

# The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory

A SURVEY OF  
THE NEW TESTAMENT  
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## Study Number Six / THE GOSPEL OF JOHN Part One

We have already studied Matthew, Mark and Luke. These three Gospels are referred to by scholars as the *synoptic* gospels because they are all written from the same perspective.

A *synopsis* is a brief statement giving a general view. But when we get to John, we receive an altogether different accounting of the life of Jesus.

John does not write of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

- ▶ Matthew, Mark and Luke emphasized Jesus' parables. John does not. The word *parable* occurs one time in John 10:6 but it is not really a parable (the Good Shepherd) but rather a discourse.
- ▶ John generally tells the miracles of Jesus to point out eternal truths, not for the sake of the miracles themselves

### WHY DID JOHN WRITE THIS GOSPEL?

It was the last of the Gospels, written around A.D. 100. Remember Jesus was crucified in the year A.D. 30 (give or take a year). I believe John was 19 or 20 when that took place so he would have written the Gospel of John around his 90<sup>th</sup> year or so. Perhaps even several years later.

One commentator has expressed his opinion that John wrote the Gospel at the request of the church which already had the three Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke. They apparently wanted a more in-depth accounting of Christ's life, a view taken by Augustine:

*In the four Gospels, or rather in the four books of the one Gospel, the Apostle John not undeservedly with reference to his spiritual understanding compared to an eagle, has lifted higher and far more sublimely than the other three, his proclamation and in lifting it up he has wished our hearts also to be lifted up.*

KEY TO THE GOSPELS / GREGORY / PP. 285-286

THE APOSTLE JOHN

1 We know that John had somehow become a follower of John the Baptist before meeting  
2 Jesus. **John 1:35-37 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;**  
3 **[36] And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! [37]**  
4 **And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.** John, with his  
5 brother James, had traveled from Bethsaida (the little fishing village on the extreme north  
6 end of the Sea of Galilee, where the Jordan flows into the lake), a distance of some 75  
7 miles.

8  
9 John's mother was Salome, Mary's sister according to Matt. 27:56, Mark 16:1 and John  
10 19:25, thus making him a relative of Jesus. John was a faithful disciple of Jesus after  
11 our Lord called them to follow Him: **Mark 1:19-20 And when he had gone a little**  
12 **farther thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also**  
13 **were in the ship mending their nets. [20] And straightway he called them: and they**  
14 **left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.**

15  
16 Jesus Himself called John and his brother "sons of thunder," indicating their volatile  
17 personalities. However, John developed in the steps of Jesus and, even though he was  
18 the youngest of the disciples, he soon had a place of leadership among "the three," Peter,  
19 James and John. We know that John embraced danger by entering into the High  
20 Priest's residence during Christ's trial: **John 18:15 And Simon Peter followed Jesus,**  
21 **and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went**  
22 **in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest.** Also after the Resurrection of Jesus,  
23 John saw our Lord's grave clothes in the tomb, carefully laid out.

24  
25 John was a strong apostolic leader in the book of Acts. He was with Peter when the lame  
26 man was healed (Acts 3:1-10). He was jailed with Peter (Acts 4:1-3). He and Peter  
27 were sent to investigate the Samaritan revival (Acts 8:14). Upon the persecution of the  
28 early believers, John went to the west coast of Turkey to the major city of Ephesus, there  
29 to take on the role of pastor to that thriving church. When he was about 90, the Roman  
30 Emperor Domitian had John arrested and banished to the Island of Patmos. Instead,  
31 Jesus visited the aging apostle there (Revelation 1) and entrusted to him the divine plan  
32 for the end time (Note my earlier study, *The Coming Universe As God Sees It*). Upon  
33 returning to Ephesus upon the death of the Roman tyrant, John wrote this Gospel, three  
34 epistles and the book of Revelation.

