

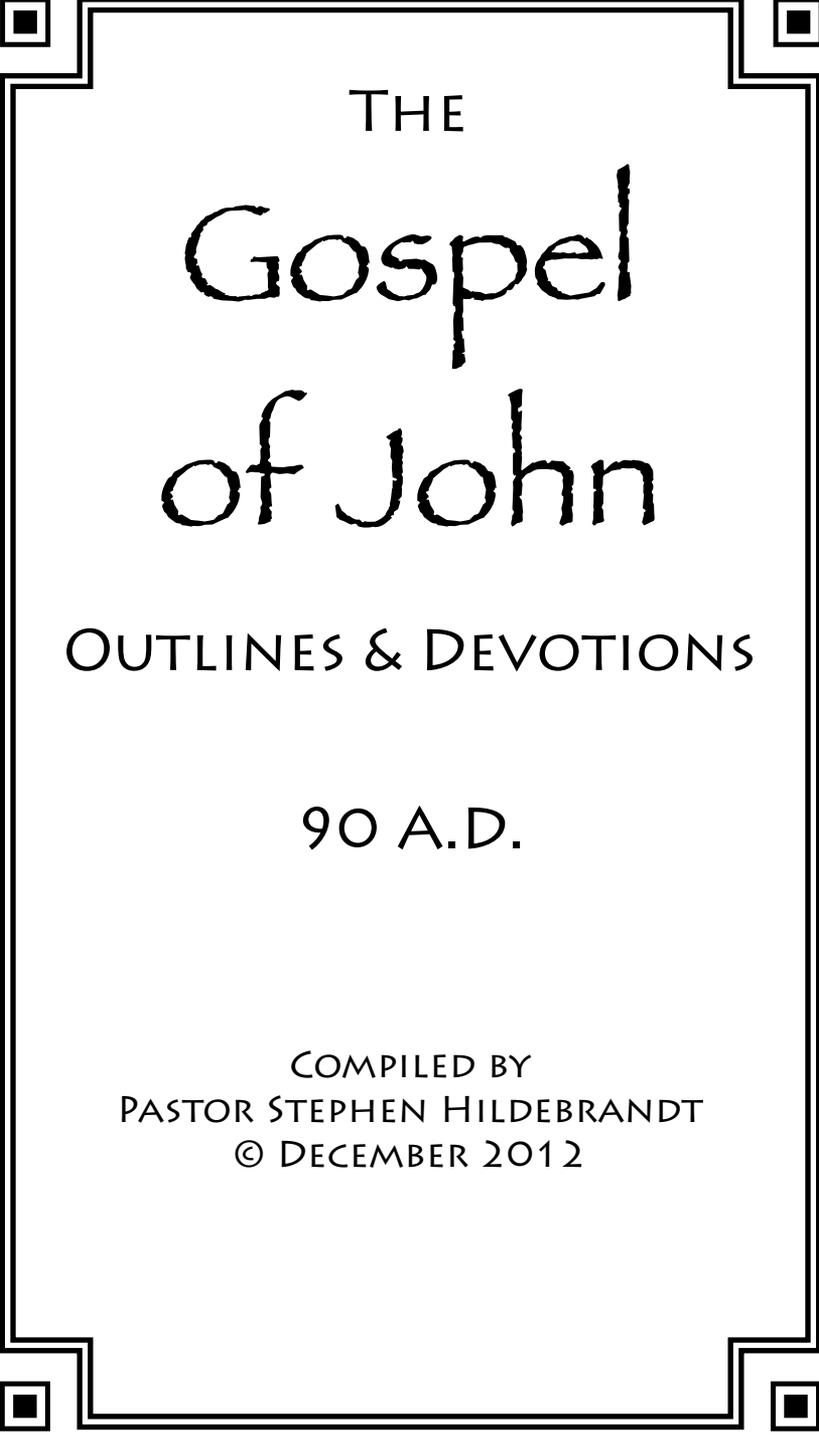
THE APOSTLE JOHN'S

The
Gospel
of John

90 A.D.

OUTLINES & DEVOTIONS

COMPILED BY
PASTOR STEPHEN HILDEBRANDT
© DECEMBER 2012



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THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

(43 sermons)

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THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

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Greek Name: *Kata Ioannen*, "According to John"

