

# That You May Believe

John 20:30-31

“John’s gospel is deep enough for an elephant to swim and shallow enough for a child not to drown.”

**Matthew** – written to the Jews to present Jesus as the King of the Jews (Matthew 4:17)

**Mark** – written to the Romans to present Jesus as a Servant (Mark 10:45)

**Luke** – written to the Greeks to present Jesus as the Perfect Man (Luke 19:10)

**John** – written to all people to present Jesus as the Son of God (John 20:31)

*The gospel of John was written to convince people to believe that Jesus is the Son of God who saves us from our sins.*

While the author of the Gospel of John is not named, he reveals himself in his book. Several early church fathers identified John as the writer.

- John was an eyewitness to Jesus’ earthly ministry.
- John described himself as “the disciple whom Jesus loved” (13:23; 19:26; 21:7, 20).
- John knew Jewish life well, and was Jesus’ intimate friend to whom the dying Lord committed his mother (19:25-27).

The gospel of John was written from Ephesus between A.D. 85 & 95, possibly A.D. 90.

Focus	Incarnation of the Son of God	Presentation of the Son of God	Opposition to the Son of God	Preparation of the Son’s Disciples	Crucifixion and Resurrection of the Son of God
<b>Divisions</b>	Introduction to Christ	Revelation of Christ	Rejection of Christ	Revelation from Christ	Rejection of Christ
	1:1-1:18	1:19-4:54	5:1-12:50	13:1-17:26	18:1-21:25
<b>Topics</b>	Seven Miracles			Upper Room Discourse	Supreme Miracle
	“That you may believe”			“That you may have life”	
<b>Place</b>	Israel				
<b>Time</b>	A Few Years			A Few Hours	A Few Weeks

*Talk Through the New Testament*, by Bruce Wilkinson and Ken Boa. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1983, p. 335.

Not everything Jesus did while on earth was written down or recorded. In fact, a complete record could never be written (21:35).

John was not writing a biography to entertain or a history to enlighten. He was selective in what he recorded. John's purpose was both evangelistic and instructional.

- Believe, believes, believed, believing – used 98 times in John
- Life – used 47 times in John

Jesus is ...

- Eternal (1:1-4)
- From the beginning (1:1-4)
- God (1:1-4)
- The lamb of God (1:36)
- The one whom Moses and the prophets wrote about (1:45)
- The one who gives abundant life (10:10)
- The Christ, the promised Messiah, the Son of God (11:27)
- Lord and God (20:28)

Seven Miracles

- Changing water into wine in Cana (2:1-11)
- Healing an official's son in Capernaum (4:46-54)
- Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem (5:1-18)
- Feeding the 5,000 near the Sea of Galilee (6:5-14)
- Walking on the water of the Sea of Galilee (6:16-21)
- Healing a blind man in Jerusalem (9:1-7)
- Raising Lazarus from the dead in Bethany (11:1-45)

Seven "I Am" Statements

- I am the Bread of Life (6:35)
- I am the Light of the World (8:12)
- I am the Door of the Sheep (10:7, 9)
- I am the Good Shepherd (10:11, 14)
- I am the Resurrection and the Life (11:25)
- I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (14:6)
- I am the true Vine (15:1, 5)

Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?  
Are you enjoying the abundant life he came to give?