

REL 1310 – Christian Scriptures

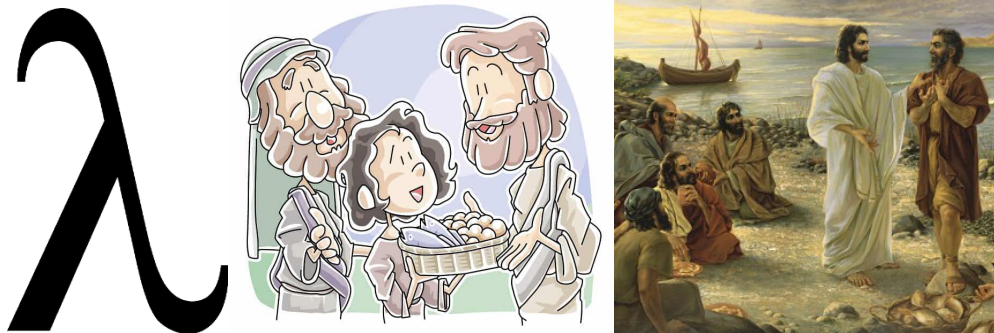
Hello and welcome to the weekly resources for REL-1310!

These resources are structured a bit differently from other online study guides on the Baylor Tutoring website because the content in these courses are organized largely around biblical histories and narratives. Please take a look at other weekly resources listed on our website for additional topics from Christian Scriptures throughout the semester. Your professor might be discussing these topics in a different order than presented here.

We also invite you to take a look at the group tutoring chart on our website to see if this course has a group tutoring session offered this semester.

If you have any questions about these study guides, group tutoring sessions, private 30-minute tutoring appointments, the Baylor Tutoring YouTube channel or any tutoring services we offer, please visit our website www.baylor.edu/tutoring or call our drop-in center during open business hours, M-Th 9am-8pm on class days, at 254-710-4135.

The Gospel of John



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Fast Facts

- Author is **'the disciple whom Jesus loved'** (likely John – NOT John the Baptist)
- Written 90-100 **CE**
- The book's intended audience is people who did not witness Jesus' life.
- **Does not include** Jesus' baptism, temptation, exorcisms, parables, transfiguration, bread and wine in the Last Supper, prayer in Gethsemane.
- Emphasis on the importance of making things happen **at the right time**.
- Jesus says **'I AM'** 7 times (this is the same term the LORD used to tell Moses who he was in the book of Exodus. By saying 'I AM,' Jesus is calling himself God.)
- Jesus travels to Jerusalem 3 times, different than the 1 time mentioned in the Synoptic Gospels
- Main theme: **Jesus is God in human form**.
- Broken into 4 sections: Prologue, Book of Signs, Book of Glory, & epilogue

Prologue (1:1-1:18)

- Poetic style
- **Logos** (a Greek word often translated as ‘the Word’) existed before the creation of the world. **Logos** was with God and **Logos** is God.
- The author is trying to tell us that **Logos** is Jesus.

Book of Signs (1:19-chapter 12)

- Jesus performs miracles that show his power and reveal who he is.
- **Witness of John the Baptist**
 - o John the Baptist claimed not to be the Messiah, but the one who announces that the Messiah is coming.
- **Turning water into wine**
 - o Jesus and his mother, Mary, attended a wedding. The wedding ran out of wine.
 - o Mary asked him to supernaturally turn the water into wine.
 - o Jesus asked the workers at the wedding to place water inside jars used for Jewish ritual practice. He turned this water into wine.
- **Critiquing the temple**
 - o Jesus shares that he has come to be the new temple and replace the current temple in Jerusalem.
- **Conversation with a Samaritan woman**
 - o A Samaritan (social rival of the Jews) woman asks Jesus whether proper worship of the Lord is in Samaria or Jerusalem.
 - o Jesus tells her that the new worship of the Father in the Spirit is true worship. He tells how worship is not something that has to be done at a physical place, but is instead a practice that happens spiritually.
- **Jesus facing opposition**
 - o Jesus’ teaching and signs have a theme of his practice being more important than Jewish ritual. This leads Jewish religious leaders to oppose his message.
- **Feeding of five thousand**
 - o Jesus’ miraculous signs had led large crowds to follow him.
 - o There was not enough food for the followers, so Jesus supernaturally increased the amount of food that the crowd could have.
 - o This led to Jesus’ teaching that he is the bread of life in the same way that the Lord provided manna (an ingredient of bread) to the Hebrews in the wilderness in the Old Testament.
- **Healing a blind man**
 - o Jesus miraculously gives sight to a blind man, signaling how he is the ‘light of the world.’
- **Raising Lazarus from the dead**
 - o Jesus’ friend, Lazarus, died.
 - o Jesus raised him from the dead.
 - o This foreshadows Jesus’ own resurrection that will come later in the book.

Book of Glory (chapters 13-20)

- Jesus enters Jerusalem for the last time triumphantly, as a king would.
- The same night Jesus has a last dinner with his disciples, he washes their feet and is arrested.
- While Jesus was being arrested, Peter used a sword to cut off the ear of a soldier. Jesus helped the soldier to supernaturally place his ear back on.
- While Jesus is on trial, he boldly confesses who he is, but Peter shamefully denies even knowing Jesus.
- On Jesus' cross, **Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews** is written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin.
- Jesus is buried and is resurrected from the tomb.
- Mary Magdalene discovered the empty tomb, and Peter and the beloved disciple confirmed it was empty.
- Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene and then to the disciples, without Thomas being present.
- Thomas later joined the disciples and said he wouldn't believe that Jesus was back unless he saw the holes in his hands and feet. Jesus then appeared to Thomas, and he believed. Jesus then said that those who believe without seeing are blessed.

Epilogue (chapter 21)

- Jesus appears to some disciples at Galilee.
- Jesus restores Peter even though Peter denied him while he was on trial.

Test your knowledge!

Answers are at the bottom of the document.

- 1) According to the Gospel of John, who claims to be the author?
 - a. John the Baptist
 - b. John Mark
 - c. 'The disciple whom Jesus loved'
 - d. The book was written entirely anonymously.
- 2) What language was 'Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews' written on, on Jesus' cross?
 - a. Hebrew
 - b. Greek
 - c. Latin
 - d. All the above
- 3) What did Jesus say 7 times in John that portrayed himself as God?
 - a. 'Blessed are you.'
 - b. 'Do this in remembrance of me.'
 - c. 'I am.'
 - d. 'You are not.'
- 4) How does Jesus claiming that he is the 'bread of life' draw a connection to the Old Testament?
 - a. Adam had to make bread by sweating and working in Genesis.
 - b. Jonathan ate honey in 1 Kings.
 - c. God provided manna for the Israelites in Exodus.

- d. None of the above.
- 5) Who is referred to as 'Logos' in the beginning of John?
- a. John the Baptist
 - b. Simon Peter
 - c. Pontious Pilate
 - d. Jesus

Answers: 1) c. Explanation: John 21:24 is the only time anyone in the text takes credit for writing the book. And the person who says they wrote the book is only ever identified as 'the disciple whom Jesus loved. 2) d. 3) c. 4) c. 5) d.