

The Gospel of

JOHN

part of

The Holy Bible

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The Good News According to

JOHN

Chapter 1

The Word Became Flesh Among Us

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning.

³Through him all things were made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light for humankind. ⁵And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not mastered it. ¹

⁶There came a man sent from God; his name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify about that light, so that through him all people might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; *he came* rather to bear witness to the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to every human being, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, and his own did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, to those believing on his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children generated, not from bloods, nor from body desire, nor from a man's decision, but *born* of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh, and moved his tent in among us; and we beheld his glory, the glory as of an only begotten from a Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵John testifies concerning him, and he cries out, saying: "This is he of whom I said, 'The one coming after me has outranked me, because he existed before me.'"

¹⁶And out of his fulness we have all received, yes, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; but the Only Begotten Son,² who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

¹ **1:5** The Greek verb is καταλαμβάνω - katalambáno. There is a double meaning to the Greek word. It conveys both the idea of to understand, and to overpower and seize. But the same duplicity is found in our English words. For example, the word *apprehend* can mean both to catch & seize, or also to understand; the word *grasp* can mean to catch and seize, or also to understand; the English verb, to master, can mean both to overcome, or also to understand. The darkness has never caught up to the light or enveloped it or swallowed it up, so has never been able to comprehend it, or overcome it, or extinguish it.

² **1:18** txt {D} ó μονογενής υἱός A C³ E F G H K M S U V W^{supp} (W^{supp} εἰ μὴ ó μονογενής υἱός) X Y Γ Δ Θ Λ Π Ψ Ω 047 063 0141 0211 f¹ f³ 28 157 180 205 565 579 597 700 892 1006 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1243 1253 1292 1342 1365 1424 1505 1546 1646 2148 **¶** Lect it^{a,aur,b,c,e,f,ff²,1} vg syr^{c,h,pal} arm eth geo1 slav Irenaeus^{lat 1/3}; Clement^{from Theodotus1/2} Clement^{1/3} Hippolytus Origen^{lat1/2} Letter of Hymanaeus Alexander Eustathius Eusebius^{4/7} Serapion^{1/2} Athanasius Basil^{1/2} Gregory-Nazianzus Chrysostom Theodore Cyril^{1/4} Proclus Theodoret John-Damascus; Tertullian Hegemonius Victorinus-Rome Ambrosiaster Hilary^{5/7} Ps-Priscillian Ambrose^{10/11} Faustinus Gregory-Elvira Phoebadius Jerome Augustine Varimadum TR HF RP // ó μονογενής vg^{ms} Ps-Vigillius^{1/2} // μονογενής υἱός θεοῦ it^q cop^{sa} Irenaeus^{lat1/3} Ambrose^{1/11vid} // μονογενής θεός **¶**⁶⁶ **✠**^{*} B^{*,c} C^{*} L syr^{p,hmg} geo² Origen^{gr2/4} Irenaeus^{lat} Didymus Cyril^{1/4} NA27 {B} // ó μονογενής θεός **¶**^{75*,c} **✠**¹ 33 cop^{bo} Clement^{2/3} Clement^{from Theodotus1/2} Origen^{gr2/4} Eusebius^{3/7} Basil^{1/2} Gregory-Nyssa Epiphanius Serapion Cyril^{2/4} // lacuna **¶**² **¶**⁵ **¶**⁶ **¶**²² **¶**²⁸ **¶**³⁶ **¶**³⁹ **¶**^{44a} **¶**^{44b} **¶**⁴⁵ **¶**⁵² **¶**⁵⁵ **¶**⁵⁹ **¶**⁶⁰ **¶**⁶³ **¶**⁷⁶ **¶**⁸⁰ **¶**⁹⁰ **¶**⁹³ **¶**⁹⁵ **¶**¹⁰⁶ **¶**¹⁰⁷ **¶**¹⁰⁸ **¶**¹⁰⁹ **¶**¹¹⁹ **¶**¹²⁰ **¶**¹²¹ **¶**¹²² D N P Q T 050 054 060 065 068 070 078 083 086 087 091 0101 0105 0109 0127 0145 0162 0210 0216 0217 0218 0233 0234 0238 0256 0258 0260 0264 0268 0273 0286 0287 0290 0299 0301 0302 0306 0309 syr^s. (The above list accounts for all Papyri and uncials containing at least a portion of gosp. of John) The variant μονογενής θεός, has been translated by some as *God the Only Son*, and *God the only begotten*, and, *the only son who is God*, as opposed to the rest of God's children, who, though also sired by God, are not God. In the UBS textual commentary, the editorial committee gave the reading “μονογενής θεός” a B rating of certainty. Their main reasons were that this was the earliest reading, and that this was the most difficult reading (one of the canons of textual criticism is that the more difficult reading be preferred, since copyists would tend to smooth over or simplify, rather than the other way around.) The testimony to the NA27 reading is impressive, and it is over 200 years earlier than the Majority Text reading, since the earliest MT reading is supported by the old Italic manuscript No. 3 (it^a), which is IV century, and the NA27 has support Papyrus 66, the year 200. But there are those who say that the reading “μονογενής

The Pharisees Question John

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent³ priests and Levites from Jerusalem in order to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰And he confessed, and did not resist; but confessed, "I am not the Anointed One."

²¹And they asked him, "Who then? Are you Elijah?"

And he says, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"⁴

θεός" is far too difficult to be genuine. I understand this point of view, since it is very hard to translate. Just witness the widely divergent renderings of this reading in current English Bible translations. Alan Wikgren dissented from the UBS committee majority, and said, "It is doubtful that the author would have written μονογενής θεός, which may be a primitive, transcriptional error in the Alexandrian tradition (γς / θς). At least a D decision would be preferable." Bart Ehrman says the θεός "God" reading is an "orthodox corruption," a reading introduced by orthodox scribes in order to make this scripture a more clear refutation of the Adoptionists. This idea has merit, especially since the same early manuscripts \mathfrak{P}^{66} \mathfrak{P}^{75} and B contain the seeming orthodox corruption in John 7:8, "I am not YET going up to this feast." On the other hand, I propose we examine the "orthodox corruption" idea from a different angle, as follows. Today, there are many Byzantine Text advocates who argue that the θεός reading here was introduced by Egyptian Gnostics, (others say semi-Arians), that is, introduced by the NON-orthodox. The Byzantine advocates say that the idea of a "begotten God" is Gnostic or Arian and heretical. If that is so, then the Byzantine reading could be the "orthodox corruption" of sorts, in order to more clearly refute the heretics. Whether or not it was Gnostics, or semi-Arians, who introduced the θεός reading, and whether or not a semi-Arian type rendering is the only possible rendering of the Alexandrian reading, the θεός reading may be *taken advantage of* by Gnostics, and thus the later change to the seemingly more orthodox υιός "Son" reading.