## 35 36 AN OUTLINE OF JOHN'S GOSPEL

- 37  
38 I. The Prologue - Chapter 1:1-18  
39 II. The Introduction - Chapter 1:19-51  
40 III. Witness of Jesus Ministry Chapters 2 - 12  
41 IV. Jesus and His Personal Ministry To His Disciples Chapters 3 - 17  
42

1 V. The Passion of Jesus  
2 VI. Epilogue Chapter 21

3  
4 **THE PROLOGUE / Chapter 1:1-18**

5 Video

6  
7 **John 1:1-18**

8 **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was**  
9 **God. [2] The same was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made by him;**  
10 **and without him was not any thing made that was made. [4] In him was life; and the**  
11 **life was the light of men. [5] And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness**  
12 **comprehended it not.**

13 **[6] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. [7] The same came**  
14 **for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.**  
15 **[8] He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. [9] That was**  
16 **the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. [10] He was in**  
17 **the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. [11] He**  
18 **came unto his own, and his own received him not. [12] But as many as received him,**  
19 **to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his**  
20 **name: [13] Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will**  
21 **of man, but of God. [14] And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and**  
22 **we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and**  
23 **truth.**

24 **[15] John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He**  
25 **that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. [16] And of his**  
26 **fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. [17] For the law was given by**  
27 **Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. [18] No man hath seen God at any**  
28 **time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared**  
29 **him.**

30  
31 John opens his Gospel with the same three words that Moses opened Genesis: "In the  
32 beginning...."

33  
34 J. Vernon McGee wrote: *That beginning cannot be dated accurately. It is nonsense to*  
35 *say that it is 4004 BC as Ussher's dating has it. It probably goes back billions and*  
36 *billions of years. You and I are dealing with the God of eternity. When you go back*  
37 *to creation He is already there. The Bible says that in the beginning God created the*  
38 *heaven and the earth (Gen. 1:1). Does that begin God? No, just keep on gong back*  
39 *billions and trillions of years. GOD COMES OUT OF ETERNITY TO MEET US.*

40 JOHN / J. VERNON MCGEE / VOLUME 4 / NELSON PUBLISHERS

41  
42 1. In the beginning....what? In the beginning was the WORD. The WORD is God

1 Himself, revealed in Christ..

2  
3 2. Verse 14 always thrills my mind and heart: **“And the Word was made flesh and**  
4 **dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the**  
5 **Father, full of grace and truth.”**

6  
7 3. Verse 18 teaches us that no man has seen God at any time. Why not? Jesus  
8 explained that to the woman at the well in Samaria: **John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and**  
9 **they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

10  
11 4. Note the promise in **John 1:12: But as many as received him, to them gave he**  
12 **power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**

13  
14 “To become the sons of God...” We are the “becomers.” Some day, wrote John  
15 in his first epistle: **1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not**  
16 **yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be**  
17 **like him; for we shall see him as he is.**

18  
19 POSITIONALLY....we are the children of God the moment we accept Christ.

20 PRAGMATICALLY....we become like Him the longer we serve Him and some day  
21 we SHALL BE LIKE HIM. That will be in Glory.

## 22 23 THE INTRODUCTION: John 1:19-51

24  
25 This introduction was made by John the Baptist, as we have already studied.

- 26  
27 1. Andrew found his brother Peter and said, “We have found the Messiah!” Vs. 41  
28  
29 2. In verses 43-44 Jesus called Philip (who also lived in Bethsaida, as did James and  
30 John).  
31  
32 3. Then Jesus called Nathaniel “in whom there was no guile.” No traits of Jacob in  
33 this man!

## 34 35 THE WORKS OF JESUS

36  
37 To even think of studying all of Jesus’ ministry as recorded by John in just one session is  
38 absurd, of course. It cannot be done. So let’s consider together some highlights of our  
39 Lord’s work included by John in his Gospel.

- 40  
41 1. THE MIRACLE IN CANA Ch. 2  
42

1 John 2:1-10

2 Three days later there was a wedding in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother  
3 was there. [2] Jesus and his disciples were guests also. [3] When they started running low  
4 on wine at the wedding banquet, Jesus' mother told him, "They're just about out of wine."

5 [4] Jesus said, "Is that any of our business, Mother—yours or mine? This isn't my time.  
6 Don't push me."

