

# RESOURCES

*The Gospel According to John (PNTC) - D.A. Carson*

*On Being a Servant of God - Warren Wiersbe*

*The Words and Works of Jesus Christ - J. Dwight Pentecost*

*The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah - Alfred Edersheim*

[cclburg.com/ThroughTheBible](http://cclburg.com/ThroughTheBible)



Calvary Chapel Lynchburg presents

# THROUGH THE BIBLE

with Pastor Troy Warner

## MY NOTES

# JOHN

The fourth Gospel is unique from the others. Written by John the son of Zebedee, it has been called the most spiritual of the Gospels. In it, Jesus is explicitly revealed as the incarnate Son of God, sent to deliver mankind from their sins. Most of the book focuses on the last week of Jesus' life: His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, His confrontation of the religious leaders, the Last Supper, His death, His burial and His resurrection. All throughout the book, Jesus speaks of "His hour", which came in that final week. And indeed it was for this that Jesus came. He came to die for our sins and rise again to give us newness of life. The book ends with Christ's ascension and commission, as do the other Gospels. Praise the Lord for His Son Jesus!

May 23, 2018

## ABOUT JOHN

**Author:** John

**Date:** ca. 80-90s AD

**Genre:** Gospel

**Purpose:** To show through Jesus' life and ministry that Jesus was God, that those who read this gospel would believe in Jesus and have eternal life through Him.

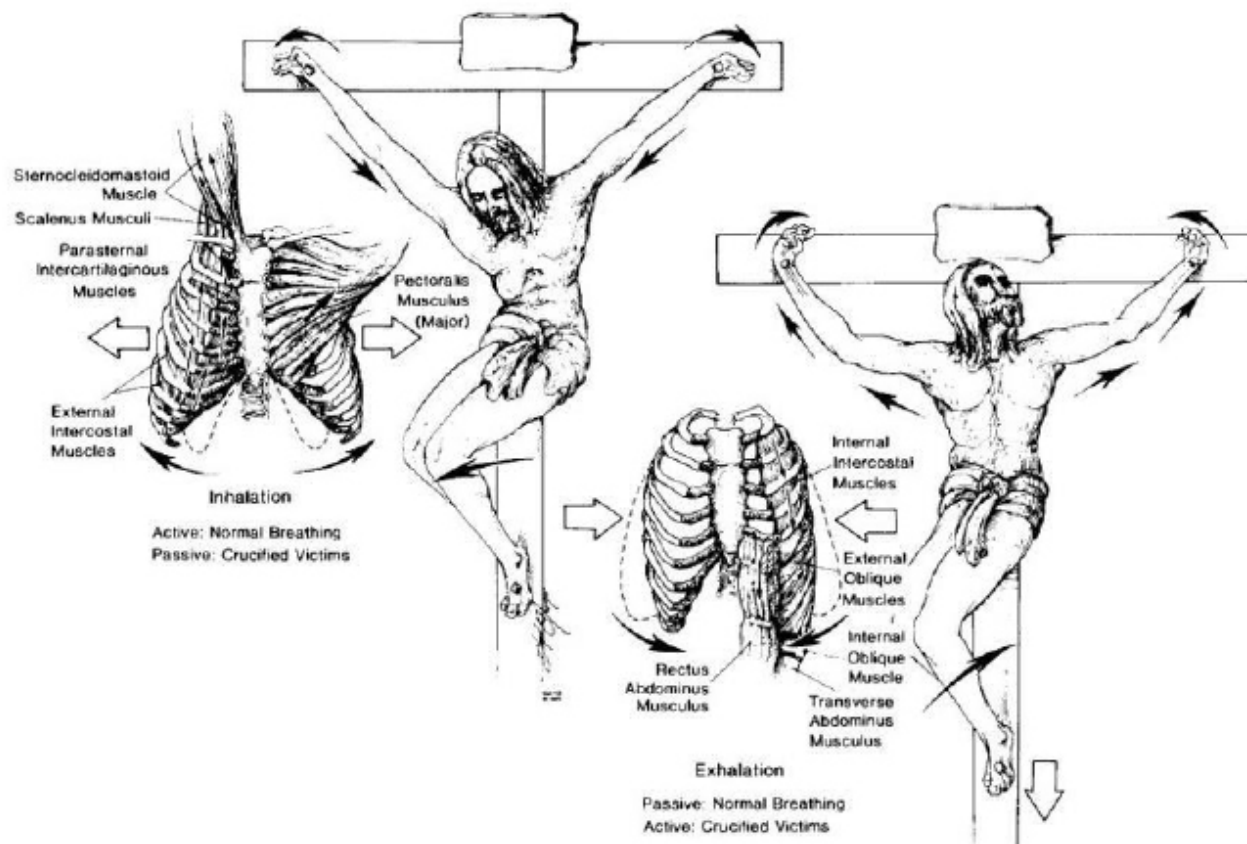
**Characteristics:** Fast-paced narrative, focusing on important teachings, conversations, and miracles of Jesus, with a specific focus on the Passion Week.



## OUTLINE

- I. The Word Became Flesh (1:1-18)
- II. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry (1:19-51)
- III. Jesus' Public Ministry: Signs and Discourses (2-11)
- IV. The Passion Week (12-19)
- V. Jesus' Resurrection (20:1-29)
- VI. The Purpose of John's Gospel (20:30-31)
- VII. Jesus' Recommissioning of the Disciples (16)

Outline adapted from [www.biblica.com](http://www.biblica.com), The International Bible Society



## THE ENEMIES OF JESUS

### **Pharisees**

The Pharisees believed in the entire Old Testament as well as the oral tradition. They were scrupulous in their religion and passionate in their patriotism.

