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## Reasons to believe in Jesus



# Amazing statements in 'John'

The Gospel according to John is the fourth of the four accounts written by Jesus' closest disciples. It contains a highly schematic account of the ministry of Jesus, with seven "signs" culminating in the raising of Lazarus, and seven "I am" discourses culminating in Thomas' proclamation of the risen Jesus as *"my Lord and my God"*. John's account also contains Jesus' Farewell Discourse, in which he speaks plainly to his apostles before his crucifixion.

The book of John is the story of Jesus: **God who came down to save the world**. This book was written by a disciple whom Jesus loved—the Church traditionally attributes it to John. John is the fourth and last Gospel (an account of Jesus' life and ministry) in the New Testament. John focuses on the deity of Christ more so than the other four: we see Jesus as the Word of God, the Son of God, and God Himself. Jesus is a great miracle worker, an omniscient teacher, a compassionate provider, a faithful friend, and the one who holds the future.

John may be the final Gospel, but this narrative begins far, far earlier than the other three. John opens with the beginning of all creation: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* Jesus presents Himself as God incarnate throughout the Gospel of John, often using the phrase "I Am," the memorial name of God revealed in the book of Exodus in the Old Testament.

Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God

**I am the bread of life**

No man ever spoke like this Man

*I am the light of the world*

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live

**Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you**

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me

**It is finished!**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life

**One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see**

**The truth shall make you free**

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep

**Jesus wept** **I go to prepare a place for you**

**Behold the Man!**

Shall I crucify your King?

**What is truth?**

*What I have written, I have written*

As the Father has sent Me, I also send you

*My kingdom is not of this world*

**My Lord and my God!**

The Gospel of John makes a strong argument for Jesus as the exclusive saviour, the only truth, and the only way to know God (Jn 1:18; 14:6). Jesus is greater than the Jewish heroes Moses and Abraham (Jn 1:17; 8:58); Jesus Christ is God in the flesh, and John challenges us to believe in Him. The gospel's concluding verses set out its purpose: *"Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."* (Jn 20:30–31)

In addition to this Gospel, John also wrote three New Testament letters (First, Second, and Third John) and the prophetic book of Revelation. He was a leader in the early church, and he probably wrote his documents after most of the other New Testament books were already written.

The miracles recorded in John's gospel are written that the reader would believe in Jesus and find life in His name (Jn 20:30–31). Therefore, much of John's material directly states who Jesus is, not just what He does or says.

Unlike the Gospel of Luke, John does not aim to chronicle the whole life of Christ—in fact, John doesn't think the world could contain such a document (Jn 21:25). Instead, John presents a few signs and teachings of Jesus that should compel us to believe He is the Christ, Messiah, Saviour and Lord.

Text based on [www.overviewbible.com/john/](http://www.overviewbible.com/john/)