The Liddell and Scott lexicon defines μονογενής as follows:

1. The only member of a kin or kind; hence generally, "only, single" παῖς, Hesiodus: Opera et Dies 376 (3rd cent. B.C.), Herodotus: Historicus 7.221, cf. Ev. John 1:14, Ant. Lib. 32.1; of Hecate, Hes. Th. 426
2. "unique." of τὸ ὄν, Parmeno 8.4 (3rd cent. B.C.); εἷς ὅδε μ. οὐρανὸς γεγονώς Pl. Ti.31.b, cf. Procl. Inst. 22; θεός ὁ μ. Sammelb. 4324.15. [Note "God the μονογενής" here, from Proclus: "Institutio Theologica" 5th century A.D.]
3. μ. αἷμα "one and the same" blood, dub. 1 in E. Hel. 1685
4. Gramm., having one form for all genders, A.D. Adv. 145.18
5. Name of the foot _ _ _ u, Heph. 3.3

The Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich Lexicon 2nd Ed. defines μονογενής as follows:

(Hesiodus +; LXX; Josephus; loanword in rabbinical lit.) "ONLY" (so mostly, incl. Judges 11:34; Tobit 3:15; 8:17) of children: of Isaac, Abraham's only son (Josephus, Ant. 1, 222) Hb 11:17. Of an "only" son (Plut., Lycurgus 31, 8; Josephus, Ant. 20, 20) lk 7:12; 9:38. Of the daughter (Diod. S. 4, 73, 2) of Jairus 8:42. --Also "unique" (in kind) of something that is the only example of its category (Cornutus 27 p. 49, 13 εἷς κ. μονογενής ὁ κόσμος ἐστί. μονογενὴ κ. μόνᾳ ἐστίν='unique and alone'; Pla., Timaeus 92c). Of the mysterious bird, the Phoenix 1 Cl 25:2.--In the Johannine lit. μονογενής is used only of Jesus. The meanings "only, unique" may be quite adequate for all its occurrences here (so M-M., RSV et al.; DMoody, JBL 72, '53, 213-19; FCGrant, ATR 36, '54, 284-87). But some (e.g. WBauer, Hdb.) prefer to regard μονογενής as somewhat heightened in meaning in John and 1 John to "only-begotten" or "begotten of the Only One," in view of the emphasis on γέννησθαι ἐκ θεοῦ (Jn 1:13 al.); in this case it would be analogous to πρωτότοκος (Ro 8:29; Col 1:15 al.). τὸν υἱὸν μ. ἔδωκεν Jn 3:16 (Philo Bybl. [100 AD] in Euseb., Pr. Ev. 1, 10, 33; Cronus offers up his μονογενής υἱός) ὁ μονογενής υἱός τοῦ θεοῦ v. 18; cf. Jn 1:34 variant reading τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μ. ἀπέσταλκεν ὁ θεός 1 Jn 4:9; cf. Dg 10:2. ON the expr. δόξαν ὡς μονογενοῦς μονογενοῦς παρὰ πατρός Jn 1:14 see Hdb. ad loc. and PWinter, Zeitschrift fuer Rel. u. Geistesgeschichte 5, '53, 335-65 (Engls.). Cf. also Hdb. on vs. 18 where, beside the rdg. μονογενής θεός (considered by many the orig.), or a God begotten of the Only One, another rdg. ὁ μονογενής υἱός is found. Mpol. 20:2 in the doxology διὰ παιδὸς αὐτοῦ τοῦ μονογενοῦς Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.--On the mng. of μονογενής in history of religion cf. the material in Hdb.3 25f on Jn 1:14 (also Plut., Mor. 423A Πλάτων...αὐτῷ δὴ φησι δοκεῖν τοῦτον [SC. τὸν κόσμον] εἶναι μονογενὴ τῷ θεῷ καὶ ἀγαπητόν; Wsd 7:22 of σοφία: ἐστὶ ἐν αὐτῇ πνεῦμα νοερὸν ἅγιον μονογενές.--Vett. Val. 11,32) as well as the lit. given there, also HLeisegang, Der Bruder des Erloesers: Αγγελος I '25, 24-33; RBultmann J, 47, 2; 55f; FBuechsel, TW IV 745-50. M-M.*

Since Christ is both God and man, he can explain God to men. There is also an Eastern concept of the firstborn son which we Westerners do not fully appreciate. The firstborn son received the greater inheritance of all the father has and is. This glory would be compounded by being the only son from a father.

³ 1:19 txt {A} omit πρὸς αὐτόν \mathfrak{P}^{66} * \mathfrak{P}^{75} \mathfrak{K} C³ F K L M U W^{supp} Δ Λ Π* 0141 f¹ 2 28 33 118 180 205 565 597 700 892* 1006 1071^c 1241 1292 1342 1505 \mathfrak{M} Lect Origen^{lem} TR HF RP // +πρὸς αὐτόν B C* 33 892^c 1010 1071* it^{a,aur,b,c} syr^{c,p,pal} cop^{sa,bo} arm eth geo slav Chrysostom^{lem} Cyril NA27 {C} // +πρὸς αὐτόν after Ἰουδαῖοι 1424 // +πρὸς αὐτόν after Λευίτας \mathfrak{P}^{66c} ^{vid} A Θ Π Ψ f¹³ (124) 157 579 1243 it^{e,f,ff²,l,q,r¹} vg syr^h Augustine // lac \mathfrak{P}^{45} D N P syr^s. In my opinion, all the added words are explanations deemed necessary by various copyists, and the shorter reading best explains the origin of the others. The added words are not at all necessary anyway.

And he answered, "No."

²²They said therefore to him, "Who are you? So we may give an answer to those who sent us, what do you say about yourself?"

²³He said, "I am just as Isaiah the prophet said: 'the voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord." ' ' ⁵

²⁴And those who were sent were of the Pharisees. ²⁵And they questioned him and said to him, "Why then do you baptize, if you are not the Anointed One, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

²⁶John answered them as follows: "I baptize in water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷the one coming after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."

²⁸These things happened in Bethany, ⁶ on the other side of the Jordan.

Behold the Lamb of God

²⁹The next day he sees Jesus coming toward him, and says, "Behold! The lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me will come a man who has outranked me because he existed before me.' ³¹And I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing in water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

³²Then John testified, saying: "I have seen the Spirit come down from heaven like a dove, and it remained upon him. ³³And I myself had not known him, but the one who sent me to baptize in water, he told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit coming down and remaining upon, this is the one who will baptize in the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And now I have seen, and *now*⁷ I have testified, that this is the Son of God."⁸

⁴ **1:21** Deuteronomy 18:14-20

⁵ **1:23** Isaiah 40:3 Or, "He said just what the prophet Isaiah said: ..." A matter of interpretation here is how to place the quotation marks. Is John the Baptizer the one saying, "just as Isaiah the prophet said"? (NASB, NAB, NKJV, CBW, JB, JBP) Or is it John the apostle narrating who said it? (NIV, NRSV, NCV, CEV, NLT, JNT, REB) It is reasonable to think that John the Baptizer was aware of how the Isaiah passage pertained to himself, and that he so stated. Verse 20 says that he confessed and did not resist. In other words, he communicated openly and freely about what he believed he was. On the other hand, it may be well to leave it such that the Isaiah prophecy is applicable to both John the Baptizer and to the two witnesses in Revelation 11:3-12, one of which is Elijah.

