

THE GOSPEL OF

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JOHN

- ▶ Welcome, format, goals
  - ▶ Why John? Movie, realized that John is very different than the other 3 Gospels in many ways.
- ▶ Tonight we we are only get to Chapter 1...could spend a lot more time here.
- ▶ Other weeks we may cover 2-4 chapters, and only drill down on certain verses. In doing this we should be able to finish the book of John before Easter

## JOHN AND THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

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- ▶ John is different than the other Gospels, and may not be the best place for a new believer to start reading.
- ▶ Matthew, Mark, Luke are called synoptic Gospels by scholars.
  - ▶ Taking the same point of view. ( greek seeing together)
- ▶ Matthew , Mark , Luke contain approx 1/3 overlapping material , and up to 2/3 of in 2 of the books. John has very little overlapping material
  - ▶ Many miracles in the synoptic gospels , only 7 in John.
  - ▶ 7 "I AM" statements from Jesus,
  - ▶ Synoptics have More Parables to the common man, about morality or how to live, while John is more theological and Jesus' relation to the Father.
  - ▶ Synoptic Gospels largely cover Jesus ministry in Judea (southern), Judea were the "true" Jews, or so they thought.
  - ▶ Galilee Northern Israel , have many gentile communities and Jewish communities were mixed in. but they were strict Jewish followers
  - ▶ in-between was Samaria which was mix nationality and mixed Jewish and Pagan religions. They had their own place for sacrifices to make, but the Jews only recognized Jerusalem.



## Map of Israel in the New Testament

Bible History Online

## SYNOPTIC VS JOHN

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- ▶ Galilee was considered impure, (low-lives) by Judeans but Samaria was hated....
- ▶ Which is why Jesus used a Samaritan in the Good Samaritan in his parable.
- ▶ John contains a little bit Galilee, but mostly focus on Judean Ministry
- ▶ **The Synoptic Gospels** contain a little of Judea, but mostly about Jesus's time in Galilee
- ▶ It take more work to make John's timeline sync into the Synoptics



### ▶ Traditional View

- ▶ John & Brother James ( among of the first disciples, sons of-thunder) the Apostle, is assumed to be “the disciple that Jesus loved”, and unnamed character in John’s writings.
- ▶ James and John and Peter, were “inner circle” that Jesus include
  - ▶ Mount of Transfiguration, raising of Gaius’ daughter from the dead, and garden of [Gethsemane](#)
- ▶ John ( and Peter) was an extremely important disciple, and close to Jesus. And a key apostle after Jesus ascended into heaven

### ▶ Traditional View

- ▶ 7 disciples are named in John, 5 are not, James, John's brother died before this book was written. "the disciple that Jesus loved" is assumed my most to be John
- ▶ John and Peter do a lot together Acts, and Peter and "disciple that Jesus loved " do a lot together in the book of John.
- ▶ 1 John, 2, John, 3 John and John have an extremely similar style, wording and concepts.
- ▶ Revelation contains ~10 special terms (lamb of God, The Word of God) **only found in John's writing** , but the greek style is much different , cruder which gives some people doubt. But it was common that Paul, and John to dictate to more skilled secretary else who put it in writing. John didn't have that option on Patmos
- ▶ John 21: 24 This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and wrote these things, and **we** know that his testimony is true.

## AUTHORSHIP OF JOHN

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- ▶ written in 80-90sAD - consider probable by many
- ▶ Most scholars seem to agree - it was the **last** Gospel written.
  - ▶ Some think it was written AFTER Revelation when John was in his 90s.
    - ▶ In favor of that - Word of God in Revelation, and John,
    - ▶ but in John chapter 5 talks about things in Jerusalem as " *Now there **is** in Jerusalem by the sheep gate a pool, which is called in [a]Hebrew [b]Bethesda..*" not was...which would be before 70AD, and probably before the book of Revelation.
  - ▶ Many scholars seem to think John knew of the other Gospels and want to give additional material not contain in those writings, not merely restate
- ▶ All the other Disciples were martyred. The church tradition, not bible, tells us that John was dipped in boiling oil, but it did not kill/harm him, so he was exiled to Patmos, and years later under a different Emperor release and live out his life in Ephesus, where is possible dictated the Gospel of John



- ▶ *1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*
- ▶ *John takes us back to the first and last books of the bible to lay a foundation that Jesus , is the eternal God.*
  - ▶ *Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light";*
  - ▶ *Revelation 19:13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The **Word of God***
- ▶ ***Logos** is a term that was used by several ancient Greek philosophers, including Heraclitus and the Stoics, to describe a principle of reason or rationality that governs the universe. In Heraclitus' philosophy, logos was the principle of order and unity in the cosmos, while in Stoicism, logos referred to the rational principle that pervades the universe and **connects all things**.*

- ▶ *3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*
- ▶ *John more than any other writings writes about “eternal life” we will see many of these examples of the coming weeks.*
  - ▶ *1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.*
  - ▶ *John will talk about a life style of abiding in Him, walking in the light...not just saying the sinner prayer and you are ‘in the club’*

- ▶ 14 And the Word became flesh, and [tabernacled , lived temporarily ] dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of [ unique, only one of His kind] the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- ▶ Only begotten (monogenēs) can be used of only sons or daughters (viewed in relation to their parents)...but it first mean is 'single of its kind, only' or unique.
  - ▶ because we use the term Son of God, we some how consider that God made Jesus in heaven and sent him down.
  - ▶ John is laying the case that Jesus, the Word, existed eternally and when became flesh, there was nothing like that before or after him.
  - ▶ The trinity his mind blowing concept - lemonade
  - ▶ *Isaiah 9:6 KJV For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called **Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.***

