3:2?

**Jesus' miracles certified him as the Messiah**

B. What is wrong with the term "Born Again Christian?" John 3:3

**It is redundant, can't be one without the other**

C. According to John 3:5-8, how is one born again?

**Must be born of the water and the Spirit**

D. List three reasons found in John 3:9-21 of why Jesus came to this world.

1. John 3:14-15 **To give eternal life**

2. John 3:16-18 **To save the believers**

3. John 3:19-21 **To expose the works of darkness**

E. What can we learn today from John's statement in John 3:30?

**The importance of humility and putting Christ first**

F. What does the term certified mean in John 3:33? How does this relate with the overall purpose of this gospel? **Christ is the messiah beyond any doubt**



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### Lesson Three: The Soul Winner, John 4 & 5

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

1. To create belief
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#### John 4 The Soul Winner

A. Why did Jesus have to go through Samaria in John 4:4? What does this imply for us today?

Not geography but because of his mission, we must reach all people

B. What was Jesus really saying in John 4:7-9 when he asked the Samaritan woman for a drink? I consider you an equal, I will put my mouth where yours has been

C. What are some of the things the Samaritans believed about Mount Gerza? John 4:20 World created there, Noah's ark there, Moses received commandments there

D. Which is more important in worship—sincerity or doctrine? John 4:21-24 Both are essential, emphasis of either one brings problems

E. What was the result of Jesus talking to the Samaritan woman according to John 4:39-42? What does this teach us concerning evangelism today? The city was evangelized, power of one

F. What does the second sign of Jesus teach us in regards to the power of Christ? John 4:46-54 Jesus' power over distance

<u>NICODEMAS</u>	<u>SAMARITAN WOMAN</u>
Man	Woman
Jew	Samaritan
Educated	Unlearned
Uppercrust	Lower Class
Serious/Dignified	Flippant
<b>BOTH NEEDED JESUS</b>	

## John 5 The Great Physician

A. What are some differences in the 'miracles' we see from today's 'faith healers' and the miracles of Jesus? John 5:5-9 **No question about Jesus' miracles, they were certain to be true**

B. Why do you think Jesus healed this man on the Sabbath?  
**To teach a lesson of love for neighbors and highlight hard heartedness**

C. What is the significance of Jesus' reply to the Jews in John 5:17-18?  
**It showed Jesus was equal with the Father**

D. What is the difference between the resurrection of John 5:25 and the resurrection of John 5:28-29?  
**5:25 is spiritual resurrection (people saved)**  
**5:28-29 is final resurrection (judgment)**

E. What does John 5:28-29 teach us concerning the false doctrine of Pre-millennialism?  
**No room for literal 1000 years reign or rapture**

F. List the witnesses available to the Jews proving Jesus as the Messiah:

1. John the Baptizer      John 5:32-35
2. Jesus' Works          John 5:36
3. God, the Father        John 5:37-38
4. The Scriptures        John 5:39-47

G. Why do you think the Jews would not accept the proof of Jesus' Messiahship? Why do you think many do not accept it today?  
**Selfishness, Traditions, Jealousy**



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### Lesson Four: Living Bread & Water, John 6 & 7

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

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#### John 6: Real Soul Food

- A. How much money did Philip estimate it would take to feed the crowd?  
A day's wages, he was a pessimist
- B. What is the significance of Andrew in the Bible? John 6:8-9, John 1:40-42  
He is always bringing something to Jesus
- C. What are some examples of "Philips" and "Andrews" in the church today?  
Some see what's wrong with the church, others keep working
- D. While the crowd made a correct statement, what was their intention concerning the Prophet they had found? John 6:14-15, 26-27, 30-34  
The wanted to make him King so they could eat
- E. Do we see the same intention the crowd had for Jesus in some of today's religious world?  
Many follow Jesus for selfish purposes
- F. What is the difference between the manna of Moses' day and the True Bread of Life? John 6:35, 48-51  
Manna: sustenance for the body      Jesus: Food for the soul
- G. Is John 6:51-58 discussing the Lord's Supper or is it referring to partaking fully in Christ? Taking fully of Christ, becoming like him more and more
- H. What is the saddest verse in the Bible?  
John 6:66
- I. Discuss some lessons learned from John 6:68-69  
Jesus is source of eternal life, No where else to go, he is certified

