



John's Gospel





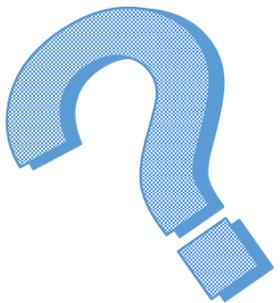
Introducing us to Jesus





Who is he?

Why has he come?



(Something to think about)



**We are invited
to take a closer
look ...**

**Look ... the
lamb of God,
who takes
away the sin of
the world!**

John 1:29





The Author





**John's Gospel does
not specifically name
the author.**



**It is widely believed to have
been written by John:**

The disciple of Jesus

The brother of James

The son of Zebedee

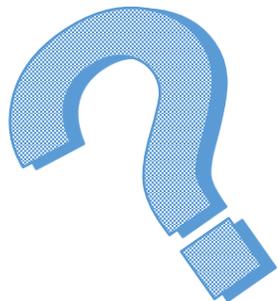


**John does not appear by
name in the book.**

**(Where the name John appears in the
book, it refers to John the Baptist and not
John the author and disciple.)**



Why is it important to know who wrote the book?



(Something to think about)

**John seems to appear in the book,
in hidden form:**



As a Disciple:

John 1:35-37

The next day John was there again with two of his **disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God!’ When the two **disciples** heard him say this, they followed Jesus.**



As a Disciple (continued):

John 18:15

**Simon Peter and another
disciple were following Jesus.**



**And especially as the Disciple whom
Jesus loved:**

John 13:23

**One of them, **the disciple whom Jesus
loved**, was reclining next to him.**

The Disciple whom Jesus loved (continued)



John 19:25-27

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and **the disciple whom he loved** standing near by, he said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' and to **the disciple**, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

The Disciple who Jesus loved (Continued)



John 20:1-2

Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and **the other disciple, the one Jesus loved**, and said, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!'



John 21:20-24

Peter turned and saw that **the disciple whom Jesus loved** was following them. When Peter saw him, he asked, 'Lord, what about him?'

Jesus answered, 'If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.'



**Later in this same passage
John identifies himself:**

As the disciple whom Jesus loved

And as the author

John 21:20-24

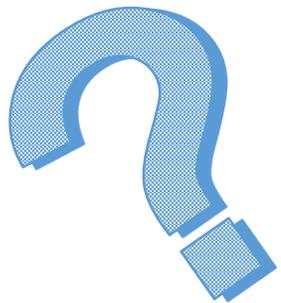


Peter turned and saw that **the disciple whom Jesus loved** was following them. When Peter saw him, he asked, ‘Lord, what about him?’

Jesus answered, ‘If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.’ Because of this, the rumour spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, ‘If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?’

This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

**Why might John have
chosen not to appear by
name, in the book that he
wrote?**



(Something to think about)



The same John is widely believed to have written the following books too:

1 John

2 John

3 John

Revelation



**What do the
other gospels
say about
John?**





The other gospels mention John by name. Some of these record events also recorded in John's Gospel. These help us identify John as the author of John's Gospel.



Fisherman

Called to follow Jesus

Sent to fish for people

Matthew 4:21

Luke 5:10



Apostle Disciple

Matthew 10:2

Luke 6:14



Son of Zebedee

Matthew 10:2

Mark 1:19



Brother of James

Matthew 10:2

Mark 1:19



One of the Sons of Thunder (together with his brother James)

Mark 3:17



**John made 2 dubious
suggestions ...**



**He requested the place
of honour in glory
(together with James).**

Mark 10:37



**He suggested calling down
fire on a Samaritan village.**

Luke 9:54



**And he is protective
over the name of
Jesus ...**



**He told someone to stop
driving out demons in
Jesus' name.**

Mark 9:38

Luke 9:49



**He seems to be part of an
inner circle of disciples
(together with Peter and
James) ...**



**He witnessed the
transfiguration
(with Peter and James).**

Matthew 17:1

Mark 9:2

Luke 9:19



**He witnessed the healing
of Jairus's daughter
(with Peter and James).**

Mark 5:37

Luke 8:51



**He was sent with
Peter to prepare for
the Passover.**

Luke 22:8



**He had a private chat with
Jesus (together with Peter
and James).**

Mark 13:3



**He was with Jesus in the
Garden of Gethsemane
(together with Peter and
James).**

Mark 14:33



So ...

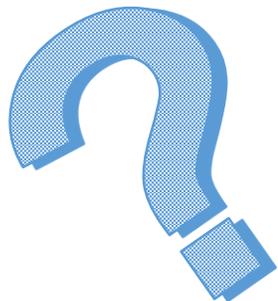
**Was John a suitable
choice as author?**



He had experience of Jesus

He was a member of the inner circle

And he made some mistakes too



(Something to think about)



Date of writing





When was it written?

