

Book of John in a nutshell:

- Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah and Son of God
- by believing in Him, people may have eternal life

Author John was one of the 12 disciples

John 20:31 (ESV)

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Chapters 1 - 12: The Signs of the Messiah

i.e., turning water into wine, feeding the multitude, healing the sick, etc.

rest of John: Jesus' arrest, trial, death, burial, resurrection, appearances, sending of disciples

Chapter 1

1. Prologue: the Word, who was God, took on flesh
2. Introduction of John the Baptist
3. Calling of ~~his gang~~ the disciples

Chapter 2

1. First miracle: turns water into wine at the wedding
2. Jesus cleanses the temple in Jerusalem

Chapter 3

1. Need to be "born again" to enter kingdom of God
2. John 3:16 (ESV): *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

Chapter 4

1. Pharisees start to get concerned about Jesus' popularity
2. Samaritan woman at well (contrasts: Samaritan & Jew, man & woman)
3. Second miracle: heals the official's son

Chapter 5

1. Healing at the pool on the Sabbath (verses 1 - 17)
2. Jesus is equal with God (verse 18)
3. Jesus' authority (verses 19 - 29)
4. Witnesses to Jesus (verses 30 - 47)

(Read verses 1 - 17)

In some versions (e.g., NIV, ESV), (part of) verse 3 and (all of) verse 4 are missing;

not found in *earliest* manuscripts

From King James Bible:

³In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

Missing verses refer to verse 7

Jesus persecuted for working on the Sabbath

Old Testament mentions Sabbath day in **Exodus 20:8-11**

cf.

¹⁰ *"It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed."*

¹⁷But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now,
and I am working."

Jesus is the lord of the Sabbath, i.e., a claim to deity

cf.

Matthew 12:8 *For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.*

Mark 2:28 *So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.*

Luke 6:5 *And he said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the
Sabbath."*

Some folks don't like that...

¹⁸ This is why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

(Read verses 19 - 29)

5:24 echo of 3:16

5:25 *...an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the Son of God, and those who hear will live.*

not about the final resurrection, but present reality;

the dead refers to the spiritually dead who hear Jesus' message

5:27 Jesus given authority by God to carry out final judgment of every human being

(eternal ruler prophesied in Daniel 7:13-14)

5:28-29 *...those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgement.*

salvation/judgement is based on good works?

(Read verses 30 - 47)

Jesus cites witnesses who bear testimony about him;

in anticipation of later trial leading to crucifixion

Agrees with Old Testament teaching about need for multiple witnesses, e.g.,

Deuteronomy 17:6

On the evidence of two witnesses or three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness.

Witnesses include:

- a. Scripture, leading to changed lives not just Bible knowledge (5:39, 45-47)
- b. The disciples (later)
- c. The Spirit (later)
- d. **God, including all miracles and teachings (5:36-37)**

Discussion: Why are signs (miracles, etc.) important?
What in our present time serve as "signs" to you?
What strengthens your faith?

Next week: John chapter 6, including feeding of the 5,000
and Jesus walking on water