7 [5] She went ahead anyway, telling the servants, "Whatever he tells you, do it."

8 [6] Six stoneware water pots were there, used by the Jews for ritual washings. Each  
9 held twenty to thirty gallons. [7] Jesus ordered the servants, "Fill the pots with water."  
10 And they filled them to the brim.

11 [8] "Now fill your pitchers and take them to the host," Jesus said, and they did.

12 [9] When the host tasted the water that had become wine (he didn't know what had just  
13 happened but the servants, of course, knew), he called out to the bridegroom, [10]  
14 "Everybody I know begins with their finest wines and after the guests have had their fill  
15 brings in the cheap stuff. But you've saved the best till now!"

16  
17 \* In the Assemblies of God we are teetotalers. That is, we do not drink alcoholic  
18 beverages. Can we make a solid case for that scripturally? Not really. For while  
19 there are scriptures that teach us wine is a mocker, Paul wrote, "Take a little wine for the  
20 stomach's sake." Some folks apparently have big stomachs.

21 Alcohol is the scourge of America. In Jesus' day, wine was a staple article of  
22 diet but drunkenness was roundly condemned. Our fellowship made a decision decades  
23 ago that we would not be drinkers, for safety's sake, for our own sake, and for our  
24 witness' sake.

25  
26 \* The most interesting part of this story to me is that Jesus made 180 gallons (other  
27 commentators say 250 gallons) of wine for probably around fifty guests. It was an  
28 abundance - which speaks to us of the all-sufficiency of God's provision.

29 IN THESE DAYS OF ECONOMIC STRESS, WE MUST REMEMBER TO PUT  
30 OUR TRUST IN GOD.

## 31 32 2. JESUS' CONVERSATION WITH NICODEMUS

### 33 34 **John 3:1-5**

35 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: [2] The  
36 same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a  
37 teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except  
38 God be with him. [3] Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto  
39 thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. [4] Nicodemus  
40 saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time  
41 into his mother's womb, and be born? [5] Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto  
42

1 **thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the**  
2 **kingdom of God.**

3  
4 \* Nicodemus, a Pharisee, and probably a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin (70 Rulers  
5 amenable only to Roman authorities), came to Jesus by night to inquire about spiritual  
6 matters. Jesus told him that no person could see the Kingdom of God who was not born  
7 again.

8 \* We are born without the spirit of God within us. God told Adam that the day he  
9 ate the forbidden fruit, he would die. Yet Adam lived hundreds of years after the fact.  
10 The death God spoke of us spiritual death. This is why Jesus said there had to be a  
11 second birth - a spiritual one - which would awaken our spiritual lives. **Ephes. 2:1**  
12 **And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins...**

### 13 14 **3. THE BEST-KNOWN VERSE IN THE BIBLE**

#### 15 **John 3:16**

16 **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever**  
17 **believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

18  
19 \* When I teach writing seminars, I always use this verse in dealing with simplicity of  
20 writing. Note that John uses 25 words. 18 of them are only one syllable. I made up an  
21 illustration about this, based on Jesus' asking Peter, "Whom do men say that I am?"  
22 Peter answers: "*Lord, You are the crystalized perfection, the full manifestation of God's*  
23 *incarnate and supernal altruism as revealed in myriad manner by divine combusive*  
24 *capacity to coalesce and charm in soteriological mores."* And Jesus said, "What???"

25 As legendary NFL coach for Green Bay Vince Lombardi used to tell his players,  
26 "Keep it simple, Stupid!"

### 27 28 **4. THE WOMAN AT THE WELL - John 4**

29  
30 \* Jesus and His men were traveling north toward Galilee and had to go through  
31 Samaria. Remember: Israel is geographically divided into thirds - the north part is  
32 Galilee; the middle part is Samaria; and the southern part is Judea (where Jerusalem is  
33 located). The Jews and Samaritans were not friendly - a situation that developed post-  
34 Babylonian exile. There were three travel routes Jesus could have taken, but He chose  
35 this particular one because He knew He would encounter the Samaritan woman at the  
36 well outside the town of Sychar.