## Living Water John 7

A. Why did the brothers of Jesus say he should go to the feast? John 7:2-5  
**They wanted him to show off, they thought he was a fraud**

B. What is the significance of Jesus' family not believing in him for at least a major part of his earthly ministry? Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:15  
**He is like many Christians today**

C. What kept many from following Jesus? John 7:27-28  
(Malachi 3:1, Daniel 7:13)  
**Misunderstandings of scripture**

D. What is the significance of Jesus speaking of "living water" in the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles? John 7:37-40  
**This was a day in which water was emphasized**

E. What was the reaction of the crowds to Jesus?

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. Many in the crowd (v. 40)             | Believed   |
| 2. Others in the crowd (v. 41-42)        | Questioned |
| 3. The officers of the Temple (v. 45-46) | Impressed  |
| 4. The Pharisees (v. 47-49)              | Rebelled   |

F. Can you name any prophets from Galilee? John 7:52

- |               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| 2 Kings 14:25 | Jonah  |
| Nahum 1:1     | Nahum  |
| 1 Kings 17:1  | Elijah |





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### Lesson Five: The Light of the World, John 8 & 9

What are the two purposes of John's Gospel?

1. To create belief
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#### John 8: The Light of the World

A. What is the correlation of Jesus saying he is the light of the world at the ending of the Feast of Tabernacles when the Jews would light their own lamps? John 8:12

The light represented God's presence among the Jews, Jesus was the fulfillment of this light

B. Discuss the attacks of the Pharisees against Jesus

1. You only bear witness of yourself, 8:13 He had many witnesses
2. Where is your father? 8:19, 41 Claimed he was illegitimate
3. Will you kill yourself? 8:22 Taunted his teachings
4. Who do you think you are? 8:25 Belittled him
5. We have never been in bondage to anyone, 8:33 Egypt, Greece, Babylon, Rome?
6. We have Abraham as our father, 8:39 Abraham looked forward to Christ
7. You are a Samaritan and have a demon, 8:48 Worst offense for Jew
8. Are you greater than Abraham and the Prophets? 8:53 Well, yes

## Seeing the Light, John 9

- A. Were the Disciples more concerned about the blind man or their theory on sin? John 9:1-2  
Showed no compassion, they thought handicap people must have sinned in the womb and deserved what they got.
- B. What was the significance of the Pool of Siloam?  
Built by King Hezekiah to prepare for siege of Jerusalem
- C. Discuss the growth of the blind man's faith. John 9:11, 17, 38  
Physically healed in stages, spiritually grew in stages  
Don't know who he is, he's no a sinner, prophet, Messiah
- D. Discuss the fear of the parents. John 9:18-23  
They cared more about social acceptance than their own son
- E. Discuss the Pharisees... "Blind men with flashlights." John 9:16, 24, 40  
Highly educated but beliefs/selfishness obscured things
- F. Is prayer ever an adequate substitute for obedience in the Bible? John 9:31  
Never, sinner's prayer not found in Scripture

***What does this teach us about the effectiveness of the "sinner's prayer," a method of salvation used in so many Denominational groups today?***



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### Lesson Six: The Good Shepherd, John 10

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

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#### The Good Shepherd

A. List four facts about shepherds in Bible times

1. There are counterfeits John 10:1 Also read Ezekiel 34
2. They loved the sheep Luke 15:4-6, 1 Samuel 17:34-35
3. They took care of sheep Palm 23
4. The sheep know him well John 10:3-5

