

Jesus Is... - New Beginnings

I. John and the Other Three Gospels

A. John and the Other Three Gospels

1. Dates

- a. Matthew – late 50's
- b. Mark – mid to late 50's
- c. Luke – early 60's

2. Emphasis

- a. Matt. – King; son of David (1:1; 9:27; 21:9) – kingdom & its living
- b. Mark – Servant (10:45) – focus on deeds, not teaching - serving
- c. Luke – Man; son of Man (19:10) – humanity – compassion on all

3. John and his Gospel

a. John

- 1) Fisherman, brother, & partner (Mk. 1:16-20; Lk. 5:10)
- 2) Youngest apostle, leaned on Jesus' breast (Jn. 13:23, 25)
- 3) Severe (Lk. 9:51-55)
- 4) Exclusive (Mk. 9:38-40; Lk. 9:49-50)
- 5) Exiled to Patmos (Rev. 1:9)

b. His Gospel

- 1) John – early 90's (30-35 years)
- 2) John wrote about Jesus as God (Jn. 20:31)

B. Why John wrote

1. Not to correct the three prior Gospels
2. To correct a growing trend among believers
3. Writes a spiritual account
 - a. Turns focus from outward observance to inner, spiritual
 - b. No birth of Christ mentioned like Matthew & Luke – boils it down to “the Word became flesh” (Jn. 1:14)

C. Why we need John's reminder

1. Our tendency
2. Our distractions
3. Our need to dig deeper

II. Jesus Is... (John 1:1-18)

A. The Word is God and with God in the most intimate way (Jn. 1:1-2, 18a)

B. The Word came to earth as God's life and light, and full of grace and truth (Jn. 1:4-5, 9, 14, 16, 17)

C. The Word came to make God known (Jn. 1:1, 18b; Heb. 1:1-2)

D. The Word came to invite each one of us into an intimate relationship with God (Jn. 1:11-13)