



Gospel of John

"I Am" – Who Jesus Said He Was



Introduction to John's Gospel

- Written by John the Apostle (beloved disciple)
- Approximately 85–95 AD — later than the other 3 gospels
- Theological emphasis on Jesus' deity, e.g. 7 "I AM" statements
- Only about 8% of John overlaps with the Synoptic Gospels
- *"Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (John 20:30–31)*



Comparison to Luke's Gospel

- Miracles/Signs — Luke records 20 miracles/signs whereas John records 7 (2 are shared)
- Parables — Luke records 24 whereas John does not record any
- Contained in Luke, but not in John:
 - Birth narrative
 - Genealogy
 - Lord's Prayer
- Different audiences — Luke written to Theophilus. John provides an insider's view into deep truths from a mature spiritual perspective



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 1–4)

- **The Word Made Flesh (Prologue)** | *John 1:1–18* | Theological introduction: "In the beginning was the Word"
- **First Disciples Called** | *John 1:35–51* | Andrew, Peter, Philip, Nathanael
- **Wedding at Cana** | *John 2:1–11* | First miracle: Water into wine
- **Nicodemus Visits Jesus** | *John 3:1–21* | "You must be born again," John 3:16
- **Woman at the Well** | *John 4:1–42* | Samaritan woman, "living water," worship in Spirit and truth
- **Healing of Official's Son** | *John 4:43–54* | Royal official's son healed from distance



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 5–7)

- **Healing at Pool of Bethesda** | *John 5:1–15* | Man healed after 38 years, Sabbath controversy
- **Jesus' Authority & Witnesses** | *John 5:16–47* | Discourse on His relationship with Father
- **Bread of Life Discourse** | *John 6:22–71* | "I am the Bread of Life," hard teaching, many leave
- **Jesus at Feast of Tabernacles** | *John 7:1–52* | "Rivers of living water," division among people
- **Woman Caught in Adultery** | *John 7:53–8:11* | "Let him who is without sin..."



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 8–10)

- **Light of the World Discourse** | *John 8:12–59* | "I am the Light of the World," "Before Abraham was, I AM"
- **Man Born Blind Healed** | *John 9:1–41* | Healing, Pharisees investigate, spiritual blindness
- **Good Shepherd Discourse** | *John 10:1–21* | "I am the Door," "I am the Good Shepherd"
- **Feast of Dedication** | *John 10:22–42* | "I and the Father are one," Jews attempt to stone Him



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 11–12)

- **Lazarus Raised from Dead** | *John 11:1–44* | "I am the Resurrection and the Life," four days in tomb
- **Plot to Kill Jesus Intensifies** | *John 11:45–57* | Caiaphas: "It is better that one man die"
- **Mary Anoints Jesus** | *John 12:1–8* | Mary of Bethany anoints Jesus' feet with expensive perfume
- **Greeks Seek Jesus** | *John 12:20–36* | "Unless a grain of wheat falls and dies..."
- **Unbelief Despite Miracles** | *John 12:37–50* | Isaiah's prophecy fulfilled



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 13–14)

- **Jesus Washes Disciples' Feet** | *John 13:1–17* | Servant leadership example
- **Prediction of Betrayal** | *John 13:18–30* | Judas identified, leaves
- **New Commandment** | *John 13:31–35* | "Love one another as I have loved you"
- **"I Am the Way, Truth, Life"** | *John 14:1–14* | "No one comes to Father except through me"
- **Promise of Holy Spirit** | *John 14:15–31* | The Advocate/Comforter



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 15–18)

- **World's Hatred** | *John 15:18–16:4* | Warning of persecution
- **Holy Spirit's Work** | *John 16:5–15* | Convict world of sin, guide into truth
- **Sorrow to Joy** | *John 16:16–33* | "A little while," "I have overcome the world"
- **High Priestly Prayer** | *John 17:1–26* | Jesus prays for Himself, disciples, all believers
- **"I AM He" in Garden** | *John 18:4–9* | Soldiers fall back when Jesus says "I AM"



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 18–19)

- **Jesus Before Annas** | *John 18:12–14, 19–24* | Preliminary hearing
- **Pilate's Extended Dialogue** | *John 18:33–19:16* | "What is truth?" "Behold the Man," "Behold your King"
- **Jesus Gives Mother to John** | *John 19:25–27* | "Woman, behold your son"
- **"I Thirst" and "It Is Finished"** | *John 19:28–30* | Fifth and sixth words from cross
- **Side Pierced, Blood & Water** | *John 19:31–37* | Fulfillment of prophecy



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapters 19–20)

- **Nicodemus Helps Bury Jesus** | *John 19:38–42* | Brings 75 pounds of spices
- **Mary Magdalene at Tomb** | *John 20:1–18* | Sees angels, encounters risen Jesus, "Do not hold on to me"
- **Disciples Receive Holy Spirit** | *John 20:19–23* | Jesus breathes on them
- **Thomas Doubts** | *John 20:24–29* | "My Lord and my God," blessed are those who believe without seeing



Unique to John's Gospel (Chapter 21)

- **Breakfast by Sea of Galilee** | *John 21:1–14* | 153 fish, third appearance
- **Peter Restored** | *John 21:15–19* | "Do you love me?" "Feed my sheep"
- **Beloved Disciple's Fate** | *John 21:20–25* | Misunderstanding about John's death



The Seven "I Am" Statements (Part 1 of 2)

- **"I am the Bread of Life"** | *John 6:35, 48* | After feeding the 5,000
- **"I am the Light of the World"** | *John 8:12; 9:5* | Feast of Tabernacles / Man born blind
- **"I am the Door"** | *John 10:7, 9* | Good Shepherd discourse
- **"I am the Good Shepherd"** | *John 10:11, 14* | Contrasted with hired hand
- **"I am the Resurrection and the Life"** | *John 11:25* | Before raising Lazarus



The Seven "I Am" Statements (Part 2 of 2)

- **"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"** | *John 14:6* | Upper Room — Thomas asks the way
- **"I am the True Vine"** | *John 15:1, 5* | Upper Room — abiding in Christ

Key Theme: The "I AM" statements echo God's self-revelation in Exodus 3:14.

Jesus uses these statements to reveal His divine nature and offer eternal life to all who believe.



D.A. Carson

The Gospel According to John

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W76UvbZb9q0>

John MacArthur

Gospel of John — Overview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXzIKQ-OTXc>

Author: Rick Metz • 2/23/2026