B. Identify the parts of Jesus' illustration along with two reasons why each part is represented in this way.

The Shepherd/Door

1. He is the only way in to life John 10:9
2. He has made the way possible John 10:15

The Sheep

1. We must follow Jesus John 6:68
2. We can recognize Jesus by his deeds John 10:25

The Hirelings

1. Do not care for the sheep John 10:13
2. They care more for themselves Ezekiel 34

The Fold

1. These are the Jews John 10:1
2. The gospel is for Jew and Gentile John 10:16

- C. What is the background of the Feast of Dedication? John 10:22  
**Known today as Hanukkah, independence by the Maccabeas**
- D. Discuss what is probably one of the most misused passages of Scripture today—John 10:27-28 **Often used to preach once saved, always saved.**

**### WARNING ###**  
**Don't read the doctrine of Calvin (1564)**  
**into the teachings of the Bible (AD 30)**

For a better understanding of this passage notice:

Who are the sheep? V. 27

1. They hear his voice
2. They are following him

Why do people fall away?

1. Is it a failure of God? Titus 1:2
2. Is it because temptations are too strong? 1 Corinthians 10:13
3. James 1:13-15

E. Discuss John 10:34-38 (Psalm 82:1, 6) concerning Jesus' use of the term "gods." What is the point that Jesus is making with those who are accusing him of blaspheming?

**Of course, he is Son of God, he is doing the work of the Messiah, he fulfilled over 300 prophecies**

F. Discuss the significance of John's work in John 10:41-42  
**They led people to Christ, what better thing can be said of a person?**

*"Here incidentally, is the acid test of all worthwhile teaching. Does it lead people to Christ?"*

*Guy N. Woods*



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### Lesson Seven: Giving Life, John 11 & 12

What are two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

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- A. In John 11:4 Jesus said that even Lazarus' illness was for the "glory of God." What are some examples of how people today can use tragedies for God's glory?
- B. Why do you think Jesus waited two days before he began to return to see Lazarus? John 11:6  
So that Jesus' power could be shown more greatly
- C. Why do you think Jesus would use the term "sleep" for death? (Note: Of the 18 times sleep is mentioned in the Bible, 15 of these are to death).

Four ways sleep resembles death for the Christian

1. It is temporary
  2. It restores health and energy
  3. We will awaken from sleep, John 5:28-29
  4. Sleep is a time of rest from our labors, Revelation 14:13
- D. Describe the character of the Apostle Thomas, John 11:6, 20:24-29  
What are some positive and negative traits of Thomas?  
He was pessimistic and doubting, yet he was always near Jesus
- E. What is the significance of the Son of God weeping at the loss of a friend?  
John 11:35, Hebrews 4:15 He is like us
- F. What does the resurrection of Lazarus teach us today? John 11:38-44  
Jesus has power over the grave, we will rise too
- G. In what way was the statement of the Chief Priests and Pharisees true in John 11:47-50? One had to die for all the people

## **King of Kings     John 12**

The Public Ministry of Jesus Comes to an End in Three Events:

### **1. The Anointing of Jesus, v. 1-11**

- A. What were the two purposes of anointing in the Bible? V. 1-3
1. **For medicinal purposes**
  2. **To show affection, choosing for a special purpose**
- B. How much is three hundred denari in today's terms?  
**A year's wages (\$45,000 in Mississippi)**
- C. Describe the relationship of covetousness and theft in John 12:4-6 (Colossians 3:5) **One leads to the other**
- D. Did Jesus fail to show compassion to the poor in John 12:8?  
**Not at all, his life showed compassion,**

### **2. The Triumphal Entry, v. 12-19**

- A. What is the symbolism of Jesus riding on a donkey and the palm leaves?  
**Actions of a king**
- B. What does the word "Hosanna" mean?  
**Savior of the World**