JOHN

PURPOSE

TO SHOW THAT JESUS' WORKS AND HIS OWN STATEMENTS PROVE THAT HE IS IN FACT GOD IN HUMAN FLESH, SO THAT "YOU MAY BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD; AND THAT BELIEVING YOU MAY HAVE LIFE IN HIS NAME" (JOHN 20:31)

OUTLINE

- 1 JESUS IS THE WORD
- 2-11 JESUS' THREE-YEAR MINISTRY
- 12-19 PASSION WEEK
- 20 RESURRECTION
- 21 EPILOGUE

43rd book : 21 chapters : 879 verses

Biography of the Apostle John		
Youngest of twelve disciples.		
A fisherman. (Mt. 4:21-22)		
James and John called Boanerges, "sons of thunder" (Mk. 3:17)		
"the disciple who Jesus loved". (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7, 20)		
6 AD	Born, son of Zebedee and younger brother of James. (Matt. 4:21)	Age 0
27 AD	Called as an apostle. (Matt. 4:21-22)	21
29 AD	At Jesus' Transfiguration. (Mark 9:2)	23
30 AD	Reclined on Jesus at the Last Supper. (John 13:23-26)	24
	Garden of Gethsemene with Christ. (Mk. 14:32-33)	
	At the Cross. (Mark 14:32-33; John 19:25-27)	
	At Jesus' tomb. (John 20:2-10)	
90 AD	Wrote the Gospel of John from Ephesus.	84
90-95 AD	Wrote 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd John from Ephesus.	84-89
95 AD	Exiled to Patmos by Emperor Domitian (reign: 81-96 AD). Wrote Revelations (Rev. 1:9).	89
96 AD	Domitian assassinated (96 AD); Emperor Nerva (reign: 96-98 AD) stripped Domitian of honors and freed all exiles; John returned to Ephesus.	90
101 AD	Died in Ephesus under the reign of Emperor Trajan (reign: 98-117 AD), who bathed the empire red in the blood of Christians.	95

John 3:16-21 God So Loved the World

Outline

1. God So Loved the World.

Three Schools of Thought:

- Electing love. (John 3:17)
- Benevolent love. (Mt. 5:44-45)
- Indiscriminate love. (John 3:36)

Reason for the Debate:

- Statements about God's attitude toward wicked. (John 3:36)

2. He Gave His Only Begotten Son.

- Greek: *monogenus* (John 3:16)
- Allusion to Abraham. (Gen. 22)

3. Whosoever Believeth.

- The general call. (2 Cor. 5:20)
- A real offer to all. (John 3:16)
- Self-judgment. (John 3:17-18)
- Who would reject it? (John 3:19-21)
- The effectual call. (John 6:44)

Notes

Verses to Ponder

Psalm 5:5 -

Psalm 7:11 -

Psalm 11:5 -

Prov. 6:16-19 -

Hosea 9:15 -

Rom. 1:18 -

Rom. 9:13 -

John 3:16-21, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - The General Call of the Gospel.

John 3:16

John 3:16 is one of the most beloved and well known verses in the Bible. Here Jesus proclaims, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16, KJV). This is the *general call* of the Gospel and it is a genuine offer of salvation to "whosoever" will believe in Christ. And even though only those who God effectually draws will respond (John 6:44, 65), this does not lessen the sincerity of the offer to all. So then, Christian, your job is: [1] to proclaim the good news to your friends and family, neighbors and co-workers. This is our great commission (Mt. 28:19), and the general call; and [2] to pray that God will impart faith to believe (Eph. 2:8-9), and grant repentance (2 Tim. 2:24-25). This is God's *effectual call*.
Read John 1:12-13

☐ Tuesday - Love Your Enemy.

John 3:16

In this life God demonstrates a measure of benevolence even to His enemies, "For He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." And in like fashion He commands His people, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven" (Mt. 5:44-45).
Read Romans 12:19-20

☐ Wednesday - Jesus Christ, The Only Begotten Son.

John 3:16

Our text says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16, KJV). But in what respect was/is Christ begotten? Does the term "begotten" refer to Christ's immaculate conception and virgin birth? No, the Greek word *monogenus* used here refers not to time but essence. It means that the Son is begotten of the same eternal essence as God the Father. Therefore, the term is actually a declaration of Christ's deity and eternal coexistence within the Trinity. Whereas believers are adopted sons and daughters (Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5), Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son, because He is God, of the same divine essence as the Father. And what should be our response to this wonderful truth, but to render unbridled praise to Him who did not spare His only Son, but delivered Him up for us all (Rom. 8:32).
Read John 1:1-2, 14, 18

☐ Thursday - Christ, The Judge.

