

# The Bible in an Hour

## The Gospel of John





# **John in an Hour**

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## ***1. Some background to the Gospel of John***

### **a. John amongst the Gospels**

John and the Synoptic Gospels  
History vs theology  
The Priority of John  
Difference in style

### **b. Some Background to John**

Greek  
Gnostic  
Jewish  
Christian - the Johannine community

### **c. Some Critical Issues**

When was John written?  
Who wrote the Gospel?  
Where was it written?  
Has the text been altered?

## **2. The Contents of the Gospel of John**

### **Prologue**

1.1-18          The Prologue

### **Introducing Jesus**

#### The New Creation (1.19-2.11)

1.19-28          Day 1 - The witness of John the  
Baptist  
1.29-34          Day 2 - John on Jesus  
1.35-42          Day 3 - John's disciples and Jesus  
1.43-51          Day 4 - More disciples  
2.1-11          'On the third day' - The Wedding at  
Cana (1<sup>st</sup>  
Sign)

2.12-25          Clearing the Temple (Passover)

### **3. Signs and Teaching**

3. 1-21          Nicodemus and God's Salvation  
3.22-36          John the Baptist and Jesus (again)  
4.1-42          The Samaritan Woman  
4.43-54          The second sign  
5.1-47          Healing at Bethzatha (3<sup>rd</sup> sign; "A  
feast of the  
Jews")  
6.1-71          The Bread of Life (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Signs;  
Passover)

## The Feast of Tabernacles (7.1-10.21)

7.1-52	Jesus' authority
[8.1-11	<i>The woman taken in adultery]</i>
8.12-20	I am the Light of the World
8.21-59	More controversies over authority
9.1-41	Healing the Man Born Blind (6 <sup>th</sup> Sign)
10.1-21	The Good Shepherd
10.22-42	Tell us plainly (The Feast of Dedication)

## The Final Passover (11.1-19.42)

11.1-57	The Resurrection and the Life - (7 <sup>th</sup> Sign)
12.1-11	Jesus anointed
12.12-19	Jesus enters Jerusalem
12.20-50	Jesus and Glory

## **4. The Last Supper**

12.1-20	Washing feet
12.21-38	Betrayal and Denial foretold

## The Farewell Discourse (14-17)

14.1-31	Where Jesus is going
15.1-27	The True Vine
16.1-33	Trials and Persecutions
17.1-26	The High Priestly Prayer

## **5. The Glorification of Jesus**

18.1-14	Jesus arrested
18.15-27	Jesus and Peter tried
18.28-19.16	Jesus before Pilate
19.17-30	Jesus crucified
19.31-42	Jesus buried

## **6. The Resurrection**

20.1-10	The Empty Tomb
20.11-18	Jesus and Mary
20.19-23	The Gift of the Holy Spirit
20.24-29	Thomas
20.30-31	Conclusion

## **7. Epilogue**

21.1-14	Breakfast on the Beach
21.15-23	Jesus and Peter
21.24-25	Another conclusion

### **3. Key Themes**

#### **A. Jesus in John**

- How human is John's Jesus?
- Jesus and the Father
- Glory in John
- Jesus and Judaism

#### **B. The Church in John**

- Where is the church?
- The disciples as models
- Other communities
- The most communal Gospel?

#### **C. The Sacraments in John**

- Conspicuous by their absence
- Conspicuous by their presence
- Baptism in John
- Communion in John

#### **D. Some other theological features**

- Realised Eschatology
- Judgement
- Dualism
- John and "the Jews"

## ***A Short Bibliography***

Raymond E. Brown, *The Gospel According to John* 2 Volumes. The Anchor Bible (Doubleday, 1966, 1970)

Still a magisterial work that brings out the wealth of allusions in the Gospel.

Tom Wright, *John for Everyone* 2 Volumes. (SPCK, 2002).

Not the best of this series, but still a helpful way in. Arranged as short readings and commentary.

Barnabas Lindars, *John* NT Guides (Sheffield Academic Press, 1990).

Short and helpful, but doesn't really begin to tackle the theology of the Gospel.

D. Moody Smith, *The Theology of the Gospel of John* New Testament Theology (Cambridge University Press, 1995).

Handles a wealth of material in a clear and helpful way.

Raymond E. Brown, *The Community of the Beloved Disciple* (Paulist Press, 1979).

A very influential attempt to trace the communal development of the Gospel.