37  
38 It was high noon (the sixth hour) and Jesus was weary. Remember John 1:14: "...the  
39 Word was made flesh..." His disciples went into town to buy food and Jesus sat by the  
40 well where He engaged a woman in conversation. She was a Samaritan. She had five  
41 former husbands and was currently living with a man who was not her husband. Our  
42

1 Lord's offer to her was eternally life-giving: **John 4:13-14**

2 **Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst**  
3 **again: [14] But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never**  
4 **thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing**  
5 **up into everlasting life.**

6  
7 5. JESUS' ALERTING US TO THE LOST

8  
9 **John 4:35-38**

10 **Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say**  
11 **unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to**  
12 **harvest. [36] And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life**  
13 **eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. [37] And**  
14 **herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. [38] I sent you to reap**  
15 **that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into**  
16 **their labours.**

17  
18 First Assembly of God MUST keep this always to the front of our thinking: Our task  
19 is to win as many as we can to Christ. This is a soul-saving enterprise. Our records  
20 show that this past year of 2008 through all of our ministries, within these walls and  
21 without, including satellites, we saw 2,004 people accept Christ. (That is in this locale  
22 only.) Did all of these people follow through with the Lord? No. Jesus explained  
23 this to us: **Matthew 13:3-9**

24 **And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went**  
25 **forth to sow; [4] And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls**  
26 **came and devoured them up: [5] Some fell upon stony places, where they had not**  
27 **much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:**  
28 **[6] And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root,**  
29 **they withered away. [7] And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and**  
30 **choked them: [8] But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an**  
31 **hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. [9] Who hath ears to hear, let him**  
32 **hear.**

33  
34 We do everything we know (such as tonight's study) to disciple people in the Word  
35 and see them grow spiritually. But not all pursue Christ. Read I Corinthians 3 where  
36 Paul lamented those who remained spiritual infants rather than spiritual adults.

37  
38 6. JESUS FEEDS THE 5,000

39  
40 **John 6:5-13**

41 **When Jesus looked out and saw that a large crowd had arrived, he said to Philip,**  
42

1 "Where can we buy bread to feed these people?" [6] He said this to stretch Philip's  
2 faith. He already knew what he was going to do.

3 [7] Philip answered, "Two hundred silver pieces wouldn't be enough to buy bread  
4 for each person to get a piece."

5 [8] One of the disciples—it was Andrew, brother to Simon Peter—said, [9]  
6 "There's a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But that's a drop  
7 in the bucket for a crowd like this."

8 [10] Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." There was a nice carpet of green  
9 grass in this place. They sat down, about five thousand of them. [11] Then Jesus  
10 took the bread and, having given thanks, gave it to those who were seated. He did  
11 the same with the fish. All ate as much as they wanted.

12 [12] When the people had eaten their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the  
13 leftovers so nothing is wasted." [13] They went to work and filled twelve large  
14 baskets with leftovers from the five barley loaves.

15  
16 \* Jesus wanted to "stretch Philip's faith." That's what He wants to do to everyone  
17 of us tonight. We live by FAITH and not by SIGHT.  
18

**AT THIS POINT IN JESUS' MINISTRY, HE BEGINS TRAVELING SOUTH  
TO JERUSALEM WHERE HE WILL BE CRUCIFIED**

## 19 20 21 7. JESUS AT THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

22  
23 The feasts, or sacred festivals, held an important place in Jewish religion. Leviticus 23  
24 calls them "holy convocations." Their purpose was to promote spiritual interests of the  
25 community and worship. Among those feasts:

26  
27 A. The Passover or Feast of Unleavened Bread. Held in April, the Passover  
28 commemorated the deliverance of the Jews from Egypt under Moses' leadership. When  
29 the blood of lambs was placed on the doorposts of the Jews, the death angel PASSED  
30 OVER their homes. Jesus was crucified on Passover. He is our Lamb, slain from the  
31 foundations of the world.