⁶ **1:28** txt {A} ἐν Βηθανία ἐγένετο ϑ^{5vid} (the word Βηθανία is visibile but not ἐγένετο) ϑ⁵⁹ ϑ⁷⁵ A B C* E F H L M S Wsupp Δc Θ Ψ* Ω 063 0211 2* 28 118 124 157 205 579 597 700 892^{txt} 1006 1009 1010 1195 1216 1241 1242 1243 1253 1342 1344 1365* 1424 2148 2174 m Lect it^{aur,c,f,ff2,l,q} (ita,b,e,r¹) vg syr^{p,h,pal^{mss}} cop^{bo} slav Origen Eusebius (Epiphanius) (mss^{acc.} to Chrysostom) Chrysostom; Ambrosiaster Augustine HF RP PK NA27 {C} // ἐν Βεθανία ἐγένετο Δ* // ἐν Βηθανία ἐγένοντο N // ἐγένετο ἐν Βηθανία ϑ⁶⁶ ✠^{*} Hc it // ἐν Βιθανία ἐγένετο G X 565 1071 // ἐν Βηθαβαρᾶ ἐγένετο (Joshua 18:22 LXX) C² K T^{vid} Γ (Π*) Πc Ψc 083 0141 1 2c 33 180 1079 1230 1292 1365c 1505 1546 (1646* Βιθαρᾶ) 1646c 1770 1773 {^{AD} (syr^{s,pal^{mss}}) cop^{sa^{mss}} arm geo Origen Eusebius (Epiphanius) (mss^{acc.} to Chrysostom) Cyril TR // ἐν Βιθαβαρᾶ ἐγένετο U // ἐν Βηθεβαρᾶ ἐγένοντο Λ // ἐν Βηθεβαρᾶ ἐγένετο 13 69 828 // ἐγένετο ἐν Βηθαβαρᾶ (Joshua 18:22 Heb.; 15:6, 61 Grk. LXX; cf. also Judges 7:24 LXX) ✠² 892^{mg} pc (syr^{h^{mg}}) // lac ϑ⁴⁵ D P Q V Y 047. Origen declares that in his time, "nearly all the manuscripts" said Bethany. But, he preferred Bethabara, because, he said, he could not find a Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, but only the one near Jerusalem, plus he was attracted to the edifying etymology of Bethabara, "house of preparation," (about which he was mistaken; actually means "house [or place] of passing over) versus the meaning of Bethany, which is "house of obedience." See the endnote at the end of this document which delineates the above again but dealing only with the place name and not the other words in the phrase. For a map of the pertinent areas and a full TC discussion by Jeremy M. Hutton, use this download URL: <http://www.bibletranslation.ws/download/Hutton.pdf>

⁷ **1:34a** There is no word "now" in the Greek, but the verb is in the perfect aspect, which means a past action continuing to present results.

⁸ **1:34b** txt ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ϑ⁵ ϑ⁶⁶ ϑ^{75c} ✠² A B C E F G H K L M N P S U Wsupp Y X Γ Δ Θ Π Ψ Ω 047 063 083 0211 0233 f¹ f¹³ 2 28 33 157 180 205 565 579 597 700 892 1006 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1243 1253 1292 1342 1344 1365 1424 1505 1546 1646 2148 2174 m Lect it^{aur,c,f,l,q} vg syr^{p,h,pal^{mss}} cop^{bo} arm eth geo slav Or Aster Chrys Cyril John-Dam; Aug³ TR RP NA27 {B} // ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ___ ___ ϑ^{75*} (two more words illeg.) // ὁ ἐκλέκτος τοῦ θεοῦ ✠^{*} 187 218 228 1784 it^{b,e,ff2*} syr^{C,S} Ambr, Aug // ὁ ἐκλέκτος υἱὸς ita,ff2c vg^{mss} syr^{pal^{mss}} (syr^{pal^{mss}} ὁ μονογενὴς υἱὸς) cop^{sa} // lac ϑ¹⁰⁶ D Q T V. The apparatuses have changed much recently. This is the latest data from Muenster as of March 29, 2009.

John and Andrew Have Found the Messiah

³⁵The next day, again, John was standing with two of his disciples.⁹ ³⁶And seeing Jesus walking, he says, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"

³⁷The two disciples heard him saying this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸And Jesus turned around; and seeing them following, says to them, "What do you want?"

And they said to him, "Rabbi," (which when translated is Teacher), "where are you staying?"

³⁹He says to them, "Come, and you will see."

They went therefore, and saw where he was staying, and spent the rest of that day with him, it being about 10 a.m.

⁴⁰Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two hearing from John and following Jesus. ⁴¹This man first thing finds his own brother Simon, and he tells him, "We have found the Messiah" (which when translated is Anointed One).

⁴²He led him to Jesus.

Looking at him, Jesus said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Kephas" (which when translated is Rock.)¹⁰

Philip and Nathaniel

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go forth into Galilee; and he finds Philip. And Jesus says to him, "Follow me."

⁴⁴And Philip was from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip finds Nathaniel, and tells him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law, and also the prophets wrote: Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth."

⁴⁶And Nathaniel said to him, "Is it possible for anything good to be from Nazareth?"

Philip says to him, "Come and see."

⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathaniel coming toward him, he says about him, "Behold a true Israelite, in whom there is no artifice."

⁴⁸Nathaniel says to him, "Where do you know me from?"

And Jesus answered and said to him, "I saw you while you were under the fig tree, before Philip called you."

⁴⁹Nathaniel answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel."

⁵⁰Jesus answered and said to him, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You shall see greater things than that." ⁵¹He then says to him, "Truly, truly I say to you, you shall *all* see heaven torn open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

Chapter 2

Water Into Wine

¹And on the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ²and both Jesus and his disciples had been invited to the wedding. ³And when wine was lacking, Jesus' mother says to him, "They have no wine."

⁴Jesus says to her, "What business is there between you and me, woman? My time has not yet come."

⁵His mother says to the servants, "Whatever he tells you, do."

⁶And there were six stone water jars lying there, for the ceremonial washing of the Jews, each holding from two to three measures.¹¹

⁷Jesus says to them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim.

⁸And he tells them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the master of the banquet." And they took some.

⁹ **1:35** John the son of Zebedee and Andrew the brother of Peter

¹⁰ **1:42** Greek, *Petros*. The writers of the gospels translated the name from the Aramaic language, which Jesus spoke, to the language of the readers— Greek, because they apparently desired that their readers know the man as *Rock*, which is the English translation of *Petros*. In that spirit of the writers, we English speakers are to know him as *Rock*. With that in mind, I have nonetheless from this point on used the Anglicized transliteration of *Petros*, which is *Peter*, since it is so familiar.

¹¹ **2:6** Twenty to thirty gallons, or from 75 to 115 liters. Each *measure* contained 72 *sextarii* or pints.

⁹When the master of the banquet tasted the water become wine, not knowing where it had come from, but the servants having drawn the water knowing, the master of the banquet calls the bridegroom, ¹⁰and says to him, "Everyone sets out the good wine first, and the cheaper after they have become drunk. You have kept the good wine till now."

¹¹This, the first of the miraculous signs, Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

¹²After this he went down to Capernaum, he and his mother, and brothers, and his disciples, and there they stayed for a few days.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

¹³And the Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴And in the temple he found those selling cattle, sheep and doves, and the money changers sitting. ¹⁵And having made like a whip out of ropes, he expelled all from the temple, including the sheep and the cattle, and he poured out the coins of the money changers, and overturned the tables, ¹⁶and he said to those selling the doves, "Take these out of here! Do not make the house of my Father a house of commerce!"

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written: "The zeal for your house will consume me."¹²

¹⁸The Jews¹³ responded therefore and said to him, "What sign are you showing us, that you *can* do these things?"

¹⁹Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it."

²⁰Then the Jews said, "This temple was built in forty-six years, and you in three days will raise it?" ²¹But he had spoken of the temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture, and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²³And while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover during the Festival, many believed in his name— seeing the miraculous signs he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus on his part did not commit himself to them, because he knew all people, ²⁵and because he had no need that anyone testify about a person, for he knew what was in the person.

Chapter 3

You Must Be Born Again

¹And there was a man of the Pharisees¹⁴ named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night, and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one would be able to do these miraculous signs you are doing, unless God were with him."

³Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly I say to you, Unless one is born again, from above, it is not possible to see the kingdom of God."