John 3:17-18

"For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:17-18). Christ came not to judge but to be judged for the sins of all of those who would believe in Him. Nevertheless, when He returns Christ will come not as a sacrifice for sin, as He did at His first advent, but as the Judge of all mankind (Rev. 19:11), but not to determine where each one will spend eternity, for we decide that by our acceptance or rejection of Christ in this life (Acts 13:46). No, "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10), to determine degrees of eternal reward in heaven (1 Cor. 3:11-15), or degrees of eternal punishment in hell (Rom. 2:5).
Read Hebrews 9:28; Revelation 11:15-18

☐ Friday - Jesus, The Light.

John 3:19-21

"This is the judgment, that the *Light* has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the *Light*, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the *Light*, and does not come to the *Light* for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the *Light*, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God" (John 3:19-21). The *Light* that the apostle John is referring to is of course Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life" (John 8:12, 12:46). Christian, "walk as children of Light" (Eph. 5:8).
Read 1 John 1:5-7

John 15:1-8

Christ is the Vine, We are the Branches

Outline

Notes

1. Background.

- The “seed” promise to Abraham. (Gen. 22:18)
- Israel was a choice vine, became a fruitless vine. (Jer. 2:21) (Hos. 10:1)
- Jesus cursed the fig tree, because it bore no fruit. (Mt. 21:18-19)
- The “seed” to bless the nations was Christ. (Gal. 3:16)
- Christ is the true vine, i.e. genuine, fruitful. (John 15:1)

2. Branches.

- Keyword: “abide,” position or practice? (10x, John 15)
- Abide in “Me,” “My word,” “My love”
- Non-abiding branches removed (v. 2) , burned (v. 6).

3. Bearing-Fruit.

- Keyword: “fruit,” used 8x in John 15:1-16 (8x)
- Fruitful branches pruned to bear more fruit. (Jn. 15:2)
- Fruit-bearing glorifies God and proves our discipleship. (Jn. 15:8)

John 15:1-8, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - The Fruit-Filled Christian. John 15:2

Jesus said, “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit” (Jn. 15:1-2). Here we are told that God is the vinedresser, His Son is the vine, and you, dear Christians, are the branches. And all of these work together toward one end: *fruit!* That includes the fruit of repentance (Mt. 3:8), the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), and the fruit of good works (Eph. 2:10), but the ultimate fruit of a Christian is another Christian. You were born [again] to reproduce! Fulfill your calling: “Go make disciples!” (Mt. 28:19). Read Colossians 4:5-6; 1 Peter 3:15

☐ Tuesday - Help I Need Prunes! John 15:2

Jesus said, “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He *prunes* it, that it may bear more fruit” (Jn. 15:2). God removes ungodly attachments, so that we may bear more fruit. He prunes away unfruitful uses of our time, treasures, and talents. God’s pruning is sometimes painful, but always productive. Pruning a branch often leaves scars. But Paul looked at the physical scars on his body, as a result of the gospel, not as something ugly, but as his “brand-marks” for Jesus Christ (Gal. 6:17). Read Psalm 51:10

☐ Wednesday - OxyMorons for Christ? John 15:4

America has more churches, more Christian book stores, and more Christian radio and television stations than ever before in history. We should be seeing unprecedented revival, and yet our culture is experiencing terrible moral decay. The problem is that a great number of Americans who call themselves “Christians” have no allegiance to Christ, sense no duty to keep His commandments, and feel no compulsion to share the gospel with others? Is there any wonder that the church in America is making so little impact? It is an oxymoron; it is Christianity without Christ. Jesus said, “Apart from Me you can do nothing” (Jn. 15:4-5), nevertheless I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13). The difference then between fruitful and fruitless ministry is whether Jesus Christ is given first place. Read 1 Peter 3:15

☐ Thursday - Abiding in Christ: How Attached Are You? John 15:4

Jesus told His disciples, “*Abide* in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it *abides* in the vine, so neither can you unless you *abide* in Me” (John 15:4). To abide in Christ is to live in and for and through Jesus Christ and to remain permanently attached to Him, like a branch attached to a vine. It is the position of all true believers, so the difference between those abiding in Christ and those not abiding in Christ is the difference between being saved and unsaved. But abiding in Christ is much more than a superficial attachment, rather it is a close, intimate, personal relationship. Read 1 John 2:6, 2:28, 4:13