32  
33 B. The Feast of Pentecost. Also known as the Feast of Weeks or Harvest.  
34 Pentecost means Harvest. The Holy Spirit was poured out on the first Christians on the  
35 Day of Pentecost. Jesus told the disciples they would be filled with the power of the  
36 Holy Ghost in order to become witnesses.

37  
38 C. The Feast of Tabernacles - or Booths. This feast began five days following the  
39 day of atonement (Lev. 23:34 and Deut. 16:13) and lasted eight days. It marked the  
40 completion of the harvest and historically commemorated the wanderings in the

1 wilderness. During this festival, the people lived in booths and tents in Jerusalem to  
2 remind themselves of how their forefathers wandered in the wilderness. The last day of  
3 the feast marked the conclusion of the ecclesiastical year. This was a joyous feast.

Other Jewish feasts included The Feast of the Weekly Sabbath, The Feast of Trumpets,  
The Feast Day of the Atonement (more of a fast than feast), the Feast of Lights and the  
Feast of Purim (remembering Esther's saving the Jews from Haman's treachery.)

4  
5  
6 John informs us that Jesus came to Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles. There is  
7 a very sad verse in John 7:5: "His brethren did not believe in him." These were His  
8 half-brothers as listed in Matthew 13:55: James, Joses, Simon and Judas. His half-  
9 brother James is the one who wrote the Epistle of James and his half-brother Judas is  
10 probably the one who wrote the Epistle of Jude. None of these men believed in their  
11 half-brother Jesus until after the resurrection.

#### 12 13 8. JESUS FORGIVES THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY - CH. 8

14  
15 The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman to Jesus whom they had caught in the very  
16 act of adultery. What cruel, rude and brutal men these were! They said to Jesus that  
17 the law of Moses demanded she be stoned to death. Jesus said nothing but wrote on the  
18 ground. We don't know what He wrote, but perhaps it was the sins of the accusers. At  
19 any rate, one by one, they disappeared and Jesus said to the woman, **John 8:10-11**

20 **Jesus stood up and spoke to her. "Woman, where are they? Does no one condemn**  
21 **you?" [11] "No one, Master." "Neither do I," said Jesus. "Go on your way.**  
22 **From now on, don't sin."**

23  
24 Through the next several chapters, there are more miracles and more teachings from  
25 Jesus. They are "must" reading and study for the believer; but I call you to jump  
26 ahead with me to chapter 11.

#### 27 28 9. JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD - CHAPTER 11

29 The Gospels record three instances of our Lord's raising the dead. There was the  
30 twelve-year-old girl who had just died, the young man in Nain and there was Lazarus  
31 who had died and had been in the grave for four days.

32 J. Vernon McGee makes a good point: "These people were raised from the dead but  
33 were not resurrected. Resurrection is this: 1 Cor. 15:42-44

34 **This image of planting a dead seed and raising a live plant is a mere sketch at best,**  
35 **but perhaps it will help in approaching the mystery of the resurrection body—but**

1 **only if you keep in mind that when we're raised, we're raised for good, alive forever!**  
2 **[43] The corpse that's planted is no beauty, but when it's raised, it's glorious. Put in**  
3 **the ground weak, it comes up powerful. [44] The seed sown is natural; the seed**  
4 **grown is supernatural—same seed, same body, but what a difference from when it**  
5 **goes down in physical mortality to when it is raised up in spiritual immortality!**

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7

8 Jesus called Lazarus' name and he came out of the grave, but still wearing the  
9 graveclothes. Jesus told those nearby, "Loose him, and let him go." When Jesus was  
10 resurrected, His graveclothes remained neatly behind in the tomb.  
11

## 12 10. JESUS COMES TO SUPPER IN BETHANY

### 13 John 12:1-8

14 **Six days before Passover, Jesus entered Bethany where Lazarus, so recently**  
15 **raised from the dead, was living. [2] Lazarus and his sisters invited Jesus to dinner**  
16 **at their home. Martha served. Lazarus was one of those sitting at the table with**  
17 **them. [3] Mary came in with a jar of very expensive aromatic oils, anointed and**  
18 **massaged Jesus' feet, and then wiped them with her hair. The fragrance of the oils**  
19 **filled the house.**  
20