⁴Nicodemus says to him, "How is it possible for someone who is old, to be born? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born?"

⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly I say to you, unless one is born from water and spirit, it is not possible to enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶That born from flesh is flesh, and that born from Spirit is spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised that I said to you, 'You¹⁵ must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it will, and the sound of it you hear, but you do not know where it is coming from, and where it is going. Such is everyone born from the Spirit."¹⁶

¹² **2:17** Psalm 69:9

¹³ **2:18** Wasn't Jesus a Jew? Wasn't the apostle John a Jew? Why does the gospel of John set "the Jews" apart from Jesus as opposing camps? See the endnote at the end of this document, entitled, "The phrase 'the Jews.'"

¹⁴ **3:1** ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων, *ánthrōpos ek tōn Pharisaíōn*, "a person of the Pharisees." This may be a Semitic way of saying, "A Pharisee person," or simply, "A Pharisee." Except that that would usually be done with both "man" and "Pharisee" in the same part of speech as each other, "the adjectival use of a substantive."

¹⁵ **3:7** The Greek is in the plural.

¹⁶ **3:8** Or possibly also: "So it is with everyone born from the Spirit." The question is, whether Jesus is likening the people themselves, what they are like after they have been born of the Spirit, or likening the **process** of how they become born of the Spirit. The Greek verb "is," could mean either here. It would not be very assuring if Jesus is saying the process is so mysterious. He must be saying that those who are born of the Spirit, are strange and inscrutable to those who are only born of the flesh. Just as God and his Spirit are strange and inscrutable to the natural man. Still, the process of second birth would also seem strange and mysterious to the natural man.

⁹Nicodemus answered and said to him, "How can these things be?"

¹⁰Jesus answered and said to him, "You are Teacher for Israel, and not familiar with these things?"¹⁷
¹¹Truly, truly I tell you, we are saying what we know, and testifying to what we have seen, and you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³And no one has gone up into heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, in like manner the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him would not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸The person who believes in him is not condemned. The person who does not believe, is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of God's only begotten Son.

¹⁹And this is the condemnation:

The light
 has come into the world.
 And human beings
 loved the darkness
 more than the light,
 because their works
 were continually evil.

²⁰For everyone practicing evil things, hates the light, and does not come toward the light, so that his works may not be exposed. ²¹But one doing the truth comes toward the light, so that his works may be manifest, that they have been accomplished in God."¹⁸

"He Must Increase; I Must Decrease"

²²After these things, Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean territory, and there he was spending time with them, and baptizing. ²³And John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water there, and they were coming and getting baptized. ²⁴For John was still not yet thrown into prison.

²⁵Then a dispute arose between the disciples of John and a certain¹⁹ Jew²⁰ about ceremonial washing. ²⁶And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you on the other side of the Jordan, about whom you testified, behold, that man is baptizing, and everyone is moving to him."

²⁷John answered and said, "A human being is not able to receive a thing that is not given to him from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves bear me witness that I said, 'I am not the Anointed One, but am sent ahead of him.'
²⁹The one possessing the bride is bridegroom, and the one standing and hearing him, the friend of the bridegroom, who rejoices with a joy on account of the voice of the bridegroom. That joy, my joy, is therefore fulfilled. ³⁰He must increase, and I must decrease.

³¹"The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth is of the earth, and speaks of the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all;²¹ ³²what he has seen and heard, this he testifies to,

¹⁷ **3:10** Nicodemus should have known these concepts from I Samuel 10:6,7,9,11; Ezekiel 11:19,20; 18:31,32; 36:26,27; Isaiah 26:11-19

¹⁸ **3:21** Some interpreters end the quotation at the end of verse 15; they believe John is speaking in verse 16 on, and not Jesus.

¹⁹ **3:25a** Some manuscripts: "some Jews." Both the plural and the singular are evenly well attested in the best manuscripts. John always used the plural, other than perhaps in this passage. For this reason, it is more likely that copyists changed the singular to conform it to John, than that they changed it from the plural to something unique in John.

²⁰ **3:25b** Since this passage is in John, and John customarily refers to himself in an anonymous way, in the third person, there is a good possibility that such is the case here also. An argument would not be out of character for John. Jesus named John and his brother James "the sons of thunder," (Mark 3:17; Diatess. 9:2) which seems to indicate that John was hotheaded and judgmental. See also Luke 9:49 & 54 (Diatess. 17:31 & 18:2) for other examples of John's former attitude to people who differed from his own circle.

²¹ **3:31** ἐρχόμενος ἐπάνω πάντων ἐστίν· ϩ^{36vid} ϩ⁶⁶ ϩ¹ A B E F G H K L M S U V W^S Y Γ Δ Θ Λ Π Ψ Ω 047 063 083 086 0211 f¹³
 2 28 33 69 157 180 579 700 892 1006 1010 1071 1241 1243 1292 1342 1424 1505 1582^C m Lect it^{aur,c,f,q} vg syr^{s,p,h,pa}

and no one accepts his testimony. ³³The person who accepts his testimony has vouched that God is truthful. ³⁴For he whom God has sent speaks the words of God; because *to him* God gives the Spirit without measure. ³⁵The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶The person who believes in the Son, has eternal life, but the one who disobeys the Son will not see life, but rather, the wrath of God remains upon him."

Chapter 4

The Samaritan Woman at the Well

¹Then, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John, ²(although Jesus himself was not baptizing, but his disciples), ³he left Judea, and went back into Galilee.

⁴But he had to pass through Samaria.²² ⁵Thus it is he comes to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶And Jacob's well was there. So there Jesus was, sitting down by the well, tired from the journey. It was about 6 p.m.

⁷A woman of Samaria comes to draw water. Jesus says to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(For his disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹Then the Samaritan woman says to him, "How is it you, being a Jew, are asking a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews do not use *dishes* in common with Samaritans.)

¹⁰Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

¹¹She says to him, "Sir, you do not have a bucket, and the shaft is deep. Where then do you hold the living water? ¹²Are you greater than our forefather Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and also his sons and his animals?"

¹³Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks from this water will thirst again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks from the water which I will give him will by no means ever thirst again. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into life without end."

¹⁵The woman says to him, "Sir, give me this water. Then I wouldn't get thirsty, and neither would I have to keep coming over here to draw."

¹⁶He says to her, "Go call your husband, and come back here."

¹⁷The woman answered and said, "I do not have a husband."

Jesus says to her, "Commendably, you said, 'I do not have a husband.' ¹⁸For you have had five husbands, and he you now have is not your husband. This you have said honestly."

¹⁹The woman says to him, "Sir, I am perceiving that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that the place where *one* must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹Jesus says to her, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you²³ will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You *Samaritans* worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³Nevertheless, a time is coming, and is now come, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for indeed that is the kind the Father seeks as those worshiping him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those worshiping him, must worship in spirit and in truth."

²⁵The woman says to him, "I do know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will teach us everything."

²⁶Jesus says to her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."

Lift Your Eyes, See My Food and My Harvest

²⁷And at this point his disciples came, and they were surprised that he was talking with a woman. Still, no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"

cop^{bo},fay Or^{Pt} [NA27] {} // ἐρχόμενος ⁷⁵ ⁸* D 1 118 205 565 579 1582* it^{a,b,d,e,ff²j,l,r¹} syr^C cop^{sa} arm geo Hipp Or^{Pt} Eus Tert Hilary Ambros Aug //lac ⁴⁵ C N P Q T X* 346 0233.