## JESUS IS FROM THE BEGINNING

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- ▶ *15 John \*testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'" 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. 17 For the Law was given through Moses; **grace and truth** were realized through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.*
- ▶ *John was a bit older than Jesus, but acknowledge Jesus has been "from the beginning"*
- ▶ *No was has seen God, what about Moses? Only the begotten ( unique God, who is in the bosom/heart? of the father explained Him. Jesus came to explain and show us the Father.*



## WHO IS JOHN THE BAPTIST

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- ▶ 19....“Who are you?” 20 And he confessed and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not [the Messiah ] the Christ.” 21 They asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” And he \*said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.”
- ▶ Why the Prophet:
  - ▶ Deuteronomy 18:15 *The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. 16 For this is what you asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the Lord our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”*
  - ▶ Duet 34:9 *Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the Lord had commanded Moses. 10 Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, 11 who did all those signs and wonders the Lord sent him to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. 12 For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.*



## ▶ Why the Messiah

- ▶ Great sense of expectation that the Messiah would be coming soon due to prophecy, the 70 Weeks of Daniel 9 prediction the messiah would come in 483 years after Daniel's prophecy...which completed in Jesus' lifetime. But they had a very blurry picture of the Messiah. Was he Human, or Spirit, was he different than the Prophet or the same as "The Prophet"
- ▶ Jacob Genesis 49:10 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,[a] until he to whom it belongs[Shiloh] shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.
- ▶ Judah kingdoms would remain "Davidic" until the Messiah came, but Herod was 1/2 Jew 1/2 Edomite and not from the Tribe of Judah...people were really expecting the Messiah and viewed that
- ▶ There were apparently some people before, during and after Jesus' time claiming to be the Messiah ... some led revolts against the Romans....

## WHY ELIJAH

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### ▶ Why Elijah -

- ▶ Malachi 4:5 *"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction."*
- ▶ John the Baptist and probably Elijah were both Nazarenes (Narrative vow) - Long hair, rough clothing . Elijah did not die, and the priest we're probably expecting his return. Elisha told Nahum to go wash himself in the Jordan 7 times, John was Baptizing.
- ▶ But didn't Jesus say about John the Baptist Matthew 11:13 *For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. 14 And if you are willing to accept it, he (John the Baptist) is the Elijah who was to come. 15 Whoever has ears, let them hear.*
- ▶ and didn't the Angel of The Lord say to John the Baptist's Father Luke 1:17 *And he will go on before the Lord, in the **spirit and power of Elijah**, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."*
- ▶ *But Likely , they were expecting Elijah, who did not die, to literally return. Not someone coming in the Spirit and Power of Elijah*

- ▶ PROSELYTE , Jewish converts also had to be circumcized & baptized...SO John was treating Jews as “unclean” and saying thy needed to undergo some of the same processes to become right with God....Most Jews would think they were “Born right with God”. We can do that as individuals or churches...
- ▶ From here We have 3 “next days”
  - ▶ Other Gospels talk about John Baptizing Jesus, Jesus going into the desert for 40 days, Jesus starting his ministry ....John asking Jesus is he the Messiah, one or two times.
  - ▶ John writes that John the Baptist “testified saying... ” past tense about baptizing Jesus....
  - ▶ So we have 3 “Next days” not the 40-days of fasting and temptation, or
  - ▶ John the baptist ministry ( ungluing Jail time) is considered to be up to 4 years.

- ▶ *29 The next day he \*saw Jesus coming to him and \*said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is He on behalf of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.' 31 I did not recognize [u]Him, but so that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing [v]in water." 32 John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him. 33 I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, 'He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.' 34 I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God."*
- ▶ *How did John , Jesus' cousin not recognize ' him'? He must have heard some story growing up?*
  - ▶ *The Concept of Messiah, was blurry at best. Was human, spiritual , military leader. Even John was a bit blind and being led step by step. The Prophet vs Messiah*
  - ▶ *God*

## NEXT DAY 2

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- ▶ <sup>35</sup> Again the next day John was standing <sup>[2]</sup> with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and \*said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> And Jesus turned and saw them following, and \*said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?" <sup>39</sup> He \*said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they came and saw where He was staying; and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the <sup>[aa]</sup> tenth hour.

- ▶ Invite people to with you....spend time with you more than win them over with logic??
- ▶ Who are the 2 disciples? Peter was one, God often gave people new names, and Jesus started off this way with Peter?
- ▶ The other Disciple is probably John, the Disciple that Jesus loved.



## THE NEXT DAY 3

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- ▶ *43 The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He \*found Philip. And Jesus \*said to him, "Follow Me." 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip \*found Nathanael and \*said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 Nathanael said to him, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Philip \*said to him, "Come and see." 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and \*said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael \*said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." **49 Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel." 50 Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." 51 And He \*said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."***
- ▶ *an any good thing come out of Nazareth?" - Is doesn't mean Nazareth was a bad place, or Nathaniel hated it....but it is possible he was wondering with the Messiah come from there?*
- ▶ **Did Nathaniel ever see "heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."**
- ▶ **We don't know exactly what he saw. But he did see Jesus provide a bridge to heaven and Kingdom God , miracles , demons being cast out....etc It could be literal...but likely figurative that Referencing Jacobs ladder in Genesis 28 being a gateway to Heaven, and God established his Kingdom through Abraham, Issac and Jacob....Jesus was establishing his Kingdom here on earth.**