



**WELCOME TO
GOSPEL PASSAGES...
WITH
PASSAGES**

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

with Becky & John Hart



BACKGROUND...

- @ 85 - 100 A.D.
- Early fragment of John 18 dated to 125 AD. Found in Egypt – 1920
 - *Written by a leader of the church founded by “the disciple whom Jesus loved.”*

OUTLINE

Prologue (1:1-18)

The Book of Signs
(1:19-12:50)

The Book of Glory
(13:1-20:31)

Epilogue (21:1-25)

Focus of the Gospels...

- Matthew - *Jesus as Messiah/King*
- Mark/Luke - *Jesus as Redeemer of all*
- John - *Jesus as the very Son of God*



THE SYNOPTICS vs. THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

OR: *Where did Bethlehem go?*

- Deliberately Theological
 - Who is Jesus?
 - Jesus' Speech
 - Dualities
- 7 Signs → "I AM" revelations
 - Holy Spirit
 - Father & Son

Not the Brought, but the Bringer



JOHN'S PURPOSE

John 20:31:
*"But these are written so
that you may believe
that Jesus is
the Messiah,
the Son of God,
and that through
believing
you may have life in his
name."*

HOW DO YOU BEGIN THE STORY OF JESUS?

MARK

- 1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ.
- 2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
*“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way,*
3 *the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight,’ ”*
- 4 so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness ...
[Jesus’ baptism]

HOW DO YOU BEGIN THE STORY OF JESUS?

MATTHEW

¹ An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, ... ⁶and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon ... ¹¹ and Josiah the father of Jechoniah ... ¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the Messiah. ...

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.

HOW DO YOU BEGIN THE STORY OF JESUS?

LUKE

¹ Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative about the events that have been fulfilled among us, ² just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³ I, too, decided, as one having a grasp of everything from the start, to write a well-ordered account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ so that you may have a firm grasp of the words in which you have been instructed.

- The *birth* of John the Baptist (1:5-25, 1:57-80)
- The birth of Jesus (1:26-56; 2:1-20)

HOW DO YOU BEGIN THE STORY OF JESUS?

JOHN:

“IN THE BEGINNING...”

JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ **And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.**

¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ **No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.**

JOHN 1:1

FORM: STAIRSTEP PARALLELISM

In the beginning was THE WORD
and THE WORD was with God
and GOD was the Word

CONTENTS: STAIRSTEP RELATIONSHIP

*In the beginning was THE WORD = existence of Word
and THE WORD was with God = relationship with God
and GOD was the Word = identity of Word (= God)*

JOHN 1:1

John 1:1 makes the largest New Testament claim about who Jesus is – Jesus is fully God and one with God. *But it's not unparalleled:*

- Philippians 2:6 “...Christ Jesus, who, though he was *in the form of God...*”
- Hebrews 1:3 “*The Son is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being...*”
- Jesus is called “Lord” (= adonai = YHWH)

...FULLY GOD...

- In verse 1, John states that the Word is what God is and the Word does what God does. **The Word thus represents the self-expression of God,** anticipating one of the central emphases of the Fourth Gospel.
- Verse 1 thus provides the ontological underpinnings of the Fourth Gospel's central claim that **when one sees Jesus, one sees God; when one hears Jesus, one hears God.** The oneness of the Word and God means that the revelation spoken and enacted by the Word is indeed the revelation of God.

JOHN 1:14

“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of the father’s only son, full of grace and truth.”

JOHN 1:14 – *Every word packs a punch!*

- **Word**
- **became**
- **flesh**
- **Lived among us = made his dwelling with us =
"tabernacled with us" (Exodus 40:34-35)**
- **glory**
- **father's only son (*monogenes* = only begotten)**
- **grace and truth (Psalm 100)**



<http://travel.bhushavali.com/>

JOHN 1:14

Note: “WE have seen his glory...”

- The believing community comes into focus.
- John 1:1-18 is a *confession of faith*



John 1:14 says that the story *of* Jesus is not ultimately a story *about* Jesus; it is, in fact, the story of God.

“Let me flesh this out for you...”

JOHN 1:18

No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.




JOHN 1:18

- No one has ever seen God
- God's only son (*monogenes* – only begotten)
- has made him known = “exegesis”
- “who is close to the Father's heart” = literally
“*the one being in the Father's bosom*”

The joyous witness of the Prologue is spoken by those whose own experience has been decisively marked by the incarnation. John 1:1-18 is not theological speculation about the character of the incarnate Word, but the testimony of those whose lives have been changed by the incarnation.

1 JOHN 1:1-3

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—² this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³ what we have seen and heard we also declare to you so that you also may have fellowship with us, and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.



NEXT WEEK (January 14)

Read through **Chapter 3**
of *The Gospel of John*