²² **4:4** *Samaria* was the district north of Judea and south of Galilee. For Jesus to get to Galilee from where he was (Judea), he had to pass through Samaria in between; either that or go all the way around the east side of the Jordan River and Sea of Galilee, as some Jews would actually do, wanting so much to avoid Samaria. See the endnote at the end of this document, entitled, "The meaning of the phrase, 'The Jews' in the Gospel of John," which discusses this situation.

²³ **4:21** In the Greek, "you" is in the plural.

²⁸Then, the woman left her water jar, and went away into the town. And she says to the people, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could he be the Messiah?"

³⁰They were proceeding out of the town and coming toward him. ³¹In the meantime, his disciples were pleading with him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

³³His disciples therefore were saying to each other, "Has someone brought him something to eat?"

³⁴Jesus says to them, "That I may do the will of him who sent me, is food to me,²⁴ and that I may finish his work. ³⁵Do you not say,²⁵ 'There is four months yet,²⁶ and then comes the harvest?' Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and look upon the fields. For they are white even now²⁷ for harvest. ³⁶The one harvesting is taking his wages, and gathering fruit resulting in eternal life, so that the one sowing and the one harvesting may rejoice together. ³⁷For the saying, 'One is the sower and another is the reaper,' is true in this: ³⁸I have sent you to harvest what you have not worked. Others have done the hard work, and you have joined in their labor."

The Woman's Talk Bears Fruit

³⁹And many of the Samaritans from that town had believed in him because of the woman's word testifying, "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰When therefore the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to remain with them, and he remained two days. ⁴¹And, because of his word, many more believed.

⁴²And to the woman they said, "No longer because of your talk do we believe; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man truly is the Savior of the world."

The Official's Son Stays Alive

⁴³And after the two days he departed from there into Galilee. ⁴⁴(Now Jesus himself testified, that in his own native place a prophet has no honor.) ⁴⁵When then he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him—having seen all the things that he had done in Jerusalem at the festival, for they also had gone to the festival.

⁴⁶He came again therefore to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And there was a certain royal official there whose son lay sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷When this man heard that Jesus was coming out of Judea into Galilee, he went to him and asked that he would come and heal his son, for he was about to die.

⁴⁸Jesus therefore said to him, "Unless you *people* see miraculous signs and terrifying omens, you will never believe."

⁴⁹The royal official says to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

⁵⁰Jesus says to him, "Go. Your son stays alive."

²⁴ **4:34** Ἐμὸν βρῶμά ἐστιν ἵνα ποιήσω - emōn brōma estin hína poiēsō, literally, "My food is that I may do." The hína in this passage is usually translated like an infinitive, "to do," and rightly enough, see BDF §393 and BAG p. 377, II. This is very much like the hína in I Corinthians 4:3- ἐμοὶ δὲ εἰς ἐλάχιστόν ἐστιν ἵνα ὑφ' ὑμῶν ἀνακριθῶ ἢ ὑπὸ ἀνθρωπίνης ἡμέρας· ἀλλ' οὐδὲ ἑμαυτὸν ἀνακρίνω- "It is a very small thing to me that I might be judged by you..." See also I Cor. 9:18, "My reward is that I may make the gospel free of charge..." As for the pronoun "ἐμὸς" in the text above in John 4:34, most interpreters apparently consider it a non-reflexive one, and meaning the same as μου and simply meaning "my." Blass, § 285(1), says "ἐμὸς" is used as a reflexive for ἑμαυτοῦ - emautoū. I think that considering the context, "I have food you do not know about," and the pre-position of ἐμὸς here (emphasis), that this means something like, "For me, that I can do the will of him who sent me, is food, and that I can finish his work." You think I have no food, but for me, this is food:..."

²⁵ **4:35a** Most interpreters claim this is a proverb, and they translate this as above. But I have not seen them give evidence that there was any such proverb. Perhaps instead the disciples had just recently been remarking, as they traveled through grain fields, that harvest time was four months away, and Jesus used their remark as a segue. So maybe one should translate this, "Were you not saying, 'There is four months yet, and then comes the harvest?'" This event could have actually taken place a month or two after the Passover, and so this was actually happening four months before harvest time.

²⁶ **4:35b** txt Ἔτι ϣ⁶⁶ Ⲡ A B C H K^c M N U W^{sup} Γ Δ Θ Λ Ψ 083 f¹ 2 33 124 157 565 579 700 1071 1424 syr^{s,p,h,pal} cop^{sa,bo} arm Origen^{pt} TR HF RP NA27 {} // omit ϣ⁷⁵ D (K* τὸ instead) L S Π Ω 047 086 f¹³ 28 118 1241 ℓ844* it^d syr^c Origen^{pt} // lac ϣ⁴⁵ F P X 346.

²⁷ **4:35b** The word ἤδη at the end of verse 35 is sometimes interpreted to be with the next sentence, and sometimes with this sentence. Thus there are two possible renderings; one is as I have it in my English text above, and the other is as follows: "For they are white for harvest. ³⁶ The one harvesting is already taking his wages,..."

The man believed the word that Jesus had said to him, and departed. ⁵¹And even as he was going back down, his servants met him saying that his boy was living. ⁵²He therefore ascertained from them the exact time in which he had gotten better. They therefore said to him, "The fever left him yesterday at 7 p.m."

⁵³Then the father realized: that was the hour in which Jesus had said to him, "Your son stays alive." And he and his whole household believed.

⁵⁴Again, this second miraculous sign Jesus performed while coming out of Judea into Galilee.

Chapter 5

Jesus Heals in the Spa on the Sabbath

¹After these things, there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate²⁸ a pool, which in Hebrew²⁹ is called Bethesda,³⁰ having five colonnades. ³In

²⁸ **5:2a** A gate in the north which allowed the sheep destined to be sacrificed to access the temple.

²⁹ **5:2b** It is possible that the word "Hebrew" is meant to mean the language of the Hebrews, as opposed to Greek. By that time the language of the Jews was mostly Aramaic, the language of their former conquerors to the north. Indeed, parts of the Old Testament were originally written in Aramaic. In the words of Bruce Metzger, "Aramaic was the mother tongue of the great majority of Jews at that time. Though the rabbis and learned scribes still had fluent command of the classical Hebrew of the Old Testament, it was approaching the status of a dead language for the ordinary Jewish population. During the exile in the sixth century B.C. the Jews had begun to use Aramaic, a Semitic language related to Hebrew somewhat as Spanish is related to Portuguese. At the beginning of the Christian era, in the synagogues of Palestine as well as of Babylon, the text of the Old Testament was read not only in the original Hebrew but also in an Aramaic paraphrase (called a Targum) for the benefit of those who knew little or no Hebrew. At least two dialectal forms of Aramaic were current in Palestine. The dialect used in Galilee was recognizably different in pronunciation from the southern dialect spoken in and around Jerusalem (Matt. 26:73 or Diatessaron 30:11). It is altogether probable that Jesus grew up in his home at Nazareth using Aramaic as his mother tongue. In later life he doubtless acquired some facility in speaking Greek and in reading Hebrew. His teaching and preaching to the common people would have been carried out in Aramaic; his debates with the learned teachers of the law may have been conducted in Hebrew. When he occasionally conversed with non-Jewish persons (for example, the Roman centurion and the Syro-Phoenician woman), he probably used Greek, the lingua franca of the Greco-Roman world." (From *THE NEW TESTAMENT, Its Background, Growth, and Content*, by Bruce M. Metzger; Abingdon Press, 1987; pp. 32-33)

