

**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**  
***FROM THE SERIES “THE***  
***SACRAMENTAL GOSPEL”***  
**BY DR. SCOTT HAHN**



Presentation Part I: Book of  
Signs, Book of Glory

# JOHN HIGHLIGHTS

- ✘ Most spiritual of the four Gospels
- ✘ “the Gospel for all of us”
- ✘ A little pool and river
- ✘ Understandable and inexhaustible
- ✘ Introductory and “beyond comprehension”
- ✘ The “Spiritual Gospel” or “Mystical Gospel”
- ✘ Also “Sacramental Gospel”





# AUTHOR

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- ✘ St. John the Apostle
- ✘ a.k.a. St. John the Evangelist
  - + Son of Zebedee
  - + Brother of St. James
- ✘ The “Beloved Disciple”
- ✘ John 20:30...the purpose statement



# JOHN CHAPTER 6



- ✘ The miracle of the loaves and fish
- ✘ The Bread of Life Discourse
- ✘ The “manna in the desert”
- ✘ Verse 51
- ✘ \*only figuratively\*
- ✘ to eat/to chew
- ✘ “To whom shall we go?”





# A COURSE ON JOHN'S GOSPEL

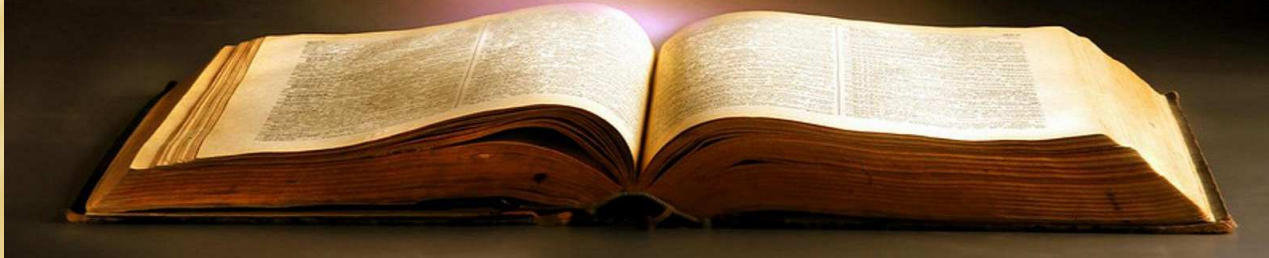
- ✘ An interpretive consensus
- ✘ He meant what He said and said what He meant

- ✘ The Church Fathers all agreed

  - + St. Augustine                      St. Jerome

  - + St. Ambrose                      St. Cyril

- ✘ Fulfilment of Old Passover  
Institution of “New Passover”



- ✘ On this rock...

# DISTINCTIVE ATTRIBUTES OF JOHN'S GOSPEL

- ✗ There is no “synoptic problem” but a “profound complementarity”
- ✗ “Symphony of Scripture”
- ✗ Different perspectives, not different stories
  - + No infancy narrative (along with Mark)
  - + No parables
  - + No exorcisms
  - + No institution narrative (“This is my body...”)
    - ✗ The Bread of Life discourse supplements the institution of the Eucharist narrative
  - + The Farewell Discourse, the longest discourse (5 chapters)
    - ✗ I am the vine...you will bear much fruit (what fruit?)
  - + Much fewer miracles, or signs



# STRUCTURE OF



- ✗ Two halves, or books
  - + Six signs, or miracles, performed
  - + These signs are meant to point beyond themselves to something greater, more glorious
  - + Fixation on miracles, which John seeks to correct
- ✗ Chapter 13 – 21 (the “Book of Glory”)
  - + No more signs (excluding the Resurrection)
  - + The end or goal to which all signs pointed toward
  - + The coming of the Paraclete is prophesied (Holy Spirit)
    - ✗ “...greater works than these...”

