

The Structure of the Gospel of John Based on His Stated Purpose

And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: butt these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.
-John 20: 30-31, KJV

Five Key Words upon which the purpose of John Pivots

1. **Signs** (σημεία/semeia) = __ selected miracles of Jesus fulfill John's stated purpose and help form the structure of this book. These are selected thoughtfully & purposefully.
2. **Christ** = used __ times; the anointed King, the Messiah.
3. **Son of God** = used __ times; God's eternal and unique (only one of His kind) Son, therefore, worthy of worship. Theme of this Gospel is that Jesus is the Messiah, the eternal Son.
 - to be the Son is to be _____ with God, 5:18.
 - as the Son, Jesus receives _____ in the same sense as God does, 9:35-38.
 - for claiming to be the Son, therefore Jesus was _____ to _____, 19:7.
4. **Believe** = __ times; "settled trust," to rely upon."
5. **Life** (ζωή/zoe) = __ times, often modified by "eternal": defined by Jesus in John 17:3; 11:25; 14:6.

Analysis: the following choices of sign-miracles by John attest to the Deity of Christ and form the backbone/structure of the Book.

7 Signs in John's Gospel

Water to Wine, 2:1-9

Nobleman's Son, 4:46-54

Healing at Pool, 5:1-16

Feeding 5,000, 6:1-14

Walk on Sea, 6:15-20

Blind Man Healed, 9:1-41

Raises Lazarus, 11:1-44

OUTLINE OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN BASED UPON HIS STATED PURPOSE

- I. 1:1-18 THE INCARNATION OF THE SON OF GOD

- II. 1:19-34 THE WITNESS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST TO THE SON OF GOD

- III. 1:35-12:50 THE PUBLIC MINISTRIES OF THE SON OF GOD

- IV. 13:1-17:26 THE PRIVATE MINISTRY OF THE SON OF GOD TO HIS OWN

- V. 18:1-19:42 THE CRUCIFIXION OF THE SON OF GOD

- VI. 20:1-21:25 THE RESURRECTION & APPEARANCES OF THE SON OF GOD.

5 Options for the Readers of John's Gospel Relative to Jesus, the Son of God

- 1. He never lived. He is the product of _____.
- 2. He lived, but was merely a good man, a great _____ whose followers made-up far-fetched stories about him.
- 3. He lived, but He was _____. He was not really the Messiah, the Son of God, he only thought he was; and he succeeded in convincing some gullible, naïve, peasants into thinking that he was.
- 4. He lived, and He was a shrewd and cunning _____ who succeeded in deceiving the Apostle John and others plus the millions who followed Him since.
- 5. Jesus is what John witnessed him to be: the Christ, the Son of God, the only Messiah-Savior of Mankind worthy of our _____ for salvation and worthy of our _____.