³⁰ **5:2c** {D} txt Βηθεσδα Α C E^c F G H K M S U V X^{comm} Γ Δ Θ Π Ω 047 063 (Βηθ__δα) 078 0141 (0233^{vid} __θεσδα) f¹ f¹³ 2 28 33 124 157 180 205 213 397 565 579 597 700 865 892 1006 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1243 1253^{vid} 1292 1342 1344 1365 1505 1546 1646 2148 2174 2129 2718 2786 *Lect* it^{f,q} vg^{mss} syr^{c,p,h}mg gr^(pal) arm geo slav Amphilochius Didymus^{dub} Chrysostom Cyril^{lem} TR HF RP // Βιθεσδα 69 // Βηθεσδα Ν // Βηθεσθα 1424 // Βιθεσθα Λ^{*,c} // Βηζαθα L it^e // Beth(h)zet(h)a it^{b,ff}2* vg^{mss} // Βηθζαθα Ν 0211 33 713 it^l (Eusebius) (Cyril) NA27 {C} // Βηθσαιδα (ϕ^{66*} Βηδσαιδαν ϕ^{66c} Βηδσαιδα) ϕ⁷⁵ B E* T Wsupp (Ψ Βησσαϊδα) pc it^{aur,c,ff}2c vg syr^h (copsa,pho,bo,ach²) eth Diatessaron^s Tertullian Chromatius Jerome WH // Βελζεθα D it^(a)d,r1 (it^a Belzatha) // lacuna ϕ⁴⁵ Q X Y 346 788 syr^s. It has been suggested by Milik that Bethzatha is from an Aramaic intensive plural of the original for Bethesda. Bethesda, though widely supported by later manuscripts of several text types, is suspect in the eyes of some as a scribal alteration originally introduced because of its edifying etymology: **בֵּית חֶסֶד** - "Beyt Chesda," "House of [Divine] Mercy." Though the UBS textual commentary states that the Copper Scroll discovered at Qumran (one of the "Dead Sea Scrolls") contains a reference to a pool at Betheshdathayim, this has subsequently been disproven. It states that this word, the termination of which signifies the Hebrew dual number, appears to be connected with the Aramaic for "to pour out." Thus, perhaps therefore, **בֵּית אֵשְׁחָה** - "Beyt Eyshda," or "Place of out-pouring [water]." In a new paper by Reinhart Ceulemans, "The Name of the Pool in Joh 5,2. A Text-Critical Note Concerning 3Q15" ZNW 99 (2008) 112-15, he says, "one of the reasons for the fact that this reading BETHESDA is embedded that much, can be found in one verse from the Copper Scroll (3Q15), discovered at Qumran. This scroll contains a reference to a certain pool (viz. 3Q15 11,12), which is often linked to the pool mentioned in Joh 5,2. Equally often this verse has been interpreted as "corroborating the reading BETHESDA. The reason for this was the reading of the 3Q15 verse as edited in the standard edition, provided by J.T. Milik in 1962. Very recently, a new impressive two-volume restoration of the Copper Scroll appeared, the first volume of which contains a new edition (Le Rouleau de cuivre de la grotte 3 de Qumran (3Q15). Expertise - Restauration - Epigraphie I, par D. Brizemeure et alii (STDJ 55.1), Leiden 2006). The Qumran text does not feature a dalet or res with waw, but only a cursive waw in the form of a res. Thus, according to the new edition, this line only mentions some sort of installation (building) with two reservoirs, and contains no proper name. This directly contradicts the assertions of Milik, who drew a parallel to the place name BETHESDA, which he regarded the text of Joh 5:2. This means that the Copper Scroll cannot be of any use when trying to answer the text-critical questions concerning this Johannine passage. Thus the reason for supporting the reading BETHESDA is significantly weakened;

these a great number of disabled people used to lie, the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.^{31 32} ⁵And one man was there who had had a disability thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying *there* and learned that he had had *his condition* now for a long time, he says to him, "Do you want to get well?"

⁷The invalid answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred, and while I am going, someone else goes down ahead of me."

⁸Jesus says to him, "Stand up. Pick up your mat and walk." ⁹And immediately the man became well, and he picked up his mat and walked. And that day was during a Sabbath.

¹⁰The Jews therefore said to the man who had been healed, "It is a Sabbath, and not lawful³³ for you to carry your mat."

¹¹He answered them, "The man who made me well, he told me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"

¹²They asked him, "Who is the man telling you to pick up and walk?"

¹³But the man who was healed had not known who it was, for Jesus had slipped away, a crowd being in the place.

¹⁴After these things Jesus finds him at the temple and said to him, "Behold, you are well. Do not sin any longer, or something worse might happen to you." ¹⁵The man went away and reported to the Jews that Jesus was the one who had made him well.

Hear the Voice of the Son and Live

¹⁶And for this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷But he answered them, "My Father is working continuously up to now, so I also am working." ¹⁸For this reason the Jews tried all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath,³⁴ but he was also saying God was his own father, making himself equal to God.

in the future this variant should not deserve the maximum momentum which it received in the past." This "Bethesda" may well have been the same place as the twin pools near the present-day St. Anne's Church. There would have been a colonnade on each of the four sides and another between the pools, holding up a covering under which the people would lie. As for the name Bethzatha, it has eclectic textual support, along with Eusebius. It was the name of the northern extension of the city of Jerusalem. I Maccabees 7:19 mentions a "great cistern" at Bethzaith. Bethsaida is suspect as an assimilation to the town of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee, as mentioned in John 1:44.

³¹ **5:3** txt {A} omit v. 3b Ϙ⁶⁶ Ϙ⁷⁵ ✠ B C* L T 0141 157 821 it^q syr^c cop^{sa,pbo,bo^{pt},ach²} arm geo Amphilochius NA27 {A} // add v. 3b ἐκδεχομένων τὴν τοῦ ὕδατος κίνησιν AC C³ E F G K M U (W^{supp}) X^{comm} Δ Θ Λ Ψ Ω 063 078 0233 f¹ f¹³ 2 28 (33 -κίνησιν) (180 ἀπεκδεχομένων) 205 213 397 565 579 597 700 799 865 892 1006 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1243 1253 1292 1342 1344 1365 1424 1505 1546 1646 2148 2174 Byz Lect it^{c,e,f,ff²} vg, syr^{p,h,pal} cop^{bo^{pt}} arm ethpp geo slav Chrysostom Cyril^{em} TR HF RP // παραλυτικῶν ἐκδεχομένων τὴν τοῦ ὕδατος κίνησιν D it^{a,aur,b,d,j,l,r¹} vgm^s (ethTH) // add ἐκδεχομένων τὴν τοῦ ὕδατος 33 // add v. 3b w/asterisk Π // lacuna Ϙ⁴⁵ P 346 788 syr^s. According to the UBS textual commentary, this small group of five words contains two non-Johannine words, ἐκδέχεσθαι and κίνησις. See note on v. 4 for some information that pertains also to this variant. For a Swanson-style table of the variants in this passage, right-click this [link](#), and choose "save as."

