

The Gospel According to John

What is the Gospel?

October 1, 2023

John 1v1-42

19 This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' **20** He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' **21** And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' **22** Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' **23** He said,

'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. **25** They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' **26** John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, **27** the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' **28** This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!' **30** This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." **31** I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' **32** And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. **33** I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." **34** And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, **36** and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' **37** The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. **38** When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' **39** He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. **40** One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. **41** He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). **42** He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

What is the Gospel?

What if this is what John wants to get into in the opening scene of his Gospel?

"I am not the Messiah" (v20)

Passover!

Exodus 19v4-6a
You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.
5 Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, 6 but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.

What if Jesus and the Spirit mark the inauguration of a new age?

Which might lead to, How might your present circumstances be God's invitation to follow Him as your rightful King? How might they be an invitation to see it all through the lens of Jesus as King and yourself as a resident of His Kingdom, now and forever?

What if personal forgiveness and salvation is a benefit of the Gospel, but not the Gospel itself?

'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said. (23)

Inauguration language?

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!' (v29)

What if the Gospel is about how Jesus became King?!

And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. (31)

When is the last time a dove was cast in a major role in the Biblical narrative?

Genesis 8v8-12

8 Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; 9 but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. 10 He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; 11 and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. 12 Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

Book Resources: [The King Jesus Gospel](#) by Scot McKnight; [Gospel Allegiance](#) by Matthew W. Bates

Songs: God So Loved, Holy Forever, The Lord is Gracious and Compassionate, Beautiful, Revelation Song

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