21 **[4] Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, even then getting ready to betray him, said,**  
22 **[5] "Why wasn't this oil sold and the money given to the poor? It would have easily**  
23 **brought three hundred silver pieces." [6] He said this not because he cared two**  
24 **cents about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of their common**  
25 **funds, but also embezzled them.**

26 **[7] Jesus said, "Let her alone. She's anticipating and honoring the day of my**  
27 **burial. [8] You always have the poor with you. You don't always have me."**  
28

29 Judas didn't care about the poor or Jesus. He cared about his own treasury, his own  
30 security. I believe that one of the greatest tests of a real follower of Jesus is the way in  
31 which that person handles his or her finances. The true believer will put God first!  
32 Absolutely!  
33

34 The lady in the house in Bethany used the spikenard on Jesus. Why? She believed it  
35 was too costly to spend on herself. We always give our Lord the best that we have!  
36 He is worthy. The person who sings on Sunday morning, "He is worthy to be praised,"  
37 and then does not tithe and complains about offerings raised for God's work, has no  
38 comprehension whatsoever of either discipleship or what Christianity is all about.  
39

## 40 11. THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY OF JESUS INTO JERUSALEM / CH. 12

### 41 John 12:12-16

42

1       **The next day the huge crowd that had arrived for the Feast heard that Jesus was**  
2 **entering Jerusalem. [13] They broke off palm branches and went out to meet him.**  
3 **And they cheered:**

4       **"Hosanna!"**

5       **"Blessed is he who comes in God's name!"**

6       **"Yes! The King of Israel!"**

7 **[14] Jesus got a young donkey and rode it, just as the Scripture has it:**

8       **[15] "No fear, Daughter Zion:**

9       **See how your king comes,**

10       **riding a donkey's colt." (Zechariah 9:9)**

11 **[16] The disciples didn't notice the fulfillment of many Scriptures at the time, but**  
12 **after Jesus was glorified, they remembered that what was written about him**  
13 **matched what was done to him.**

14  
15       While it was called "the triumphant entry" into Jerusalem, in reality it was anything  
16 but that. In several days, Jesus nail-pierced and spear-lanced body would drape  
17 lifelessly on a Roman cross. How quickly the masses can change their affections.  
18 Eight years ago, the inauguration crowds cheered President Bush. Tuesday they jeered  
19 and made obscene gestures as he left the White House for the final time as president.  
20 Adulation is not a test of friendship. Discipleship is.

21  
22 **12. WHY HE CAME / Ch. 12**

23  
24 **John 12:22-30**

25       **[23] Jesus [said], "Time's up. The time has come for the Son of Man to be**  
26 **glorified.**

27       **[24] "Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the**  
28 **world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and**  
29 **reproduces itself many times over. [25] In the same way, anyone who holds on to life**  
30 **just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it**  
31 **forever, real and eternal.**

32       **[26] "If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am,**  
33 **ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who**  
34 **serves me.**

35       **[27] "Right now I am storm-tossed. And what am I going to say? 'Father, get me**  
36 **out of this'? No, this is why I came in the first place. [28] I'll say, 'Father, put your**  
37 **glory on display.' "**

38       **A voice came out of the sky: "I have glorified it, and I'll glorify it again."**

39       **[29] The listening crowd said, "Thunder!"**

40       **Others said, "An angel spoke to him!"**

41       **[30] Jesus said, "The voice didn't come for me but for you.**

1 Let it never be misunderstood in this House of Worship: We are to worship God and  
2 we are to obey Him. He came to save the world! That is our responsibility. Let us  
3 never grow weary in this endeavor.  
4

5 13. JESUS ENDS HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY Ch. 12  
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7 As this chapter closes, Jesus will turn His attention to His disciples and closest  
8 associates. The next chapters are so poignant and vital that I could not rush through  
9 them. We will pick this up again in two weeks.  
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11 **Wednesday night, February 4, 2009.** I will be in Springfield, Missouri, next week  
12 for our bi-monthly Executive Presbytery meeting.  
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