# “...GREATER WORKS THAN THESE...”



- ✘ There's life...then there's LIFE
- ✘ Sacraments are “greater works”
  - + Because they are ends in themselves
- ✘ Miracles meant to point toward something greater
  - + Healing of blind man (faith)
  - + Raising of Lazarus (healing soul of sin)
- ✘ Sacraments are work of God's grace (healing in Confession for example) or God Himself (the Eucharist)
- ✘ Not mere symbols, but signs
- ✘ Everlasting versus Eternal





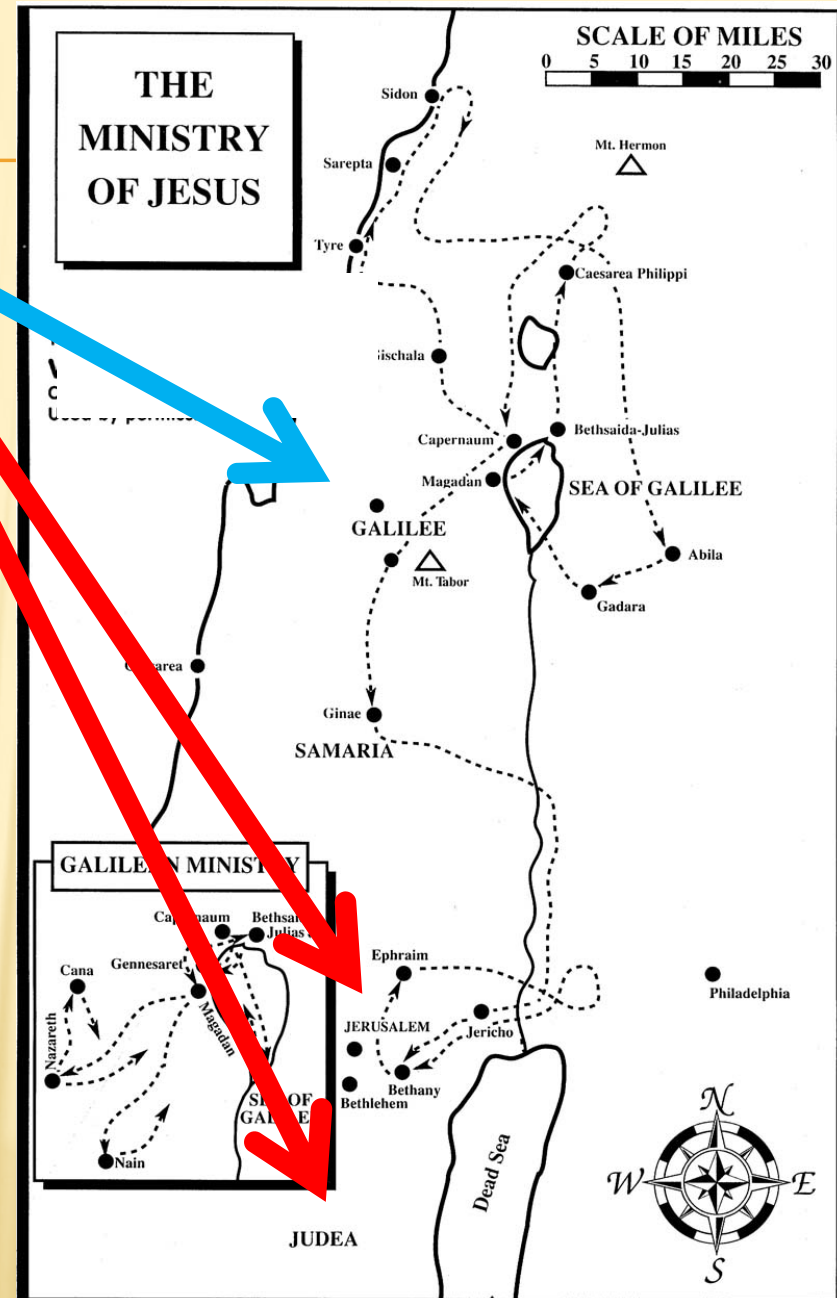
# COMMENTS ON JOHN



- ✕ “accomplished in the body is understood in the spirit”
  - ✕ St. Augustine
- ✕ “prophetic types of Church’s sacraments”
  - ✕ Raymond Brown
- ✕ “Visible in Savior, passed over into mysteries”
  - ✕ Pope St. Leo the Great
- ✕ “Passion narrative with long introductions”