### **3. The Coming of the Greeks, v. 20-36**

- A. What beautiful statement did the Greeks make in John 12:21?  
**We wish to see Jesus**
- B. Discuss the reaction of Jesus in John 12:23 (2:14, 7:6, 7:30, 8:20).  
**The hour HAS come, before always hour is coming**
- C. What lesson does wheat teach about Christianity? John 12:24-26
1. In our sacrifice, v. 24-25
  2. In our reward, v. 26
- D. Give two reasons why the people did not believe in Jesus. John 12:37-43
1. **Fulfillment of prophecy**
  2. **Fear of the authorities**

**JOHN 1-12     Jesus LIVES in complete obedience to the Father**  
**JOHN 13-20     Jesus DIES in complete obedience to the Father**



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### Lesson Eight: The Servant, John 13 & 14

What is the purpose of the Gospel of John? John 20:30-31

1. **To create belief**
  2. **To move our belief to our gaining everlasting life**
- A. What was the occasion of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples?  
Matthew 20:20-28, Luke 22:24-27  
**Right before the Passover meal**
- B. Discuss the need and social implications of washing feet in the days of the bible. John 13:4-5  
**Feet were often dirty, as reclined around table, it would be rough**
- C. What about washing feet as an ordinance of worship today?

Notice:

Footwashing for the early church was done privately at home, not in worship, 1 Timothy 5:10

Footwashing was not connected with any church ordinance until the AD 300's, well after the apostasy of the church

The footwashing practiced by modern religious groups does not resemble what took place in John 13 in purpose or practice

- E. What are some "modern footwashing methods" (ways of serving) that Christians can do today? Remember their importance, Matthew 25:31-46  
**Serving others in their needs**
- F. What is the significance of Jesus knowing Judas would betray him even before it happened? John 13:11, John 13:21-30  
**Jesus is always in control**
- G. Why is our love an identifying mark of Christianity? John 13:35  
**Only trait that Satan can't imitate, the world does not love**
- L. While Peter was willing to face the sharp SWORD (John 18:10);  
He could not endure the sharp TONGUE (John 18:25-27).  
John 13:37
- M. Peter fell far short of what he expected to give for Christ, John 13:38.  
What lesson does this teach us today? 1 Corinthians 10:12  
**Take heed, lest you also fall**

## John 14: Six Helps For Hurting Hearts

### A. Assurance of a Heavenly Home

Every Christian has three guarantees:

A Place "I go to prepare a place for you..." v. 2

A Presence "That where I am there you may be also..." v. 3

A Person "I am the way, the truth and the life..." v. 6

### B. Assurance of Knowing the Father, v. 7-11

John 14:7 speaks of knowing Jesus. What are the four levels of knowledge?

1. Facts alone (memorization)
2. Truth behind fact, James 2:19
3. Obedience alone, Matthew 23
3. Communion, Philippians 3:10

Philip is the down to earth pragmatist (John 14:8, 6:5-7). Why do you think he so misunderstood Christ? **He sees things as they are, not understanding**

### C. Assurance of Answered Prayer, v. 12-15

How would the disciples do greater work than Jesus? John 14:12

**The would teach world about Jesus, they had the full gospel**

In prayer we must ask in faith (James 1:6), but not amiss (James 4:3), and our work will avail much (James 5:16).

### D. Assurance of the Holy Spirit, v. 16-18

To whom specifically is this promise given? John 14:16, 26, 1 Peter 1:21

**The Apostles**

Does the Holy Spirit dwell within us today? Romans 8:9, In what way?

**Yes, through the Scriptures primarily**

### E. The Assurance of God's Love, v. 19-24

What are some of the blessings we receive because of Christ's resurrection?

**Life, fellowship, love**

What is our proof that we love God? John 14:21

**How we treat one another**

Why do you think James (Thaddeus) was so upset that Jesus would no longer manifest himself to the world? John 14:22

**He wanted others to see Jesus**

### F. The Assurance of Peace, v. 25-31

What does the Hebrew word for peace (Shalom) mean? **Complete peace in every facet of life**

"The world bases its peace on RESOURCES while

The Christians bases his on RELATIONSHIP." John 14:27





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### Lesson Nine: The Vine and the Spirit, John 15 & 16

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

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A. Identify the parts of the vine illustration.

