

Lecture Two: The Gospels and Acts (part 3)

Introduction:

1. This lecture continues our survey of the historical books of the NT (the four Gospels and Acts).
2. Today we will be looking together at the Gospel of John.
3. Commentators have noted a correlation between the four Gospels and the four faces of the living creatures in Ezekiel 1 (1:10; cp. Rev. 4:7). This correlation is one of *association* and *illustration* rather than *interpretation*.

The Four Gospels	The Four Living Creatures	Messianic Emphasis

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- I. The Gospel of John
 - A. The Writer

B. Probable Date and Place of Writing

C. Audience

D. Purposes and Themes

1. KEY VERSE: John 20:30-31.

2. THEOLOGICAL FOCUS:

3. UNIQUE FOCUS:

4. KEY WORDS:

a. "sign"

i Seven signs occur before the crucifixion

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

- ii Two signs occur after the crucifixion
 - (1)
 - (2)
- b. "believe" (101X)
- c. "life" (56X)
- d. "light" (23X)
- e. "glory" (19X)¹
- f. "Father" (136X)
- g. Jesus' "hour" (26X, e.g., 2:4; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23, 28^{2x}; 13:1; 16:25, 32; 17:1)

5. PROLOGUE:

- 6. JOHN'S USE OF SEVEN: John frequently uses the number 7 to organize his material.
 - a. 7 witnesses to Christ (5:31-40; 15:26-27).
 - i
 - ii
 - iii

¹ δόξα 19X in John. 2:11; 5:41, 44; 7:18; 8:50, 54; 9:24; 11:4, 40; 12:41, 43; 17:5, 22, 24.

- iv
- v
- vi
- vii

b. **7 great "I AM" statements** of Jesus.

- i
- ii
- iii
- iv
- v
- vi
- vii

7. KEY FOCUS: The action and events of the gospel revolve around Christ's attendance at the Jewish feasts in Jerusalem.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.

E. Structural Outline of John

- 1. Prologue (1:1-18)
- 2. The Revelation of Christ's Person through His words and works (1:19—12:50)
- 3. The Revelation of Christ's Person through His death and resurrection (chs. 13-20)
- 4. The Epilogue (ch. 21)

F. Outline and Survey of the Book²

- 1. Christ and Individuals (1-4)
 - a. Christ the word (1)
 - b. Christ the Creator (2)
 - c. Christ the Savior (3)
 - d. Christ the water of life (4)
- 2. Christ and the Multitudes (5-12)
 - a. Christ the Judge (5)

² Robert G. Gromacki, *New Testament Survey* (Grand Rapids: Baker book House, 1974), 136-137.

- b. Christ the bread of life (6)
 - c. Christ the divider (7)
 - d. Christ the light of the world (8-9)
 - e. Christ the Good Shepherd (10)
 - f. Christ the resurrection and life (11)
 - g. Christ the center of attraction (12)
- 3. Christ and the Disciples (13-17)
 - a. Christ the servant (13)
 - b. Christ the comforter (14)
 - c. Christ the vine (15-16)
 - d. Christ the intercessor (17)
- 4. Christ and His Passion (18-21)
 - a. Christ the sacrifice (18-19)
 - b. Christ the victor (20)
 - c. Christ the Chief Shepherd (21)