

John: *That You May Believe*

Introduction

I. The Author—While the book does not name the author, *external evidence* almost universally points to the Apostle John as the author. Irenaeus affirms authorship by the Apostle. This is especially significant since Irenaeus was a pupil of Polycarp who was a disciple of the Apostle John. *Internally*, the evidence also supports Johannine authorship. The gospel reveals that the author was an eyewitness of the events he described, that he personally “beheld His glory,” that is, the transfiguration of Christ (1:14), that he was the beloved disciple and a close associate of the apostle Peter (13:23; 19:26; 21:20, 23-24).

II. The Audience—Gentiles living in and around Ephesus.

III. The Aim—John recorded selected signs and sayings of Jesus to demonstrate to a Jewish audience that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, who gives life to all who believe in Him (John 20:31).

IV. The Arrangement—

The Gospel of John

Focus	Ministry to Many										Ministry to Few			
Divisions	Manifestation of the Son of God		Ministry to Individuals by the Son of God			Ministry to the Multitudes by the Son of God			Mounting Anger Towards the Son of God		Ministry to the Disciples by the Son of God		Magnification of the Resurrected Son of God	
	1	2	3	5	6	8	9	12	13	17	18	21		
Topics	Signs										Sermons		Sacrifice	
	Public Ministry										Private Ministry		Paschal Ministry	
Place	Galilee & Judea										Jerusalem			
Time	About 3 ½ Years										Only a Few Days			
Author	The Apostle John													

V. The Analysis

I. Prologue (1:1-18)

II. The Seven Signs (1:19–12:50)

1. First Sign: Water to Wine at Cana (2:1-12)

John 3 Nicodemus

John 4 Samaritan Woman

2. Second Sign: Healing a Nobleman's Son at Cana (4:46-54)

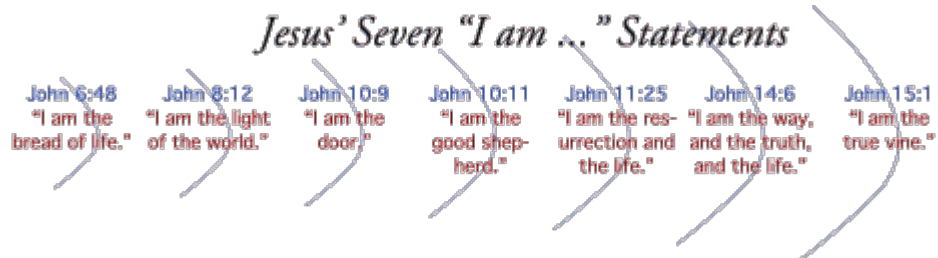
3. Third Sign: Healing at Bethesda (5:1-17)

4. Fourth Sign: Feeding 5,000 (6:1-14)

5. Fifth Sign: Walking on the Water (6:15-21)

6. Sixth Sign: Healing the Blind Man (9:1-41)

7. Seventh Sign: Raising of Lazarus (11:1-46)



III. The Sermon in the Upper Room to Prepare His Disciples (13:1–17:26)

IV. The Supreme Sign (18:1–20:31)

VI. The Application