1. The Vine is JESUS John 15:1
2. The Vinedresser is GOD John 15:1, Acts 2:47
3. The Branches are CHRISTIANS John 15:2, John 14:6
4. The fruit is OUR WORKS/LOVE John 15:9, John 13:35

B. Discuss the progression of growth for The Christian found in John 15:2, 5  
(bear fruit, bear more fruit, bear much fruit)

**We continually must increase**

C. What is the source of our productiveness? John 15:2

**Jesus**

D. The word abide I used eleven times in the first eleven verses of John 15.  
What does this teach us about our responsibility to remain faithful?

Note: "There are over 2000 warnings against apostasy in Scripture."

**Abide is a continuing action word**

E. We are to love one another as Christ has loved us, John 15:2

How can our love mirror Christ's?

Jesus' love is sacrificial, John 15:13, John 3:16

Jesus' love is intimate, John 15:14-15, 1 John 3:1

Jesus love is initiating, John 15:16, Romans 5:8

Jesus love is productive, John 15:16, 2 Corinthians 5:14

F. List some accusations by pagans against Christians in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century.

1. Arsonists, 2 Peter 3:10
2. Atheists, Acts 2:17
3. Home Wreckers, Matthew 10:34-35
4. Cannibals, 1 Cor. 11:24-25
5. Immoral, Jude 12

G. Is sincerity (doing what feels right) enough to please God? John 16:1-4

**NO**

H. The Holy Spirit works in three ways in the world. Look at the word “convict.” John 16:8-11  
Convict the world of SIN, because of unbelief.  
Convict the world of RIGHTEOUSNESS, because of the nature of Christ.  
Convict the world of JUDGMENT, because when sin and righteousness meet, judgment must come.

- I. The relationship of the Holy Spirit and Christ: “Glorify” John 16:14-15
1. The Spirit comes because of love for Christ, 14:15-16
  2. The Spirit comes as a result of Christ’s prayer, 14:16
  3. The Spirit and Christ are so close as to be seen as one, 14:17-18
  4. The Spirit is sent by the Father in Christ’s name, 14:26
  5. The Spirit’s work is to remind the Apostles of what Christ said, 14:26
  6. The Spirit’s work is to convict the world of sin (show the need for Jesus) 16:7-11
  7. The Spirit will reveal the future based on what he is given (by Christ) to speak, 16:13
  8. The Spirit will glorify Christ by declaring things to his followers, 16:14

*“Any emphasis or movement which claims to be led by the Holy Spirit that does not focus on Christ is mistaken.”*

J. The function of the Godhead:

The Father	plans and purposes
The Son	perfects and executes
The Holy Spirit	reveals and glorifies

K. The relationship of Jesus and the Father, 16:25-33  
Jesus’ relationship with the Father is expressed in three Greek prepositions

- Jesus came forth “from” the Father
  - Greek “para” (from the side of) expresses Christ’s authority
- Jesus came forth “from” the Father, John 16:28
  - Greek “ek” (out of) speaks of Christ’s nature as one with Him
- Jesus came forth “from” the Father, John 16:30
  - Greek “apo” (away from) implies preexistence in the Father’s presence

L. What was the purpose of Jesus’ discourse on his upcoming death and the role of the Holy Spirit? John 16:23-33

**TO HELP APOSTLES UNDERSTAND WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN ACTS 2**



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### Lesson Ten: The Real Lord's Prayer, John 17

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

1. To create belief
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A. Why do you think prayer was so important to Jesus?  
What does this tell us today?

Note: The gospels include 19 prayers of Jesus.

No man spoke as he spoke (John 7:46) and no man prayed as he prayed.

B. In what ways is this prayer unique?

1. Its authorship      The Son of God
2. Its omissions      James 4:1-3
3. Its wording      Simple, yet deep

Jesus never said a word over three syllables

Yet his teachings have been studied for over 2000 years.

