

Correspondence Bible Study

Lesson #36 – Gospel of John

PRAYER: Read John 17. This is called Jesus' high priestly prayer. In it He prays for Himself, His disciples, and all believers. In the last part He even includes you.

Notes on John:

The author is the beloved disciple of Jesus, John, the son of Zebedee. He does not refer to himself by name in this book. He calls himself, "The disciple who Jesus loved." He wrote after the three synoptic gospels were complete and in the hands of the believers.

As is easily seen, John's gospel is different from the other three gospels. John is more concerned with the person of Jesus as true God and true man. He uses ordinary terms to explain the extraordinary person and work of Christ. The **"I AM"** phrases of John are treasures of the church. The opening verses of the gospel are unmatched in their simplicity and power. The main purpose of John's writing and really the writing of all Scripture is found in 20:31, "These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."

Questions on John:

1. Chapter 1:1 takes you back to Genesis 1:1. By using John 1:1-14, how can you place the pre-incarnate Jesus at the creation of the world? Which verses help to show He was there?
2. Chapters 1:1-14 also shows John's use of the picture of "light" and "darkness." What do these represent in this use?
3. Chapter 1:29-42 – When John the Baptist calls Jesus the Lamb of God, what are some of the things he is implying? How does Exodus 12 fit in?
4. Chapter 2:12-25 – Here we see Jesus and His righteous anger. When He says that He will destroy the temple and rebuild it in 3 days, what was He saying?
5. Chapter 3:1-21 – Jesus was explaining to Nicodemus what it means to have spiritual life. What were some of the key points Jesus makes?
6. Put into your own words the meaning of the gospel in a nutshell. (3:16)

7. A number of times throughout the book, Jesus defines Himself by using the phrase "I AM...." An example is in 6:35, "I AM the bread of life." To complete this question, make a list of the I AM phrases and briefly state the point He is making with each one.

8. Chapter 6:60-71 – Why did many leave Jesus?

9. In John's gospel often there are connections made between physical and spiritual aspects of life. What is the one topic in Chapter 9 that is explained in both realms?

10. List the attributes of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

11. The raising of Lazarus was a very important event in the ministry of Jesus. It happened only days before Palm Sunday. Why was this event so significant?

12. Chapter 14-15-16 – Jot down some of the activities of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church and Christians.

13. Chapter 20:19-31 – What strikes you about Jesus' appearances to the disciples and Thomas?

14. Compare 18:15-27 to 21:15-19. What parallels do you see?

15. Chapter 21:24-25 – We don't know everything about Jesus. We have been told all we need to know to have the free gift of eternal life.

Your questions on John...

Begin to read Acts