

Why This Gospel Was Written (John 20:30-31)

Scripture Text:

30. Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
31. but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31 NASB)

Outline:

- I. Signs and Wonders of Jesus Performed in the Presence of the Disciples (v.30a)
- II. Signs and Wonders Not Written in the Book of John (v.30b)
- III. Believing on Christ, the Son of God As A Result of Signs and Wonders (v.31a)
- IV. Believing on Christ, the Son of God Resulting in Life In His Name (v.31b)

Worksheet:

- I. Signs and Wonders of Jesus Performed in the Presence of the Disciples (v.30a)
 - a. Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples (v.30a)
 - i. What does this verse suggest about the **signs** included in John's gospel? *[discussion]* _____

 - ii. How do we know about the other signs that Jesus performed in the presence of the disciples, since they were not included in the book of John? *[disciples]* _____

 - iii. Why are Matthew, Mark and Luke called the **Synoptic Gospels**? _____

 1. **Synoptic**: of or forming a general summary or synopsis; relating to the Synoptic Gospels.
 2. **Synoptic Gospels**: the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, which describe events from a similar point of view, as contrasted with that of John.
 - b. The other gospels include some of these signs that were omitted from John's gospel. Traditionally speaking, it is believed that John was aware of the other

three gospels. However, his intent, under the inspiration of the _____ and his own personal memory of the events of Jesus earthly ministry, was to give his readers _____, supplementary and complementary information not contained in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Furthermore, John's gospel helps to better understand events chronicled in the synoptic gospels. Finally, John's gospel is the most _____ in its presentation (Jesus as the eternal Word, being "born again", worshipping God in "spirit and in truth", contains the most teaching on the Holy Spirit of the gospels, etc.)

II. Signs and Wonders Not Written in the Book of John (v.30b)

a. which are not written in this book; (v.30b)

i. The other gospels include parables, teachings, signs and wonders that were not written in the book of John.

ii. Do these omissions from the Gospel of John call into question the historical and theological accuracy of John's gospel? _____ Why or why not? _____

III. Believing on Christ, the Son of God As A Result of Signs and Wonders (v.31a)

a. but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God;

i. John makes it known that the purpose of his gospel is that people will believe that Jesus is the _____, the _____ of God.

ii. Belief in this truth is a litmus test that distinguishes individuals who have a "**said** faith" from individuals who have a "**saving** faith".

1. Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.

(1 John 4:1-3 NASB)

2. that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10:9-10 NASB)

iii. John is the second of the four gospel writers to actually give his readers the reason for writing his respective gospel. The gospel writer Luke is the other.

1. but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31 NASB)
 2. Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught. (Luke 1:1-4 NASB)
- b. "The Eight Signs"
- i. John in this verse give his readers the reason why he has written about the signs performed by Jesus during His earthly ministry.
 - ii. "The Eight Signs" of Jesus in review

THE EIGHT SIGNS		
Scripture Text	Sign of Jesus	Implication of Sign
John 2:1-12	Turns water into wine	Jesus is the source of life
John 4:46-54	Heals a royal official's son	Jesus is the master over distance
John 5:1-17	Heals a lame man at the pool of Bethesda	Jesus is master over time
John 6:1-14	Feeds 5,000 men	Jesus is the bread of life
John 6:15-21	Walks on water, stills a storm	Jesus is master over nature
John 9:1-41	Heals a man blind from birth	Jesus is the light of the world
John 11:17-45	Raises Lazarus from the dead	Jesus has power over death
John 21:6	Causes abundant catch of fish	Jesus is master over the animal world
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- IV. Believing on Christ, the Son of God Resulting in Life In His Name
- a. and that believing you may have life in His name (v.31b)
 - i. The signs that Jesus performed were performed so that people might _____. John's purpose in writing about these signs that Jesus performed was so that people might _____.

- ii. After truly believing in the name of Jesus, what is promised as a result?
_____ What kind? _____
- iii. According to previous studies, when does a believer have this life?
_____.
1. "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, **has** eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. (John 5:24 NASB)