

Gospel of John

John 20:30-31. John here gives us the reason he wrote his account of Jesus' life
"That you may believe"

The result of understanding who He is and what He has done, is that you may come to completely trust Him.

That He is the Christ – God's anointed Saviour.

That He is the Son of God.

The result. You have the gift of God – eternal life..

John 1: 1, Genesis 1: 1, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"

So in the beginning God already was!

"In the beginning was The Word"

So in the beginning The Word already existed.

Jesus is here called The Word because God has spoken to us through Him.

"The Word was with God" ie. Face to face. So there were two Persons.

"And the Word was God" This makes it clear that though The Word is a distinct Person, He is God by nature.

John 1: 2, At the beginning Jesus was already present with God. Later it is made clear that though there is only one God, there are three persons who are equally God. God the Father; God the Son, Jesus Christ; God the Holy Spirit.

John 1: 3, Through the Lord Jesus Christ all creation came into existence.

John 1: 4, "In Him was life" He created and sustains all life.

"the light of men" All true knowledge and understanding come from Him – Later He is called The Light of the world.

John 1: 5, Alas there is also darkness; standing for ignorance and opposition, resentment of The Light.

John 1: 6, "A man sent from God"

This is John the Baptist who was sent to prepare the way for the Lord Jesus, to arouse the people to expect Him.

John 1: 7, He was a witness testifying that The Light was near at hand.

John 1: 8, He was not The Light, he was a witness.

John 1: 9, Here comes the Light, The Truth.

John 1: 10, When The Lord Jesus was born and later began to preach and teach, people generally did not recognise Him for who He was.

John 1: 11, He came particularly to His own nation and people Israel. Again generally speaking they did not receive Him, indeed they rejected Him and finally crucified Him.

John 1: 12, This is a great verse, worth memorising. It was a great help to me when I first became a Christian. Although many rejected Him, those who received Him, those who believe in His Name; that is believe that He is God's Son and the only Saviour become God's children.

My friend said to me; Do you believe in Jesus Christ? I said, yes I always have! He said, Have you received Him as your Lord and Saviour? I replied, No, nothing that definite.

God has given us His Son. We must receive Him by faith. By faith because we cannot see Him.

It is a spiritual transaction.

John 1: 13, Spiritual eternal life comes directly from God. No man can give us life. We should go at once to God in prayer and plead with Him to give us this life and save our souls from death.

John 1: 14, The Word, Jesus Christ became a man. He was truly God and truly man.

He lived and died as a man for 33 years.

John and the other disciples saw His glory revealed.

Grace – undeserved favour and compassion for unworthy sinners.

Truth – trustworthy – no lies or deceit -the fulfilling of all God had promised in the Old Testament.

John 1: 15, John the Baptist testifies that Jesus was superior to him, and came before him, that is, was eternal.

John 1: 16, The disciples also testify. We have received His grace in full measure again and again, more and more.

John 1: 17, The law came through Moses. Telling us what God requires of us. Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. The gospel, telling us what God and Jesus have done to give us mercy.

John 1: 18, God Himself is a Spirit but The Lord Jesus – The only begotten God the Son has made Him known to us.

John 1: 19, An investigating committee from Jewish leaders ask John the Baptist, Who are you?

1: 20 He makes it clear that he is not The Christ – the Anointed Saviour.

21, Are you Elijah? Malachi 4: 5 prophecies the coming back of Elijah. He says, I am not! Matthew 11:14. Later The Lord Jesus reveals that John was indeed Elijah. That he came in the spirit and power of Elijah. John was speaking literally, Jesus spiritually. “Are you the Prophet”? Deut. 18: 15. Predicted by Moses. He says No! He knew that The Prophet referred to Jesus.

22, Again they ask, Who are you?

23, John quotes in answer from Isaiah40: 3. He is the preparer of the Way.

24,25, Why do you baptize? John the Baptist baptized in the Jordan river those who confessed that they were sinners. Not everyone did. See Matthew 3: 1-6.

26,27, John says, I am preparing the way for one who is far greater than I.

28, This happened by the Jordan river.

29, John focuses attention upon Jesus. Look! “ The Lamb of God” Lambs were used for sacrifice in the old times, so that sinful people could approach God. Here is The Lamb. God's Lamb, the One to whom all those lambs pointed.”Who takes away the sin of the world”. He will be sacrificed so that sin can be forgiven for those who put their trust in Him.

30-31, He is The One I was sent to herald.

32-34, John testifies that Jesus had fulfilled all he had been told. The Holy Spirit came upon Him in visible form as a dove. He will baptize or give the Holy Spirit to all who come to trust Him.

35-39, John passes on two of his followers to become disciples, learners or followers of Jesus.

40-42, They were Andrew and Simon Peter. We have found The Messiah – God's saviour – deliverer. Simon gets his new name, The Rock, Peter.

43-51, More disciples follow Jesus: Join His band. Philip and Nathanel “He is The One Moses predicted would come”. Nazareth. Jesus' home town was generally despised. Nathanel- a true Israelite that is one in heart and Spirit. Genuine- no lies or deceit. He confesses You are The Son of God, The King of Israel. He was convinced because Jesus knew all about him. One day he will have greater evidence and will see that Jesus is The Ladder to heaven as in Jacob's dream. Genesis28: 12