4. Its length      2<sup>nd</sup> longest prayer in the Bible (1 Kings 8:15-16)
5. Its breadth      Multitudes of topics

### The Chapter Divides into Three Parts

#### Part One: Jesus Prays For Himself, John 17:1-5

C. Jesus prayed for the opportunity to glorify God.

What does this tell us about priorities (his and ours)? V. 1-2

**Philippians 2:5-11, mission of Christ is to glorify God**

D. Eternal life is more than living forever—it is living with the knowledge of Christ, John 17:3. How is knowing Christ a comfort for us today?

**He is always the same, Hebrews 13**

## **Part Two: Jesus Prays For His Apostles, John 17:6-19**

E. In what ways does God protect Christians from the world today?

**Providence, His word, fellowship**

F. Jesus spent much of his time on this earth training men to take his message to others after he was gone. What are some ways we can 'mentor' others? **V. 12 I was with them and kept them**

I. Discuss the fact that the Christian must be in the world...not of the world.

Note: "Salt preserves meat only when it is in contact with it."

J. How does the 'Truth' (Christ and his word) set us apart from the world? V. 17

**Set apart based on God's word and not our own wishes**

K. In what ways must the Christian be different (set apart) from the world?

**Our beliefs and actions, 1 Cor. 6:9ff**

## **III. Jesus Prays For his Future Disciples, John 17:20-21**

*"Jesus looked death square in the eye and prayed for me."*

L. True or false...We make our situation better when we pray for others.

M. What is true unity? John 17:20-21

**Unity must be based of Christ's Word (the Bible\_**

It is not Unanimity...

Complete agreement in doctrine and opinion in all things

Uniformity...

Complete similarity of organization and order of method

Union...

Political affiliation without agreement, i.e.; agree to disagree

*"Unity requires oneness of heart, purpose, interests and life."*

*In doctrine, unity. In opinion, liberty. In all things, love.*

*Ephesians 4:4-6, 1 Corinthians 1:10-12*



## The Gospel of John Evidence That Demands A Verdict

### Lesson Eleven: The Crucifixion, John 18 & 19

What are the two purposes of John's Gospel? John 20:30-31

1. To create belief
2. To move our belief to our gaining everlasting life

#### A. The Arrest of Jesus

Notice Christ's	Courage	v. 4 "He went forward."
	Authority	v. 6 "They withdrew and fell to the ground"
	Willingness to die	v. 5 "I am he"
	Care for others	v. 8 "Let them go their way"
	Obedience	v. 11 "Shall I not drink this cup?"

B. Peter  
Had great courage, 13:38  
Was willing to fight, 18:10  
But he 'warmed' by the fire, 18:17, 25-27

C. The Trial

Jewish Portion	Annas Caiaphas Caiaphas with Sanhedrin
Romans Portion	Pilate Herod Antipas Pilate

How was this trial illegal? **It was illegal by Jewish standards**

The Jewish trial took place at night, which was illegal

Only one man was in the place of judgment...the deposed High Priest

Obvious false evidence was used (lies and bribes)

The verdict was 'guilty' even before the trial started

The Sanhedrin gathered before the morning sacrifice

They complete a capital case in one day

The conviction of the accused happened on the same day as the trial

Improper voting procedures were used in the Sanhedrin (the High Priest voted first, instead of the ballot being taken from the youngest to the oldest)

Prohibition of the defendant to prove his claim

D. Barabbas                    ‘Bar’ Son of                    ‘Abbas’ My Father  
Barabbas deserved to die  
Barabbas was in judgment  
Barabbas was replaced by an innocent victim

E. Pilate’s Verdict        18:31 no jurisdiction  
                                  18:38 no fault found  
                                  19:4 no fault in him  
                                  19:6 no fault, so take him and crucify him

*18:38 What is truth? Pilate could not recognize truth  
when it was an arms length away*