# JESUS' MINISTRY

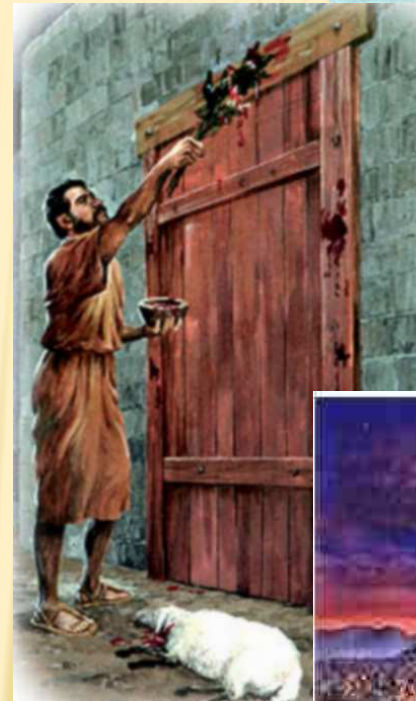
- ✖ Three Years
- ✖ Found in both the North (as described by the *synoptic Gospels*) AND the South (as described by the *John*)
- ✖ Marked by Passovers





# 7 SIGNS → 7 FESTIVALS

- ✗ Chapter 2
  - + Wedding at Cana → Sabbath
- ✗ Chapter 4
  - + heals official's son → Passover #1
- ✗ Chapter 5
  - + invalid by the pool → Pentecost
- ✗ Chapter 6
  - + feeds 5000 → Passover #2
- ✗ Chapter 7-9
  - + man born blind → Tabernacles
- ✗ Chapter 10-11
  - + raising of Lazarus → Dedication (Hanukkah)
- ✗ Chapter 12-20
  - + the Resurrection → Passover #3





# THE TEMPLE

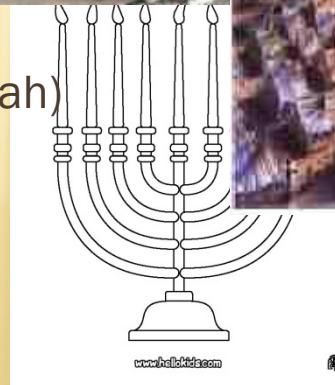
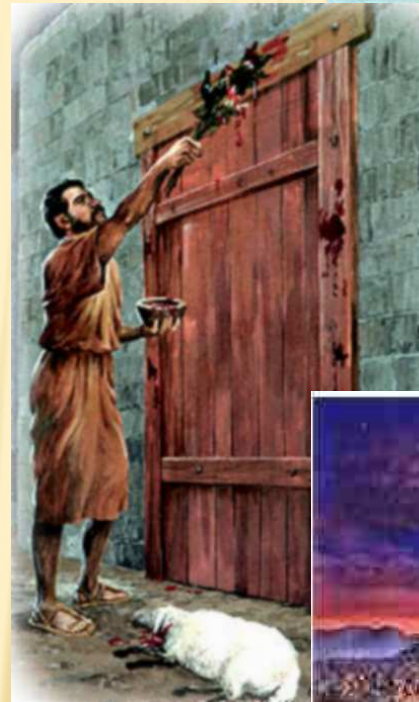
- ✘ “on the third day...”
- ✘ “destroy this temple...”
- ✘ The Veil
- ✘ The “desecration” of the Temple
- ✘ The restoration and rebuilding of the New Temple
- ✘ The “center of life”





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# THE 7 “I AM”S

- ✘ I AM the Bread of Life
- ✘ I AM Light of the World
- ✘ I AM the Gate
- ✘ I AM the Good Shepherd
- ✘ I AM the Resurrection and the Life
- ✘ I AM the Way the Truth and the Life
- ✘ I AM the True Vine





# THE CHALLENGE

- ✘ Come back prepared and Pre-Prayered
- ✘ “spiritual wealth”
- ✘ Read
- ✘ Study
- ✘ Teach



# AUTHOR CON... (HOW DO WE KNOW?)

- ✕ St. John the Apostle
  - + Eyewitness
  - + Israelite
  - + One of the Twelve
  - + Calls self, “the beloved disciple”
    - ✕ One of the three “inner circle”
    - ✕ “close to Peter”
  
- ✕ “Jesus of Nazareth, Vol. 1” series by Pope Benedict XVI
  - + Chapter 8 on the Gospel of John

