

STUDY THE BIBLE 15 (STB 15)

"The Gospel of John"

THE MYSTERY with THE HISTORY

The gospel of John goes beyond just describing Jesus as the Son of man here on earth, to include Jesus the Son of God from heaven, with John tracing the beginning of Jesus Christ back before Genesis 1:1. Matthew (1:1-17) and Luke (3:23-38) outline the physical generation of Christ, with the former from Abraham, and the latter from Adam. John reveals more of the **mystery** of Christ from heaven while Matthew, Mark and Luke speak more of the physical **history** and earthly events of Christ here on earth.

JOHN IS THE MOST HATED OF THE GOSPELS

Many heresies and sects had quickly sprung up after Jesus had risen bodily from the dead, and they were trying to downgrade and discredit the fact that Jesus was God. So John, Jesus' favourite disciple, writes strongly to refute these heresies. The modern day sects, JW's, SDA's, Mormons, Christadelphians and so on, are nothing new, just a re-working of the 1st century ones as outlined below. John is also written for the Buddhists, Hindus, New Agers, the Roman Catholics and others. This is why in the Mormon 'bible' and the New World Translation and other corrupt translations, have *the Word was a God*.

JESUS CHRIST IS THE "I AM"

Imagine someone asking you "Who are you?", and you reply "**I AM THAT I AM**".

You would be calling yourself both Jesus Christ and God, and describe yourself as follows: -

I AM the bread of life (John 6:35)

I AM the light of the world (8:12)

Before Abraham was **I AM** (8:58)

I AM the door (10:9)

I AM the good shepherd (10:11)

I AM the resurrection (11:25)

and **I AM** the life (11:25)

I AM the way, **I AM** the truth and **I AM** the life (14:6)

I AM the true vine (15:1)

The greatest and best man in the world must say "By the grace of God 'I am **what** I am' ", but Jesus Christ says absolutely - and is more than any creature, man or angel can say - 'I am **THAT** I am'. Being **self-existent**, Christ is **self-sufficient**, and therefore **all-sufficient**. Christ is **eternal** and **unchangeable**, and always **the same**, yesterday to-day and for ever. Christ will be what **he will be** and **what he is**. Christ says of himself "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, **which is**, and **which was**, and **which is to come, the Almighty**." Revelation 1:8. We cannot by searching find him out (Job 11:7).

And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM**: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel,

I AM hath sent me unto you. Ex 3:14

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am.** John 8:58

AUTHOR and DATE

John Zebedee, the writer of John, and Jesus were cousins, as James Zebedee's (Matt 4:21) mother was Salome, who was sister to Mary, the mother of Jesus.

It was probably written, along with 1-3 John, before AD 70, and sometime between 45AD - 65AD. Why? As the heresies about Christ quickly soon arose after his resurrection, would there be any point writing this book of John **fifty years after**? Hardly. If you, the reader, were Christ's beloved disciple, as John was, wouldn't you be rather eager to destroy the lies and rumours about your beloved master as soon as possible?

Now, John's book of **Revelation** concerning future events, is probably written on the Isle of **Patmos** between **70-80AD**. Revelation has **entirely different** content, being removed from the urgent and destructive heresies mentioned in the gospel of John and 1st, 2nd and 3rd John.

ALL MODERN DAY CULTS AND SECTS ARE SIMPLY A RE-WORK OF 1ST CENTURY HERESIES.

Docetists have Christ simply an **angel**, that appears as a man.

Ebionites say Christ was **not divine**.

Arians (Jehovah Witnesses and Mormons) deny his deity as God, saying he was a **created** being

Semi-Arians have Christ was similar of divine essence to God but **subordinate** to God.

Adoptionists have Christ being **adopted** by the Father at his baptism.

Monothelites have Christ with only a **human will**.

Monarchians have Christ with the same essence as God but a **lesser** being.

Apollinarians denied Christ's human nature which was taken up by the divine nature (these are the modern day **Hagin, Copeland & the Word Faith movement**).

Nestorians have Christ with **two** distinct natures - divine and human.

Eutychians have the divine and human natures of Christ so **blended** together as to form one nature.

Monophysites said that Christ was a **fusion** of the natures, with a deified human nature.

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BRIEF OUTLINE OF MODERN DAY HERESIES

All heresies stem from a misunderstanding of the blood of Jesus.

Question: "Do you have eternal security or not?"

1. Charismatic groups
2. Church of Christ
3. Jehovah's Witnesses
4. Roman Catholics
5. Seventh Day Adventists
6. Mormons
7. Christian Science
8. Unity School
9. Worldwide Church of God
10. Christadelphians
11. Scientology
12. Bahai

Numbers **1,2,3,4,5** have a **type** of "jesus" blood with **NO ETERNAL SECURITY**.

Numbers **6,7,8,9,10,11,12** have **no blood atonement** whatsoever

The Presbyterian Calvinist Jesus' blood is heresy - **not** shed for all, only for those God chooses to save.

OMISSIONS IN JOHN

(showing less of the description of Christ's earthly life)

No genealogy is recorded - neither through his legal lineage through Joseph (as given in Matthew) not his personal descent through Mary (as given in Luke).

No birth account. Why? He was "in the beginning"

No boyhood account; No temptation account; No transfiguration; No appointing of disciples; No parables; No ascension account; No great commission

SEVEN WITNESSES STATE THAT CHRIST IS GOD

John the Baptist says "This is the **Son of God**" (1:34)

Nathaniel says "Thou art the **Son of God**" (1:40)

Peter says "Thou art that Christ, the **Son of the living God**" (6:69)

Christ says of himself "**I AM** the **Son of God**" (10:36)

Martha says "Thou art the Christ, the **Son of God**" (11:27)

Thomas says "**My Lord and my God**" (20:28)

John says "Jesus is the Christ, the **Son of God**" (20:31)

CHRIST'S SEVEN MIRACLES PROVES HE IS GOD

(Power over earth, water, body, sight, life)

1. He is **Lord over his creation** - turns water into wine (2:1-11)
2. He is **Lord over his creation** - walks on water (6:15-21)
3. He **heals on the spot** - the man at Bethesda (5:1-47)
4. He **heals from afar** - the nobleman's son (4:46-54)
5. He **feeds people** - the 5,000 (6:1-14)
6. He **gives sight** - the blind man (9:1-41)
7. He **raises the dead** - Lazarus (11:1-57)

CHAPTER TITLES

Chap 1 = **Jesus is God.** Deity; Light of the world; The Word made flesh; John's testimony; First disciples

C2 = **Establishes authority.** Cana wedding; cleanses the temple

C3 = **Nicodemus**

C4 = **Samaritan woman.** Nobleman's son

C5 = **Crippled man at pool.** Man healed on Sabbath. Moses established v46.

C6 = **Feeding 5,000** True bread from heaven

C7 = **Jesus at Jerusalem** Plot to kill him; Debate over Christ's identity

C8 = **"I AM"** Woman in adultery "I AM"

C9 = **The blind man from birth**

C10 = **Jesus is the door** Jesus is the shepherd

C11 = **Lazarus**

C12 = **Entry into his city of Jerusalem**

THE LAST SUPPER: C13 = **The last supper** Feet washing; Peter's good intention

C14 = **The last supper** Let not your heart be troubled

C15 = **The last supper** True vine

C16 = **The last supper** Send the Comforter

C17 = **The last supper** Prayer

THE CROSS: C18 = **Betrayal**

C19 = **Cross**

C20 = **Resurrection**

C21 = **On the beach** Disciples go fishing Feed my sheep

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