

7th N.T. (Gospels) Introduction to John

John is the most _____ and the most _____ gospel. (One scholar said it was “shallow enough for a child to wade in and deep enough for an elephant to swim in.”) It is often suggested as the first book for a new Christian to read. It is also the gospel most often contemplated by theologians. John had a knack for demonstrating the _____ and the _____ of the gospel message.

Purpose:

1. _____
John 1:7, “So that we may believe that Jesus is the Son of God.”
2. _____
John focuses on Jesus’ private ministry to his disciples in chapters 13-17. This glimpse into the daily ministry of Jesus with his disciples is unique to the gospel.

Outline of John:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

John’s method in conveying the life of Christ is centered around 7 _____ (miracles), 7 _____ (ex. “I am the bread of life”), and 7 _____ (or sermons).

Authorship:

Strictly speaking, the gospel is _____. However, all evidence points to _____, the disciple of Jesus, as author.

The evidence for John’s authorship is the following:

1. It seems to be written by an _____.
2. The author seems to know and understand _____ customs.
3. The author seems to be a native _____ due to his knowledge of the _____ of the area.
4. He appears to be a _____.

Date:

John wrote his gospel between _____. (John seems unaware of the existence of the synoptic gospels, which is why his gospel is so different).

Provenance:**Audience:**

John is writing to a _____ audience that is probably experiencing conflict with the _____. Throughout the gospel, we see tensions between Jesus and his followers and the traditional Jewish leaders of his day (even more so than in the Synoptics)

Compare/Contrast John and the Gospels:

1. John's gospel begins with a _____ scope, beginning with the words "in the beginning" (parallel with Genesis), while the synoptics start with Jesus' earthly life.
2. John presents Jesus' _____ ministry, while the synoptics focus on his _____ ministry
3. John records three _____ celebrations, while the synoptics record only one.
4. John tells of three visits to _____, while the synoptics only tell of one.
5. John describes a few complicated _____ and the synoptics describe simple _____.
6. John focuses on the theme of _____, while the synoptics focus on the theme of the _____.
7. John gives long, complex discourses of Jesus, while the synoptics provide short pungent statements.
8. Only two events are shared between John and the synoptics before Passion Week: _____ and _____
9. John's gospel has a unique focus on the theme of _____ (versus _____).

Maybe a good comparison of the synoptics to John is to compare a similar subject from realist painters and impressionist painters.