

SERIES: MAY-JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Monday, 6/20/2022 Scripture: John

TITLE: John – The Total Package

I love to travel. I love traveling for work and for personal retreat and adventure. In fact, when I travel abroad, my strategy changes. Instead of flying solo in my planning, I look for the total package. I want an expert to show me the total package: airfare, hotel, transportation, and meals.

Well, the book of John is a lot like that. John shows Jesus as the total package. If you want to see Jesus from all sides, then you must study the book of John.

The book of John is the fourth Gospel written about Jesus Christ. It stands out from the other three Gospels. Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell a similar story from three different perspectives. Ninety percent of John's Gospel is unique.

John was the brother of James, and they were affectionately called by Jesus the "Sons of Thunder." John followed John the Baptist until called by Jesus. John was an apostle and a pillar of the early church in Jerusalem. He would write other books of the Bible.

John's purpose is the clearest of all books of the Bible. In John 20:31 (CSB), John writes,

"But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

The book of John is an apologetic for who Jesus Christ is. He wants to present the total package. Not just man. Not just God. No, the God-man. John targets the head and the spirit. He wrote this so that "you might believe" and "that believing you may have life." If you have any doubts or questions about Jesus, read the Gospel of John. This is the first book I recommend someone read when curious about Christianity and Jesus.

So what's the main thing from the gospel of John? It's belief that results in life. John knew Jesus was the Son of God who was always with God and is God. John 1:1-5 says,

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it."

Jesus Christ was, is, and always will be God who came to earth to rescue sinners from the darkness. He saves people so they might have eternal life and be sure of it.

In John 10:11, Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." And then He goes on in John 10:27-28. "My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they

follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand."

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He is the Son of God. He is the giver of life. He is the securer of our souls.

So today, my challenge and question is: Do you believe? Do you believe that Jesus is God who took on flesh to save our souls and transform our lives? If so, great! Are you living like it? If not, what evidence do you need? Instead of watching that show on Netflix or surfing social, read the book of John. There is belief and life at your fingertips. John wants you to experience the total package.

John said "I wrote these things so you might believe." I believe. Do you?