³² **5:4c** txt {A} omit v. 4 Ϙ⁶⁶ Ϙ⁷⁵ ✠ B C* D T W^{supp} 0141 33 157 821 2718 it^{d,f,l,q} vg^{ww,st} syr^c cop^{sa,pbo,bo^{pt},ach²} arm geo Amphilochius NA27 {A} // add v. 4 with major variations ἄγγελος γὰρ κυρίου κατὰ καιρὸν ἐλούετο ἐν τῇ κολυμβήθρα καὶ ἐτάρασσε τὸ ὕδωρ. ὁ οὖν πρῶτος ἐμβάς μετὰ τὴν ταραχὴν τοῦ ὕδατος ὑγιῆς ἐγένετο οἴω δῆποτ' κατείχετο νοσήματι A C³ E F G H K L M N U X^{comm} Y Δ Θ Ψ 078 0233 f¹ f¹³ 2 28 180 205 213 397 565 579 597 700 799 865 892 1006 1009 1010 1071 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1243 1253 1292 1342 1344 1365 1424 1505 1546 1646 2148 m Lect it^{a,aur,b,c,e,ff²} j,r¹ vg^{cl}, syr^{p,pal} cop^{bo^{pt}} eth slav Didymus^{dub} Chrysostom Cyril^{em}-, Tertullian Hilary Ambrose TR HF RP // add v. 4 w/asterisks or obeli S Λ Π Ω 047 1079 2174 syr^h. Some manuscripts replaced the clearly absurd "bathing" by the angel (found in A K Π Ψ 0211 579), which was the initial reading of this, with "an angel would come down into" (L Θ 063). According to the UBS textual commentary, the added words in vv. 3b-4 contain the following non-Johannine expressions and words: κατὰ καιρὸν, ἐμβαίνω, ἐκδέχεσθαι, ἐκδέχομαι, κατέχομαι, κίνησις, ταραχή, and νόσημα -- the last three words only here in the New Testament. They say that the additions may have been made in order to explain how the water gets stirred in verse 7. There should not be any doubt that this passage was not in the original gospel of John. For a Swanson-style table of the variants in this passage, right-click this [link](#), and choose "save as." See also Wieland Willker's excellent commentary on this addition.

³³ **5:10** The Greek word translated "lawful" is the impersonal participle "ἔξεστιν" - éxestin, which is derived from the same root as ἐξουσία - exousía, the word for authority. If an activity was "ἔξεστιν," that means it was "loosed," or ruled by the rabbis to be something "allowed" by the Torah. If something was not ἔξεστιν, as is the case here, that means it was "bound," that is, the rabbis had adjudged that it was forbidden by the Torah.

³⁴ **5:18** The Greek verb translated "breaking" here, is λύω - lúō. Bauer says it here means "abolish," that in John Jesus is presented as abolishing the Sabbath. The Bagster / Moulton lexicon agrees with this also. The meaning would depend

¹⁹Therefore Jesus responded and said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, the Son is not able to do anything of himself,³⁵ but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever things that One does, these things also the Son does likewise. ²⁰For the Father loves the Son, and shows him every thing that he does. And indeed, greater works than these he will show him, such that you will be constantly amazed. ²¹For just as the Father raises the dead and makes them alive, in this way also the Son makes alive those whom he wishes. ²²Moreover, the Father judges no one, but instead has given all judgment to the Son, ²³that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. The person who does not honor the Son is not honoring the Father who sent him.

²⁴"Truly, truly I say to you, the person who hears my word and believes the One who sent me, has eternal life, and is not going into judgment, but has crossed over out of death into life. ²⁵Truly, truly I say to you, a time is coming, and is now come, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,³⁶ and the ones who hear will live. ²⁶For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted to the Son to have life in himself. ²⁷And to him he has given authority to do the judging, because he is the son of a human.³⁷

²⁸"Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming, when all those in the graves will hear his voice, ²⁹and stream out, the ones who have done good into a resurrection of life, and the ones who have done evil into a resurrection of judgment.³⁸ ³⁰I from myself am not able to do a thing; only as I hear do I judge, and my judgment is righteous, because I am not seeking my own will, but the will of him who sent me.

Testimonies About Jesus

³¹"If I testify about myself, my testimony is not valid. ³²There is another who testifies about me, and I know that the testimony which he testifies about me is true.

³³"You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth. ³⁴I do not accept testimony from a human being; but I am saying these things so that you may be saved. ³⁵That one was a burning and shining lamp, and in his light you were willing to exult, for a time.

³⁶"But I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the works which the Father has given me to finish, the same works which I am doing, they testify about me that the Father has sent me. ³⁷And the Father who sent me, he has testified about me. You have neither heard his voice at any time nor seen his form. ³⁸And his word, you do not have living in you, because the one he has sent, him you do not believe. ³⁹You diligently study the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life. And these are the ones that testify about me. ⁴⁰Yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

⁴¹"I do not accept praise from human beings; ⁴²but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves. ⁴³I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if someone else comes in his own name, him you will accept. ⁴⁴How is it possible for you to believe, accepting praise from one another, and not seeking the praise from the only God?

on whose point of view the statement is taken from. That is, whether John is stating what "the Jews" saw Jesus as doing, or whether John is stating his own view of what Jesus was doing. Certainly, from the Pharisees' point of view, Jesus was both *violating* the Sabbath, and since he was a Rabbi, by his example, also *abolishing* the Sabbath. It seems obvious that it would not be John's view that Jesus violated the Sabbath, for it is the teaching of the New Testament, and of Christ himself, that Jesus Christ kept the law. It is agreed by all, however, that Jesus definitely set aside the *prevailing* Jewish concept of the Sabbath day. It may also be safely asserted that the majority of Christ's followers understand the New Testament to teach that subsequent to Pentecost the 7th day Sabbath observance is no longer a requirement. There is ample evidence in the N.T. of this. As for the apostle John, he wrote this his gospel relatively a long time after the life of Christ, and thus by the time of its writing, the Christian non-observance of the Sabbath day was already well established. See my treatise entitled, "What is Sabbath."

³⁵ **5:19** According to Bauer, ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ is an expression known in Classical Greek using the preposition ἀπό to indicate the originator or authorizer of the action. So also 5:30; 7:17; 7:28; 8:28, 42; 10:18; 11:51; 14:10; 15:4; 16:13; 18:34

³⁶ **5:25** txt τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ ꝥ⁶⁶ ꝥ⁷⁵ ✠ A D E F G H L M U V W Y Γ Δ Θ Λ Ψ 063 f¹ f¹³ 2 33 118 157 565 700 1071 1424 TR RP NA27 {} // τοῦ θεοῦ 070 pc (x18) // τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου K S Π Ω 28 2178 syr^{hmg,pal} Chrys^b al. (x80) // lac C F N P Q T X 0210 0233 788 1346.

³⁷ **5:27** Or, "The Son of Man." "Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death he might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil," Hebrews 2:14. "For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin," Hebrews 4:15. And because Jesus became flesh and overcame the flesh, the Father gave him jurisdiction of all flesh, John 17:2.

³⁸ **5:29** Isaiah 26:19 - 27:1, Daniel 12:1-3

⁴⁵"But do not think that I will accuse you before the Father. The one accusing you is Moses, on whom you have placed your hope. ⁴⁶For if you were believing Moses, you would be believing me, for he wrote about me. ⁴⁷But since you are not believing his writings, how will you believe my statements?"

Chapter 6

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

¹After these things, Jesus went across to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (the *Sea* of Tiberias). ²And a large crowd followed him, because they had seen the miraculous signs he had been performing on the sick.

³Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he was sitting, with his disciples. ⁴And the Passover was near, the festival of the Jews. ⁵Then, lifting up his eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus says to Philip, "Where might we buy loaves so that these *people* can eat?" ⁶But he said this testing him, for he himself had known what he was about to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii³⁹ are not enough loaves for them to each get a little!