### **Sadducees**

The Sadducees believed only in the Pentateuch, and did not believe in an afterlife. They were a small, corrupt group that included the priesthood.

### **Lawyers & Scribes**

The lawyers were professional interpreters of the Law, for civil and religious matters. The scribes memorized and made copies of the Bible professionally.

### **Herodians**

The Herodians were a group of Jews who were loyal to Herod the king and embraced Greek culture. They sold out their people for privilege and prestige.

### **Rulers & Chief Priests**

The ruling council of Israel was called the Sanhedrin, made up of the elders, the priests and rabbis. This was led by Sadducees, but made up mostly of Pharisees.

## QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

- 1.) The Gospel of John spends most of its time talking about the last week of Jesus' life. What does this reveal about the mission of Jesus?
- 2.) After studying through all four of the Gospels, what did you notice this time that you might have missed before? How would you describe the character of Jesus? If all this is true, how ought you to change your life?

## THE SEVEN "I AM" STATEMENTS

- 1.) I am the bread of life (6:35)
- 2.) I am the light of the world (8:12)
- 3.) I am the door of the sheep (10:7, 9)
- 4.) I am the good shepherd (10:11)
- 5.) I am the resurrection and the life (11:25)
- 6.) I am the way, the truth, and the life (14:6)
- 7.) I am the true vine (15:1, 5)

## THE SEVEN MIRACLES OF JESUS

- 1.) Water turned into wine (2:1-12)
- 2.) Nobleman's Son Healed (4:46-54)
- 3.) Man Healed on Sabbath (5:1-23)
- 4.) Feeding of the 5,000 (6:1-14)
- 5.) Walking on Water (6:15-21)
- 6.) Blind Man Receives Sight (9:1-12)
- 7.) Lazarus Raised from the Dead (11:1-44)

# Through the Bible – John

## *The Word*

### *Introduction*

The book of John opens with these classic lines: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1). Obviously, we know that the Word is Jesus Christ; John makes that clear. But why would he use that particular description? Why call Him the Word and not any number of other titles? Because in John’s time, this was a word loaded with significance, and it takes on even more by being used of Jesus Christ.

### *Definition*

In John’s introduction, it is the Greek word *logos* that is translated “Word” in our Bibles. This is actually a very common word, found more than 300 times in the New Testament. John uses it 40 times. Similar to how we use the term “word,” it was used in various ways in everyday life. *Logos* comes from the Greek word that means “to speak,” *lego*, and it refers to the act of speaking, communication through speech. In the New Testament, it is used to describe the Bible and the Gospel among other more mundane uses. But *logos* is set apart from other Greek synonyms like *kerygma* or *rhema* because of its philosophical and theological background.

### *Background*

There are two places we can look to understand the background of the word *logos*. The first and most obvious place to look is in the Old Testament. In the Greek translation of the Old Testament, the Septuagint, *logos* is used over 900 times. As in the New Testament, many of these are mundane uses, meaning “matter, affair, thing” and of course, it is used of normal speech. But there is great significance to the “Word” in the Old Testament, especially when we talk about the Word of God. “Is not My word like a fire?” says the Lord, ‘and like a hammer that breaks the rocks in pieces?’” (Jeremiah 23:29) It was with a word that God created the world, and with a word He commands nature and men. Nothing that God says will go undone: “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:11) When John speaks of the Word of God, we need to keep in mind the immense gravity that is attached to it by the Old Testament. “For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.” (Psalm 138:2)

In Greek culture, the “Word” also had deep significance. *Logos* was a philosophical concept developed by Plato, Philo and others, particularly the Stoics. The Greeks saw *Logos* as the creating and controlling power of the gods, the power which created the universe and which sustained it. Can you see the similarities already? Plato used this word as an

expression for divine power, which set the world in motion. Philo, the Jewish philosopher, tried to bridge the gap between Plato's understanding of *Logos* and the Old Testament scriptures, especially the personification of Wisdom in Proverbs. This does not mean that John was approving of these philosophies, or that he was some kind of classical scholar. It is similar to what Paul did in Acts 17 when he addressed the worship of the Unknown God. The *Logos* was a familiar concept to both Greco-Roman and Jewish culture and John saw in it an opportunity to proclaim the Gospel.

### *Meaning in John*

So it is with all this in mind that John opens his Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." (John 1:1, 14) John refers to Jesus as the preincarnate *Logos* that was in the beginning, was present with and actually was God. It describes Him as the eternal and divine giver of life, the personified expression of God. It means that He is God's power at work, but He is not just some force, He is a person, the very Son of God. It means that He is the revelation of God, the ultimate climax of God's self-revelation – God's Word made flesh. This is the only time that this word is spoken so clearly (except for maybe 1 John 1:1-3), but it causes the rest of Scripture and even human philosophy to resonate with new meaning.

### *Conclusion*

*Logos* in the Bible has a range of meaning from the basic idea of speech to Jesus Christ Himself. The Holy Spirit selected a word that was supercharged with theological and philosophical implication. Jesus Christ is the end of theology, the final conclusion of true philosophy. He is the treasure that the greatest minds on earth have been searching for throughout all of history. Jesus, the *Logos*, it that One who has always been and is God, the creator of everything. Furthermore, He came to dwell among men, and John witnessed it with his own eyes. He wrote these things down so that all men might put their faith in Him as Savior and receive that eternal life that Christ had before the foundations of the world with His Father.