F. The Jews  
They accused Jesus of blasphemy (Luke 23:2), yet claimed Caesar as king (19:15)  
They would not enter the home of a Gentile (18:28), yet crucified the fulfillment of the law (19:30)  
They gave mercy to the unrepentant sinner (18:40), yet crucified the innocent lamb of God (19:6)  
They broke the law continuously in a sham trial (18:13-24), yet piously rushed the death of the condemned so they wouldn’t break the Sabbath (19:31)

G. Jesus    He suffered greatly, 18:22, 19:1-3, 17-18, 28  
                  He still cared for others, 18:8, 19:25-27  
                  He finally rested, 19:30

H. God is in the Details, John 19:28-37  
Hyssop 19:29 (Exodus 12:22)  
Bones unbroken 19:31-36 (Exodus 12:46, Psalm 34:20)  
Pierced 19:37 (Psalm 22:16-18, Zechariah 12:10)

I. The Late Bloomers, John 19:38-42  
Joseph of Aramathea, was on the council but was a secret disciple for fear of the Jews yet he had the courage to ask for the body of Jesus and he buried him in his own tomb.

Nicodemus, came to Jesus by night, half heartedly tried to defend Jesus (7:50) yet he brought one hundred pounds of spices to bury the body.



# The Gospel of John Evidence That Demands A Verdict

## Lesson Twelve: He Arose, John 20

What are the purposes of the Gospel of John? John 20:30-31

1. **To create belief**
2. **To move our belief to our gaining everlasting life**

A. Why did Jesus have to be resurrected?

1. Evil never overcomes good permanently
2. Faith in a 'good' God would be irrational if Christ did not arise
3. The concept of a moral universe would be impossible, 1 Cor. 15:32
4. Pessimism would be the only rational philosophy

B. Proof of Jesus' Resurrection

1. The empty grave, 20:1-10
  - a. What is the significance of the moved stone? V. 1-2
  - b. The condition of the grave clothes, v. 3-10
    - The linen clothes were lying there, not unwrapped
    - The handkerchief was folded, not the actions of a grave robber
2. The witness of Mary, 20:11-18
  - She was overcome with grief
  - She did not expect or anticipate a resurrection
  - She witnessed Jesus and told others

Why did she think he was the gardener?

**Who else would one expect?**

Discuss the meaning of John 20:17

**Go do something even more important**

3. The witness of the Disciples, 20:19-23

Why were the disciples hiding? V. 19

**They were afraid and leaderless**

What was now the disciple's mission, v. 22-23

**To be set out to the world**

Discuss the imparting of the Holy Spirit, v. 20-23, Acts 2:1-4

**God gave them strength/ability to teach the word**

4. The Doubting Disciple, 20:24-31

Thomas' background, John 11:16 **pessimist**

What are some reasons Thomas doubted? V. 24-25

**He wasn't there when Jesus appeared**

Discuss the evidence Jesus gave to Thomas, v. 26-27

**He could see and touch Jesus**

What evidence do we have today?

**Scripture, history**

What is Thomas' reaction to the presentation of the evidence? V. 28

**My Lord and my God**

What did Jesus say concerning those who would not have this visual evidence? V. 29 **They are blessed in believing**

What are the two purposes of the Gospel of John? V. 30-31

c. A careful study of this gospel answers two questions...

Who is Jesus? 1:1, 8:58

What does Jesus want? 1:43, 8:31-32, 14:15, 15:12-14

.....  
Throughout history many unbelievers have claimed the body was stolen or hidden by someone. Let's examine the motives of the characters to see if this could be true.

## **What happened to the body?**

### **Possibility # 1      The Disciples Stole It**

How did they scare the Roman guard away?

How did they open the tomb without detection?

How can anyone explain the transformation of the disciples?

John 20:19, Act 2:36

How could these men create the highest moral code after this deception?

Why would each of these men live a life of suffering for just a lie?

### **Possibility # 2      The Jews Stole It**

Why do something that would completely destroy your argument?