☐ Friday - The Proof of a True Disciple of Jesus Christ John 15:8

Jesus said, “My Father is glorified by this, that you *bear much fruit*, and so prove to be My disciples” (John 15:8). True disciples/Christians desire to glorify God. They are jealous for His honor and reputation in the earth. They hear God’s Word calling out to them, “Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Cor. 10:31), and they respond, “Lord, be glorified in me!” Jesus tells them that their heavenly Father is glorified when they “bear much fruit,” and so eager are they for His glory that they labor strenuously to bring forth a mighty harvest. Read Matthew 7:17-19

John 20

Jesus' Post-Resurrection Appearance

Outline

Notes

1. Sunday Resurrection.

(John 20:1-25)

- Mary Magdalene (John 20:1-3)
Stone Rolled Away
- Peter & John (John 20:4-10)
The Empty Tomb
- Jesus (John 20:11-18)
First Appearance
- Jesus (Luke 24:13-32)
Second Appearance
- Jesus (John 20:19-23)
Third Appearance
- "Doubting" Thomas (John 20:24-25)
He Wanted Proof

2. Sunday Following.

(John 20:26-28)

- The Disciples Gather (John 20:26)
New Meeting Day
- Jesus (John 20:26)
Fourth Appearance
- Thomas (John 20:27-29)
Seeing is Believing

3. Statement of Purpose.

(John 20:30-31)

- That you may believe (John 20:26)
and have life

John 20

Monday - Resurrection Power!

John 20

“At the moment when Christ died, nothing could have seemed more abjectly weak, more pitifully hopeless, more absolutely doomed to scorn and extinction and despair, than the Church which He had founded. It numbered but a handful of weak followers. They were poor, they were ignorant, they were hopeless. . . . How was it that these dull and ignorant men, with their cross of wood, triumphed over the deadly fascinations of sensual mythologies, conquered kings and their armies, and overcame the world? There is one, and one only, possible answer: All this vast revolution was due to the power of Christ’s resurrection” (Farrar). The apostle Paul prayed, “. . .that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection” (Phil. 3:10). Christian, there is power, power, wonder working power in the blood of the Lamb! (Hymn). Read Philippians 3:8-10

Tuesday - The New Covenant Day of Rest.

John 20:1

Christ rose on the first day of the week (John 20:1, 19) and this day is afterwards often mentioned by the sacred writers as the Christian sabbath. Eight days later, the apostles were again gathered on the first day of the week and Christ appeared to them again (John 20:26). When we assemble in Christ’s name, especially on his holy day, He will meet with us. And so the Bible exhorts us, “Do not forsake assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near” (Hebrews 10:25). Read Isaiah 58:13-14

Wednesday - A Very Present Help.

John 20:19,26

Twice in John 20 we read that the doors were shut, for fear of the Jews, when Christ appeared to His apostles (John 29:19, 26). Let the underground church meeting in hostile countries around the world take comfort. Let those shut-ins who cannot attend a church take heart. Let those who lock themselves in their prayer closet for just a few moments of quiet prayer and reflection take courage -- No doors can shut out Christ’s presence! Read Deuteronomy 4:7; Psalm 46:1

Thursday - Eternal Wounds.

John 20:20

Upon His first appearance to the disciples after the resurrection, Christ “showed them both His hands and His side” (John 20:20). Jesus’ resurrected body still bore His sacrificial wounds. Sixty years later, when John, on the isle of Patmos, saw the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, he beheld “a Lamb standing as if slain” (Rev. 5:6). Apparently our Lord continues to bear His sacrificial wounds as an eternal reminder of God’s infinite love and sacrifice for His people. Read Romans 5:8, 8:32

Friday - We Walk By Faith.

John 20:28-29

“Jesus said to [Thomas], ‘Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed’ (John 20:29). The old adage says, “Seeing is believing,” but for the Christian, believing is seeing, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7). Read 1 Peter 1:8

Saturday - Need A Faith Lift?

John 20:31

John closes chapter 20, “These have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name” (Jn. 20:31). “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the Word of Christ” (Rom. 10:17). Need a faith lift? Get into God’s Word! Read Psalm 1

Written by Pastor Stephen Hildebrandt

Outlines & Devotions appropriate for:

- *Church Services.*
- *Small Group Bible Studies.*
- *Private Devotions.*



“Study to show yourself
approved to God ...
handling accurately the
Word of truth.”

- 2 Timothy 2:15

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