



John: The Great “I AM” Gospel—Part 1
Introduction
From sermon 1.8.23

Read *John 8:53-59*

Overview of Sunday’s sermon: The start of the new year brings us to our new series in the Gospel of John. This both a fascinating and unique Gospel. It is unlike the other three [Matthew, Mark, & Luke]. Being so rich in doctrine and theology, John’s Gospel requires some extra time and study. The Gospel blesses its reader and student by giving the assurance that Jesus is God and there omnipotent and sovereign.

1. What is Christology and why does it matter? A compound word: Christ = the Anointed One = Messiah = Jesus & “ology” the knowledge or study of = the knowledge or study of Jesus Christ. It matters supremely because if you get Jesus’ identity, nature, and essence wrong, everything else will crumble.

Facts about John—The Man

Luke 5:1-3 & 9-11—From Galilee, fishermen, brother of James, partners with Peter & Andrew, son of Zebedee, called to be an Apostle.

Matt. 27:56—Mother became a disciple

Mark 3:17—Nicknamed the “sons of thunder”

Mark 9:2—One of the inner circle of 3 leaders and eyewitness to the Transfiguration

Matthew 20:20—Leadership went to his head vs. servanthood going to his heart

John 19:26-27—Commissioned to care for Mary

Galatians 2:9—Became a leader (pillar) in the Jerusalem church

Acts 12:1-2—His brother, James, will be the first Apostle martyred

Revelation 1:9—John will be arrested for the faith, exiled to the prison island of Patmos, receive the Revelation there, live the longest of all the Apostles, & die on that island.

Facts about John—The Gospel

- Target Audience is the Church
- Not Synoptic = Doesn’t follow same chronological pattern/stories of the other 3 Gospels
- Contains details and events not found in the other 3 Gospels
- Focuses more on what Jesus said than what He did
- The most Theological of the Gospels
- Contains more doctrine on God the Holy Spirit than the other 3 Gospels combined. See *John 14:26*
- The only Gospel to include its purpose: See *John 20:30-31*
- 7 Famous “I AM” statements
- A Book of Absolutes
- Supports every Doctrine/Point/Truth of Reformed Theology: T.U.L.I.P. = Forces the reader to acknowledge that’s exactly what Jesus said. Therefore, one can only to debate what Jesus meant.