

Introduction to John – pt1

“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But 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

1. Purpose of the study of John

- a. To become familiar with a non-Pauline epistle – 2 Tim 3:16; Rom 15:4
- b. To study the deity of Christ – John 1:1; 10:30; John 8:58
- c. To furnish unto good works and not confusion – 2 Tim 2:15; 1 Cor 2:2-3

2. Popular Passages

- a. Born again – John 3:3-5
- b. For God so loved - John 3:16
- c. The living water - John 4:10,14
- d. He that is without sin – John 8:7
- e. The way truth and the life – John 14:6

3. What to expect

- a. Time period - Gal 4:4 – Born under the law
- b. Author/Date - Gal 2:6-9 – They unto the circumcision
- c. Subject - Rom 15:8 – Jesus a minister to circumcision
- d. Purpose - John 20:30-31 – ‘that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ’
- e. Theme – John 1:1 – Jesus is God

4. John and the Narratives

- a. More spiritual – Gnostic controversy
- b. Complementary information – Differences in Passover, trial, and resurrection
- c. No parables, not openly prophetic – discourse more about his identity
- d. Jewish controversy – To Jew or not To Jew (17x in MML, 70+ in John)
- e. Narrative style – Matthew is legal, Mark is compact, Luke is chronological, John is supplementary proof
- f. Dispensational controversy – where does it fit?