

GOSPEL OF JOHN

Adult Bible Course

I. BIBLE STUDY DESCRIPTION:

We shall spend time delving into the writing of this disciple of Jesus. We shall see John portray Christ as being Deity and try to bring the reader to believe in Jesus as the Son of God. The Apostle John (one of Jesus' disciples) will also recount the more personal accounts of Jesus' life as He speaks with individuals.

II. BIBLE STUDY OBJECTIVES:

We shall strive to learn more of the life of our Lord from this Gospel account. Having learned this, we will then strive to apply these teachings to our own personal lives.

III. ASSIGNMENTS:

The purpose of these assignments is to give you plenty of opportunity to immerse yourself in the Word of God and learn its message.

- A. Read the chapter(s) for each lesson.
- B. Read the commentary for each lesson.
- C. Complete the study guide(s) for each lesson.

IV. LESSONS:

1. Introduction and John Chapter 1
2. John chapters 2 and 3
3. John chapters 4 and 5
4. John chapter 6
5. John chapters 7 and 8
6. John chapters 9 and 10
7. John chapters 11 and 12
8. John chapters 13 and 14
9. John chapters 15 and 16
10. John chapter 17
11. John chapters 18 and 19
12. John chapters 20 and 21

COMMENTARY

John Chapter 1:

John was the son of Zebedee and Salome. He had an older brother whose name was James. Both James & John were disciples of Jesus. John was a successful fisherman with his brother when Jesus called them to come and follow Him [we can assume this since they had hired help]. John became part of the "inner" circle [composed of Peter, James and John].

vs. 1-18

John begins his account by stating that Jesus is the Son of God and has always existed. He further states that it was through Christ that the universe was created.

John the baptizer had been sent by God to give testimony concerning Jesus and His ministry.

Jesus came in the flesh and lived among man. John states that the world failed to recognize their creator. Those who do accept Him are given the promise of eternal life and have become the children of God.

John the baptizer stated the Jesus was the one that had come from God and that He had become greater because He had always been and was deserving because of His deity.

The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ who has shown us what God is like. Jesus did this through His teachings and the life that He lived.

vs. 19-28

John the baptizer had stated many times that he was not the one that the prophets of the Old Testament had said would come. He replied that he was only the voice of one calling in the desert to prepare the way of the Lord. Here, he was quoting from Isaiah 40:3. This one in the wilderness, spoken of by Isaiah, was recognized by students of the Word as the forerunner of the Messiah (or Christ). When people then questioned John's authority to baptize, he replied that one would come who was greater than he and would baptize with the Holy Spirit (see vs. 33).

vs. 29-34

John records that the next day, the baptizer saw Jesus and identified Him as being from God and the one who would take away man's sin. John the baptizer testified that he saw the Spirit of God come down and light on Jesus head, signifying that Jesus was from God and was the very Son of God.

vs. 35-42

The next day, two of John's disciples go after Jesus to follow Him. John the baptizer did not discourage this but allowed it, realizing that Jesus was more deserving and greater. One of these men was Andrew, who then went to get his brother Simon, who also became a disciple. Cephas and Peter both mean rock.

vs. 43-51

Philip was called by Jesus to follow. Philip testifies that Jesus is the Messiah and calls his friend Nathanael, just as Andrew had testified and brought Peter. Nathanael was skeptical, but was convinced when Jesus recognized his heart and had known him before he had even been brought to Jesus. Nathanael confesses also, that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus tells Nathanael that he will see even greater wonders and miracles in the time ahead.

STUDY GUIDE

John Chapter 1:

1. What was in the beginning with God?
2. Who came to testify concerning the light?
3. What did the "light" give to those who received Him and believed in Him?
4. What did John confess, freely?
5. What did John reply when asked why he baptized?
6. What does John say about Jesus in verse 29?
7. What did John testify to, since he had seen?
8. What did two of John's disciples say about Jesus, when He passed by?
9. What did Andrew do, after he began to follow Jesus?
10. What did Philip do, after Jesus called him to follow?
11. What did Jesus tell Nathanael, that he would see?

BONUS:

1. Explain what the first 18 verses mean to you, personally.
2. What lessons can we learn from John in verses 19-34?
3. What lessons can we learn from Philip and Andrew?