

THE GOSPEL OF

JOHN

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AUTHOR

Although the author's name does not appear in the gospel, early church tradition strongly and consistently identified him as the Apostle John. The early church father Irenaeus (A.D. 130-200) was a disciple of Polycarp (A.D. 70-160), who was a disciple of the Apostle John, and he testified on Polycarp's authority that John wrote the gospel during his residence at Ephesus in Asia Minor when he was advanced in age. Subsequent to Irenaeus, all the church fathers assumed John to be the gospel's author. While the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke) identify the Apostle John by name approximately 20 times, he is not directly mentioned by name in the Gospel of John. Instead, the author prefers to identify himself as the disciple "whom Jesus loved."

DATE

Because the writings of some church fathers indicate that John was actively writing in his old age and that he was already aware of the synoptic gospels, many date the gospel sometime after their composition, but prior to John's writing of 1-3 John or Revelation. John wrote his gospel A.D. 90-90, about 50 years after he witnessed Jesus' earthly ministry.

HISTORICAL AND THEOLOGICAL THEMES

In accordance with John's evangelistic and apologetic purposes, the overall message of the gospel is found in John 20:31 "but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the God; and that believing you may have life in His name." The book, therefore, centers on the person and work of Christ. There are also 7 emphatic "I AM" statements which identify Jesus as God and Messiah.

OUTLINE

- I. The Incarnation of the Son of God (1:1-18)
- II. The Presentation of the Son of God (1:19-4:54)
- III. The Opposition to the Son of God (5:1-12:50)
- IV. The Preparation of the Disciples by the Son of God (13:1-17:26)
- V. The Execution of the Son of God (18:1-19:37)
- VI. The Resurrection of the Son of God (19:38-21:23)
- VII. Conclusion (21:24,25)

JOHN

	Deity “The Word was God” (1:1).	God-Man “The Word became flesh” (1:14). <i>Miraculous signs:</i> Turns water into wine (2) Heals official’s son (4)	Ministry <i>Miraculous signs:</i> Heals invalid at Bethesda (5) Feeds 5,000 (6) Walks on water (6) Heals blind man (9) Raises Lazarus (11)	Discourse <i>Private talks:</i> Servanthood (13) Heaven (14) Abiding (15) Promises (16) Prayer (17)	Trials and Death 	Empty Tomb <i>Private talks:</i> Appearances (20)	Assurance <i>Private talks:</i> Future (21)
	CHAPTER 1:1–13	CHAPTERS 1:14–4:54	CHAPTERS 5–12	CHAPTERS 13–17	CHAPTERS 18–19	CHAPTER 20	CHAPTER 21
Stage	Prologue	Acceptance	Conflict	Preparation	Crucifixion	Triumph	Epilogue
Audience	Public message			CHANGE	Private message		
Time	Three years			Several days			
Jesus’s Seven “I Am” Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I am the bread of life.” (6:35) • “I am the Light of the world.” (8:12) • “I am the door.” (10:9) • “I am the good shepherd.” (10:11) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I am the resurrection and the life.” (11:25) • “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” (14:6) • “I am the true vine.” (15:1) 			
Theme	Salvation comes only through Jesus Christ, the Son of God.						
Key Verse	20:31						
Christ in John	Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the way, the truth, and the life who alone is the revelation of God and salvation of people (1:1–18; 20:31).						



