

What are the results of believing?

- Belief results in salvation. (3:17)
- Belief results in life to the full. (6:33, 10:10, 16:33, 17:13)
- Belief results in eternal life. (6:47, 10:28, 12:25, 17:3)
- Belief results in love for one another (13:34-35, 14:15)

Conclusion

Our audience “stand-in:” Nicodemus

6	15-Oct-23	Why Four Gospels?
7	22-Oct-23	Acts as history
8	29-Oct-23	Acts
9	5-Nov-23	Introduction to Paul
10	12-Nov-23	Romans
11	19-Nov-23	1 Corinthians
12	26-Nov-23	2 Corinthians

New Testament Survey

Class 5: John

Jesus, the Divine King

John’s “Thesis Statement”

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples which are not recorded in this book. But these [signs] are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:30-31)

Purpose

- *What* should we believe?
- *Why* should we believe it?
- What are the *results* of believing?

Background

The Author: John

- “The disciple whom [Jesus] loved” (John 13:23, 19:26, 20:2, 21:7, 21:20)
- Identifies himself in 21:24.
- Attested as the author by Polycarp in the 2nd century AD (Irenaeus).
- Part of Jesus’ inner circle (Transfiguration)

The Date: 90 A.D.

- Alludes to Peter's death in 21:18-19 as (possibly) a past event.
- Tradition states John lived in Ephesus until at least the time of Emperor Trajan in 98 A.D. (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*)
- Despite the late date, the earliest papyrus fragment (P52) is of John and is dated to 125 A.D.

The Composition

- Differs from the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) in structure and content.
- *Synoptic* — “viewed together”
- Chief difference: The theological and Christological focus

The Outline

- The Prologue (1:1-18)
- Jesus' Public Ministry (1:19-12:50)
- Jesus' Private Ministry (13:1-17:26)
- Jesus' Passion (18:1-20:29)
- The Epilogue

John's Message

What should we believe?

Jesus is God

- Comes out most clearly in how people reacted to his claims of who he was. (2:12-25, 7:12, 7:30-32, 8:59, 12:10-11.)
- This claim is necessary to our witness.

- He is the Son of God, who has “life in himself.” (5:26)
- He is equal with the Father (5:18) and one with him (10:30).
- He is Yahweh, the “I AM.” (8:58, 10:11, 11:25, 14:6, 15:1)

Jesus is the Christ / the Messiah

- He came to expose misunderstanding and disobedience. (5:17)
- He came to provide a sacrifice for sinners. (1:29, 12:47, 6:53-54)
- *Most importantly*, he came so that he and the Father might be glorified. (12:23, 17:1)

Why should we believe?

His signs tell us

- Sign #1: Turning water into wine (2:1-11)
- Sign #2: Healing of the official's son (4:43-54)
- Sign #3: Sabbath healing at the pool (5:1-15)
- Sign #4: Feeding of the 5,000 (6:1-15)
- Sign #5: Walking on water (6:16-24)
- Sign #6: Healing of the man born blind (9:1-12)
- Sign #7: Raising of Lazarus from the dead (11:38-44)
- It's not the miracles themselves, but what they mean.

What does believing mean?

- Belief means to “receive” Jesus. (1:12-13)
- Belief is God's work in our hearts (5:21, 6:37, 10:16)
- Belief means to receive God's word as the truth. (5:38-39)
- Belief means to rely on and trust what Jesus (11:25-26)
- Belief means loving and obeying God. (14:1, 16:27)