

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 01 Sept 2013	John 1:1-18	God Revealed
2) 08 Sept	John 1:19-51	Jesus Identified
3) 15 Sept	John 2:1-25	Authority Acknowledged
4) 22 Sept	John 3:1-36	Salvation Offered
5) 29 Sept	John 4:1-38	The Power to Give Life
6) 06 Oct	John 4:39-54	The Power to Save
7) 13 Oct	John 5:1-47	The Power to Heal
8) 20 Oct	John 6:1-71	The Power to Meet Needs
9) 27 Oct	John 7:1-52	Asking Questions About Jesus
10) 03 Nov	John 7:53-8:59	Wondering About Judgment
11) 10 Nov	John 9:1-41	Doubting Jesus' Power
12) 17 Nov	John 10:1-42	Feeling Insecure?
13) 24 Nov	John 11:1-57	Dealing with Death

INTRODUCTION

- **Author:** Internal evidence and Church tradition holds that John the Apostle – the son of Zebedee and the brother of James wrote it
- **Purpose of the Book:** That we might believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and receive eternal life ..... John 20:31
- **Major Doctrines:** Jesus' Deity, Salvation through Grace, Grace is available to ALL, the Holy Spirit's role
- The Gospel of John is easy to read, difficult to understand, but essential for spiritual growth ..... Dr. Eli Landrum
- What makes John's Gospel difficult to understand is its many metaphorical and spiritualized statements such as "eat my flesh," "drink my blood," "destroy this temple and I will raise it up in 3 days", "you must be born again", "drink my water and never thirst again", "I am the bread of life", "I am the door", "I am the true vine", "Lazarus has fallen asleep", "you must hate your life to keep it", "greater works than these will he do", "ask and you will receive", and "the words that I speak unto you are spiritual"
- Another difficulty is that God remains a mystery since He has chosen only to partially reveal Himself and His purpose, – "Truly, You are a God who hides Himself" ..... Isaiah 45:15 – WHY? "Secret things belong onto God" ..... Deuteronomy 29:29
- We can only speculate that God does not want to force anyone to believe and spend Eternity with Him. So He only gives enough information to make a sound decision to believe, and for others to have wiggle room not to believe
- No one will be in Heaven who doesn't want to be there, and no one will be in Hell who doesn't deserve to be there

Passage	Comments
LIFE TERMS	<p><b>John uses three terms for LIFE in this Gospel</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strongs 2222, zoe ~ soul, vitality, – 32x</li> <li>2. Strongs 5590, psuche (psyche) ~ mentally alive – 9x</li> <li>3. Strongs 2227, zoopoieo ~ physically alive – 3x</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sometimes the words seem interchangeable. Other times there are subtle differences. For example: "He who hates his life &lt;5590&gt; in this world will keep it to life &lt;2222&gt; eternal" ..... John 12:25</li> <li>"It is the Spirit who gives life &lt;2227&gt;; ... the words I have spoken to you are spirit &amp; are life &lt;2222&gt; . Jn 6:63</li> </ul>
1:6-15	<p><b>Welcome the Light of Jesus Christ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv6-8. John the Baptist was on a mission from God to "bear witness of the Light (Jesus)". Others whom Scripture specifically claims were selected from birth:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ King David ..... Psalms 139:15</li> <li>♦ Isaiah ..... Isaiah 49:1</li> <li>♦ Jeremiah ..... Jeremiah 1:4-5</li> <li>♦ Apostle Paul ..... Galatians 1:15</li> <li>♦ You and me (He chose us before the foundation of the world) ..... Ephesians 1:4</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v9. Jesus "gives light to every man" – This implies a universal solution for everyone to theoretically be saved – IF they just <b>willingly</b> come to the Light (Jesus)                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ No one has an excuse ..... Romans 1:20</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv10-11. "...the world did not recognize Him, and His own (Israel) did not receive Him"                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ REASON – <b>Willful</b> ignorance ..... Eph 4:18; 2Pet 3:5</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv12-15. Salvation comes to those who <b>willfully</b> "HATE their lives", BELIEVE in Him, RECEIVE Him                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ John's Gospel never uses the noun "FAITH", but uses action verbs such as Hate, Believe, Receive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1:16-18	<p><b>Experience Grace Beyond Measure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v16. "...we have all received His fullness, and grace for grace" – or "grace beyond measure" – IOW, Christ would rather shower everyone with His Grace to freely forgive and save, than to condemn to Hell                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ His mercies are new every morning ..... Lam 3:22-23</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
John 1:1-5	<p><b>Recognize Jesus Christ as the Living Word of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv1-2. "In the beginning was the Word [Jesus Christ]"                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Matthew began with Jesus' descent from Abraham</li> <li>♦ Mark began with Jesus' baptism</li> <li>♦ Luke traced Jesus' genealogy to Adam</li> <li>♦ John began with Jesus in eternity, and makes no qualms about Jesus being with God and being God at the same time. The Holy Spirit is introduced later in this chapter (1:32), confirming the Trinity concept</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv3,10. Jesus is the Creator of all things – to include the heavens, the known universe, the earth, and things "visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him" .. Col 1:16; 1Cor 8:6; Heb 1:2</li> <li>• v4. Jesus Christ is life &lt;2222&gt; – Reminiscent of Jesus came to give us life &lt;2222&gt; more abundantly.. Jn 10:10 - not an abundance of things, but a life with purpose</li> <li>• v5. "The Light (Jesus) shines in the darkness, and the darkness (SIN) did not comprehend it" – What are the applications here?</li> </ul>

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- God picked a special time in man's history to more accurately reveal Himself through Jesus Christ, and to reveal His purpose to save man from Hell – IF we would **willingly believe and receive**

**NEXT WEEK: John 1:19-51.** John the Baptist denies he is the Christ, and points others to the real Messiah