**Scholars suggest a date
between AD 50 and AD 85**

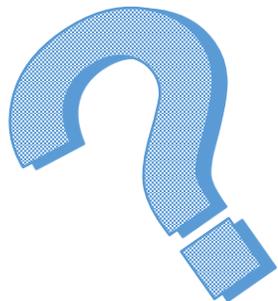


Style of writing





**Was it written as a
series of newspaper
articles or as a book?**



(Something to think about)



**Having been with Jesus in
the inner circle – John had
plenty of material to write
about.**



**But he was very
selective about what
he included.**



Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

John 20:30



Jesus did many other things as well.

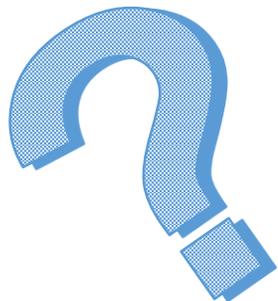
If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

John 21:25



**How did he choose what to include,
and what to leave out?**

**What would have been important
to you?**



(Something to think about)



**The Gospel of John is
written, generally
speaking, in four
parts ...**

Prologue:

1:1 – 1:18

Interactions with the public:

1:19 – 12:50

Teaching his disciples:

13:1 – 20:31

Epilogue:

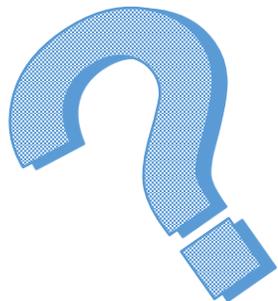
21:1 – 21:25





**Why did Jesus spend so much time
teaching his disciples?**

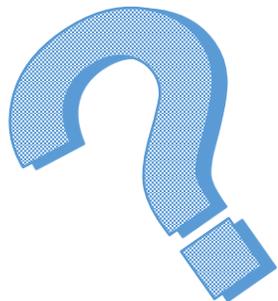
**Why did John record so much of
this teaching?**



(Something to think about)



**It is the only
non-synoptic gospel**



(What does that mean?)



Three great reasons





John's Gospel records

3 great reasons

The Father's reason:



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16



Jesus' reason:

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10

John's reason:



These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:31

70

3 X 7





John's Gospel contains no parables

(but is still very engaging).



The Gospel contains three 7's

7 signs (miracles)

7 discourses with the public

7 I am statements

Here are the seven signs.

(Miracles)





Changing water into wine

John 2:1-11



Healing the royal official's son

John 4:46-54



Healing the paralytic

John 5:1-15



Feeding the 5000

John 6:5-14



Walking on water

John 6:16-24



Healing the man blind from birth

John 9:1-7



The raising of Lazarus

John 11:1-45



**Nicodemus makes
reference to Jesus'
miracles, as signs,
when he meets Jesus.**

John 3

**Here are the
seven
discourses
with members
of the public.**





Some scholars have identified 7 occasions when Jesus talked with members of the public and answered their questions, or the thoughts in their minds. Jesus met with individuals and with groups of people that congregated around him.



This is in contrast to the latter part of the book where Jesus' teaching is focussed on his disciples.

Here are the seven discourses with members of the public:



Born again (Nicodemus)

John 3:1-21



Living Water **(Samaritan woman)**

John 4:1-42



Relationship with the father

John 5:19-47



The Bread of Life

John 6:22-70



At the Feast of Tabernacles

John 7:1-52



True relationship with God

John 8:12-59



The Good shepherd

John 10:1-42



**Here are
the seven
I am
statements.**





**I am the bread
of life.**

John 6:35



**I am the light of
the world.**

John 8:12



**I am the gate for
the sheep.**

John 10:7



**I am the good
shepherd.**

John 10:11



**I am the
resurrection
and the life.**

John 11:25-26



**I am the way and
the truth and the
life.**

John 14:6

I am 6 of 7



**I am the true vine,
and my Father is
the gardener.**

John 15:1



The Gospel of John leaves us in no doubt as to who Jesus claims to be:

**Before Abraham
was born, I am!**

John 8:58

I am 7 + 1

Jesus also refers to himself as:



The Son of man

John 8:28 & 9:35

The Son of God

John 10:36

Teacher and Lord

John 13:13



**John's Gospel
often records
Jesus' awareness
of the times, the
right time, and
the wrong time.**





Jesus said to Mary:

My hour has not yet come

John 2:4



Jesus said to his brothers:

My time has not yet fully come

John 7:8



On hearing about Lazarus' illness:

Jesus stayed where he was two more days

John 11:6



After being anointed by Mary, Jesus said:

**You will always have the poor among you,
but you will not always have me.**

John 12:8



Just before the Passover festival:

Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the father.

John 13:1



Predicting Peter's denial, Jesus said:

**Now the Son of Man is glorified and God
is glorified in him**

John 13:31



Jesus prayed:

**Father, the hour has come. Glorify your
Son, that your Son may glorify you.**

John 17:1



On the cross, Jesus said:

It is finished.

John 19:30



The conclusion





The book starts by looking back into eternity, saying that Jesus has existed since for ever:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1



**John's Gospel may not answer all
our questions about facts and
figures, dates and times:**



But Jesus' response to Peter's final question, surely applies to us all:

You must follow me.

John 21:22



**You must
follow me.**

John 21:22

