

The Gospel of John, Daily Devotions

□ Monday - John, The Youngest Apostle.

“Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee … He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him” (Mt. 4:18-22). When Jesus called John to be an apostle, John was probably around 20 years old. The fact is that God often calls young men and women to carry out His purposes. Jeremiah was probably in his early 20’s when the Lord appointed him a prophet to Judah (Jer. 1:4-7). David was the youngest of Jesse’s seven sons and only about 15 years of age when God anointed him king of Israel (1 Sam 16:1-13), and a mere 17 years old when he defeated Goliath. Young Christian, “Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe” (1 Tim. 4:12). Read Jeremiah 1:4-7

□ Tuesday - John, The Oldest Apostle.

When the apostle John wrote his gospel, he was in his mid 80’s and he was the last living apostle. One-by-one his fellow apostles had been martyred, but John was miraculously spared. At the time he wrote the Gospel of John, he had been an apostle for over 60 years! The Christian life is a marathon, not a sprint. Therefore “you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised” (Heb. 10:36). Read Hebrews 12:1-2

□ Wednesday - Theme: The Deity of Jesus Christ.

One of the primary purposes of the Gospel of John is to declare the deity of Jesus Christ: that Jesus is God in human flesh! And so John starts His gospel, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God … And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:1, 14). Elsewhere in John’s gospel, Christ is called “the only begotten God” (John 1:18, NASB), and the “I AM” (John 8:24, 8:58, 18:5; cf. Ex. 3:14). It is John who records Jesus’ statement, “I and the Father are One” (John 10:30), and again “He who has seen Me, has seen the Father (John 14:9). And it is John who highlights the worship that Jesus received and accepted (John 9:38, 20:28). Dear Christian, your Savior is God Himself! Worship Christ, your King! (Rev. 17:14; 19:16). Read Philippians 2:8-11

□ Thursday - The Names of Christ.

In the writings of John there are more names of Christ than in the rest of the New Testament combined. In the Gospel of John, Christ is “the Word” (1:1, 1:14), “the only begotten God” (1:18, NASB), “the Lamb of God” (1:29, 1:34), “the Son of God” (9x), “the only begotten Son” (3:16, 3:18), “the bread of life” (6:35, 48), “the light of the world” (8:12, 9:5), the “I AM” (8:24, 8:58, 18:5), “the door” (10:7, 10:9), “the good shepherd” (10:11, 10:14), “the way, the truth and the life” (14:6), and “the true vine” (15:1, 15:5). Add a plethora of other names listed in John’s epistles and Revelation, and so in John’s writings we behold Christ in all of His fullness. Read the above verses

□ Friday - Application: You Must Be Born-Again.

John declares his desired outcome for those who read his gospel: “These [things] have been written 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). But the bare fact that Jesus is the Son of God, which is a statement of His deity, cannot save us. Indeed, even the demons believe such things, but remain unchanged (cf. James 2:19). No, we must let these truths transform us. “You must be born again!” Jesus declared (John 3:3). Read 2 Corinthians 5:17