Why not produce it on Pentecost to counteract the Apostles?

Why risk the wrath of Rome for dispatching the guards?

### **Possibility # 3      The Roman Soldiers Stole It**

Why risk life and career for something you don't believe in?

Why not produce it later for a reward?

### **Possibility # 4                  Jesus Arose**

This would fulfill all prophecy

This would explain the transformation of the Apostles

This would explain the silence of the Romans and the Jews

This is the basis of our faith today





# The Gospel of John

## Evidence That Demands A Verdict

### Lesson Thirteen: Epilogue, John 21

What are the two purposes of John's gospel? John 20:30-31

1. **To create belief**
2. **To move our belief to our gaining everlasting life**

A. List four reasons why John wrote one last chapter after the climax of this gospel (John 20:28).

1. **Show Peter's forgiveness** John 21:15-17, Luke 24:34, Acts 2
2. **Refute false rumors** John 21:23
3. **Show more details of Jesus' life** John 21:25
4. **Show commission of Apostles** Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:45-47

B. Why do you think the Apostles went fishing?

**Easier to go back to old life, what you know**

C. What do you think the significance is that they caught nothing without Christ? John 21:3-6, 2 Peter 2:20-22

**Life without Christ is futile**

C. Why did Peter put on a garment before getting in the water? John 21:7

**Modesty, what does that show today?**

D. As the Apostles sat down for breakfast, what scenes could they have been reminded of from the past? John 21:9-13

1. Miraculous catch of fish earlier Luke 5:1-11
2. The fire present at Peter's denial John 18:25-27
3. Jesus feeding 5000 John 6:11

#### The Epiphanies Ten Appearances of the Lord After the Resurrection

Mary Magdalene	Mark 16:9, John 20:11-18
The Women	Matthew 28:9-10
Cleopas and his Companion	Luke 24:13-35
Peter	Luke 24:34, 1 Corinthians 15:15
Apostles Without Thomas	John 20:19-23
Apostles With Thomas	John 20:24-29
Apostles at Sea of Tiberius	John 21:1-14
Five hundred in Galilee	Matthew 28:16-20, 1 Corinthians 15:6
James brother of Jesus	1 Corinthians 15:7
Apostles on Mount Olive	Luke 20:50-51, Acts 1:4-11

E. Why do you think Jesus asked Peter three times to “feed his sheep?” (three possibilities) John 21:15-17

1. To show love and concern to him, make him think John 11:3, 5
2. He denied him three times John 18:17, 25-27
3. To really get his attention John 21:17

F. Discuss the significance of Jesus’ prophecy in John 21:18-19

Peter would eventually be beheaded and martyred

G. Why do you think Jesus kept John’s fate from Peter in John 21:20-24?

Jealousy, keep emphasis in right place

H. What does John 21:25 tell us concerning the reason why so many of the Gospel accounts contain different parables and miracles?

Jesus was a busy man seen from many different perspectives

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Note: Matthew, Mark and Luke are known as the “synoptic” (see together) gospels. Less than forty verses are unique to Mark’s gospel alone. 91% of Mark is found in Matthew and 53% of Mark is found in Luke. Around 90% of John is not found in the synoptic gospels.

**Matthew: Gospel for the Jews**

310 allusions to the Old Testament. “Kingdom” is mentioned 100 times.  
Book is written around five great sermons (7:28, 11:1, 13:53, 19:1, 26:1).

**Mark: Gospel for the Romans**

“Immediately” is used 45 times Focus is more on action than on words  
All Hebrew words are translated for the Gentile reader.

**Luke: Gospel for the Greeks**

Luke is the only Gentile to author a New Testament book.  
Longest New Testament book in the Greek translation.  
Focus is on outsiders: Gentiles, women, widows, Genealogy back to Adam.

**John: Gospel for the Church**

Focus is more on concepts than on action or teaching.  
Key components are “Signs” (7) and “Belief” (7 I Am’s).  
Very likely John was written later than the other gospels.