The Deity of Christ



In the beginning,

GOD CREATED

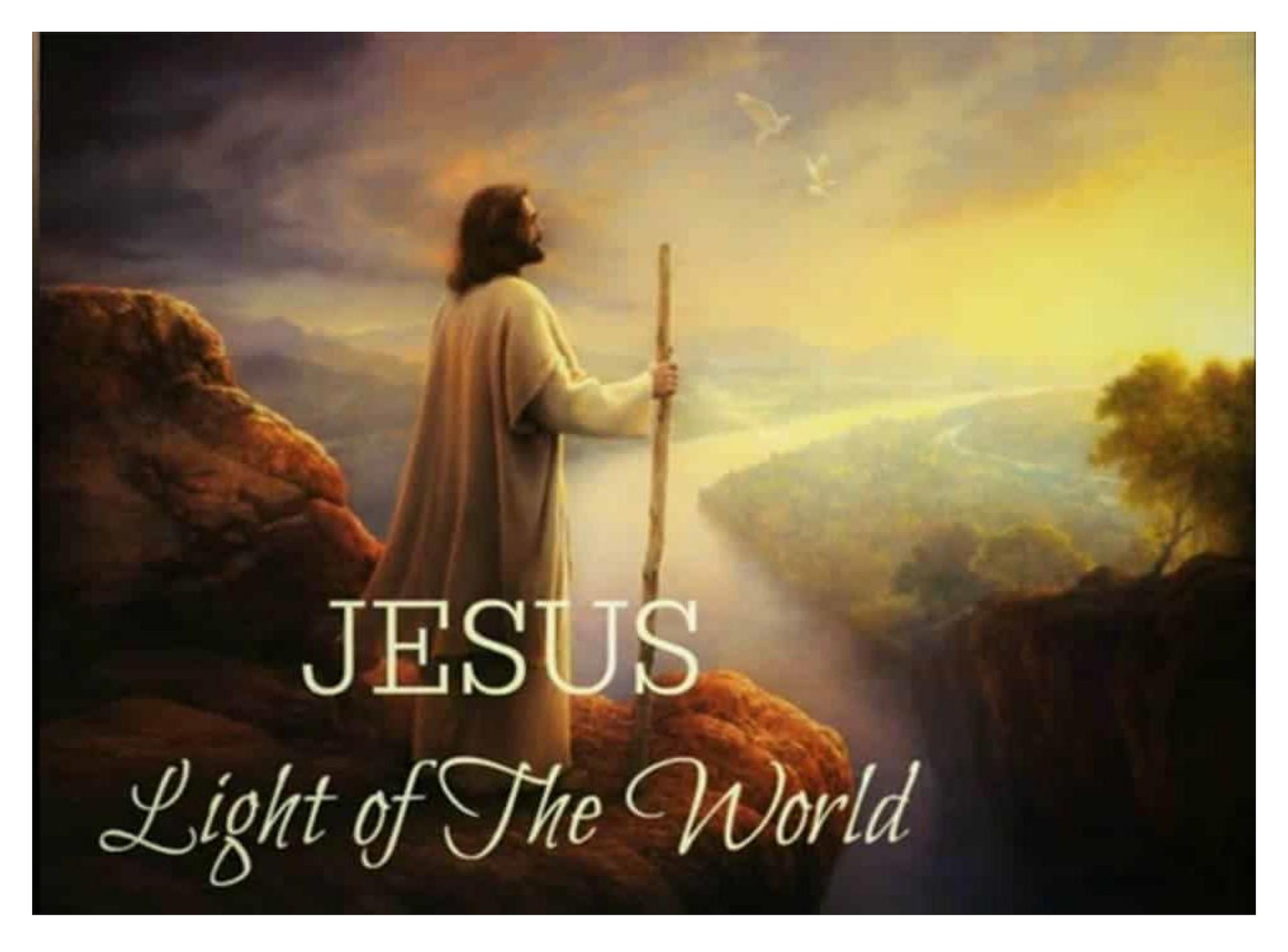
*the heavens and
the earth.*

GENESIS 1:1



**For everything
comes from God
alone. Everything
lives by His power,
and everything is
for His glory.**

Romans 11:36

A religious painting depicting Jesus Christ standing on a rocky cliff, looking out over a vast valley. He is wearing a white robe and holding a wooden staff. The scene is illuminated by a warm, golden light, suggesting sunrise or sunset. In the distance, a winding river flows through a lush, green valley. Two white doves are flying in the sky above. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and hopeful.

JESUS

Light of The World



John “the baptizing one”



Jesus Christ, the true Light
The one who lights the world



Those who receive Him, who believe in Him as Savior,
He gives the right to become and claim the exalted title of “God’s children.”

APPLICATION

1. We are sent as witnesses of Jesus Christ. We are ambassadors for Him. Everyone of us in this room that know Jesus Christ as Savior are His representative. You are sent out in the same way that John the Baptist came to bear witness of the True Light. At First Baptist Church, we seek to serve God as we gather for worship and Bible study, and we scatter for evangelism and service. So be ready to share your faith.

2. We are proclaiming Christ as Savior. Salvation is in a person. Not in an action. Not in a church. Not in a religion. Not in rituals. Salvation is in the person of Jesus Christ. We believe in Him for eternal life. He is the True Light of the world.

3. Salvation is simply by faith in Christ. It's not works. It's not goodness. It isn't what you do or keep on doing. It is simply believing in Jesus Christ for eternal life. Some people when you share your faith with them, will believe. Some people may not believe. At least right then. Hopefully they will believe later. But as many that receive Him, He gives them the right to become Children of God to those who believe on His name. We are children of God by faith. You can call God "Abba". Father. You can come to Him at anytime, anyplace, anywhere, tell Him anything that is going on in your life. We are citizens of heaven. Children of the King. The Messiah.