

Gospel of John

BACKGROUND:

John (who wrote this gospel, three epistles and Revelation all probably between 70 and 100 A.D.), draws mainly upon events and discourses not found in the other three gospels which, despite their individual emphases, describe many of the same events in the life of Jesus and are therefore referred to as the synoptic gospels.

John writes an eyewitness account and proves to his readers that Jesus is the Son of God in the flesh, the eternal Word come to earth, born to die as God's sacrifice for human sin (John 3:16, the most quoted verse in the Bible).

John presents seven miraculous signs to prove that "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name." (20:31). He also gives the seven "I am" statements of Jesus.

While Luke's gospel emphasizes the humanity of Christ, John emphasizes the deity of Christ. His central contention is that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah and the Son of God.

Key verses: John 1:11-13 and John 20:30-31 (which gives John's purpose for writing this gospel).

A brief outline:

- I. Incarnation of the Son of God (1:1-1:18)
- II. Presentation of the Son of God (1:19-4:54)
- III. Opposition to the Son of God (5:1-12:50)
- IV. Preparation of the Son's Disciples (13:1-17:26)
- V. Crucifixion and Resurrection of the Son of God (18:1-21:25)

HELPS: Before turning to these, read prayerfully the Word of God, praying that the Holy Spirit will guide you and instruct you.

If you don't own a Bible dictionary, encyclopedia, atlas, or reference search, don't worry. They are all available on the link below.

http://www.preceptaustin.org/2_corinthians_commentaries_3.htm

This excellent website is full of helps including commentaries. You will find John MacArthur, Ray Stedman and John Piper along with Charles Spurgeon and the Intervarsity Press Commentary (Navigators) as well as Matthew Henry's Commentary.