⁸One of his disciples, Andrew the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, ⁹"There is a youth here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they in the face of so many?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Get the people to recline." Now there was plenty of green grass in the place. The men therefore reclined, the number about five thousand. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks, he distributed to those reclining, and likewise from the fish, as much they wanted.

¹²And when they were full, he says to his disciples, "Gather the fragments that are left over, so that nothing is wasted." ¹³So they gathered, and filled twelve large baskets⁴⁰ with fragments of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴Then the people, having seen the miraculous sign he had done, were saying, "This surely is the Prophet who was to come into the world."⁴¹ ¹⁵Jesus therefore, knowing that they were about to come and take him by force to try to make him king, withdrew again into the mountain, himself alone.

Jesus Walks on the Water

¹⁶And when evening had come, his disciples had gone down to the lake, ¹⁷and gotten into a boat, and were proceeding across the lake toward Capernaum. And now darkness came, and Jesus had not yet come to them, ¹⁸and as a great wind was blowing, the lake was becoming very rough. ¹⁹Then, after having rowed about twenty-five or thirty stadia,⁴² they behold him walking on the lake, and getting close to the boat, and they were afraid.

²⁰But he says to them, "It is I. Don't be afraid."

²¹Then they willingly took him into the boat. And immediately the boat was at the shore to which they were headed.

"I Am the Bread Come Down out of Heaven"

²²The next day, the crowd that had stayed on the other side of the lake realized that no other boat had been there except one, and that Jesus had not gotten into the boat with his disciples, but his disciples had gone away alone. ²³(Other boats, from Tiberias, arrived near the place where they had eaten the loaves, *where* the Lord had given thanks.) ²⁴When therefore the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

²⁵And finding him across the lake, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

²⁶Jesus answered them, and said, "Truly, truly I say to you, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and were satisfied. ²⁷Do not work for food that perishes, but

³⁹ **6:7** About 8 months of a man's wages

⁴⁰ **6:13** κόφινος - kóphinos, a large, heavy basket for carrying things. Interestingly, the baskets used in the feeding of the 4,000 later on were a smaller basket. In the accounts of the feeding of the 5,000, all four gospels use the Greek word kóphinos, but in the account of the feeding of the 4,000, both the gospels containing the story used the Greek word σπυρίς - spurís. A kóphinos was used for many things, including carrying manure, while a spurís was a smaller basket used for carrying edibles.

⁴¹ **6:14** Deuteronomy 18:14-20

⁴² **6:19** This is about halfway across the lake. (Three or three and a half miles, or five or six kilometers.)

for food that abides, resulting in eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For him God the Father has sealed."

²⁸They therefore said to him, "What should we do in order to be working the works of God?"

²⁹Jesus answered, and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in that one whom he has sent."

³⁰So they said to him, "What miraculous sign then are you performing, so that we may see, and believe you? What *works* are you working? ³¹Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread out of heaven to eat.'⁴³"

³²Jesus therefore said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, the bread out of heaven is not given you by Moses; no, the real bread out of heaven my Father is giving you. ³³For the bread of God, is the one coming down out of heaven and giving life to the world."

³⁴They said therefore to him, "Sir, give us that bread evermore."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. The person who comes to me, would by no means hunger, and the one believing in me would by no means thirst, ever. ³⁶But as I told you,⁴⁴ you have seen me and still you are not believing. ³⁷All *flesh* that⁴⁵ the Father gives to me will come to me, and the one who comes to me, I would certainly not drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven not to do my will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me: that of all *flesh* that he has given me, I would not lose any of it, but raise it⁴⁶ up at the last day. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father: that anyone looking to the Son and believing in him would have eternal life, and I would raise him up at the last day."

⁴¹Then the Jews started grumbling about him, because he said, "I am the bread having come down out of heaven." ⁴²And they were saying, "Isn't this the Jesus son of Joseph whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down out of heaven?'"

⁴³Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop grumbling among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I would raise him up at the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets: 'And they shall all be taught by God.'⁴⁷ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Truly, truly I say to you, the person who does believe in me⁴⁸ has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, and they died. ⁵⁰But this is bread coming down out of heaven such that one may

⁴³ **6:31** Exodus 16:4; Psalm 78:24-25; Nehemiah 9:15

⁴⁴ **6:36** John 5:38, 47; Diatess. 8:15, 17

⁴⁵ **6:37** See the footnote on 6:39.

⁴⁶ **6:39** Note all the neuters. This is said to be an example of the phenomenon of 'anacoluthon.' This would mean that the inflections have 'followed suit,' so to speak; that is, they have been attracted to or assimilated by the neuter gender and singular number of the relative pronoun, which in turn had been attracted to those same traits of its antecedent, τὸ θέλημα - τὸ thélēma, that is, 'the will' in verse 39. (And the relative pronoun was used in a Hebraistic construction, "παν...μη.") {Look up §§ 293-297 in Blass} But I am not convinced of anacoluthon here. For I have seen John deliberately use the neuter relative pronoun, and other neuter pronouns, in other passages as well, where the subject is people. See 6:37, 39, 17:2, 24, and, I believe also 17:11-12, where I go against the trend which has been to interpret the Father's gift to the Son as "the name," rather than the disciples. John sometimes refers to people collectively as a gift and as a neuter thing. This sounds strange to our ears. But people are a "thing" when they are something given; especially since most of the Greek words for gift, the substantive forms of the verb John uses for give, are of the neuter gender. John six times uses a neuter singular pronoun for the collective unity of human beings that compose the gift that the Father has given him, in 6:37, 39, 17:2, 11, 12, 24. Though some say this is an instance of what is called "attraction of the relative," where the relative pronoun is neuter because it followed suit after a neuter noun before it, in this case the word for "will," yet, the circumstances for that are not present in all of the six instances mentioned earlier, and to me it is significant that John uses a neuter pronoun construction six times, when the number of the flesh in Biblical number symbolism is six. John uses the neuter pronoun construction as interchangeable with "flesh" in 17:2, and with "humans" in 17:6. The word "flesh" is a common Hebraistic way to refer to mortal humanity. Furthermore, it is interesting how reminiscent this phrase is of Job 19:25-26, where he says of the last day, "in my flesh shall I see God." Jesus uses this phrase, "I will not lose any of the flesh He has given me, but raise it up at the last day." Moreover, the flesh the Father gives him, is quickened by means of eating the living flesh of the Son of Man, Ch. 6 v. 54: "The one eating my flesh and drinking my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

⁴⁷ **6:45** Isaiah 54:13

⁴⁸ **6:47** Jesus is referring back to verse 29, where he says "This is the work of God, that you believe in that one whom he has sent." There is a Greek textual difference here, in that later manuscripts added the words "in me" to verse 47. That is understandable, yet not necessary, since the idea "in me" was implied anyway. The reader is expected to have a long enough attention span to remember the previous context given in verse 29.

eat of it and would not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread come down out of heaven. If someone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. Namely, the bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

⁵²Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³Jesus therefore said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴The person eating my flesh and drinking my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food,⁴⁹ and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶The one eating my flesh and drinking my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father has sent me, and I live by means of the Father, so also that one eating me will live by means of me. ⁵⁸This bread coming down out of heaven is not like the bread the forefathers ate and then died. The person eating this bread will live for ever." ⁵⁹These things he said while teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

A Teaching Too Scandalous for Some

⁶⁰Then many of his disciples hearing said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can listen to it?"

⁶¹But knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "This is shocking you? ⁶²Then what if you were seeing the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?⁵⁰ ⁶³Spirit is what makes alive; flesh counts for nothing. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit, and they are life. ⁶⁴Yet some of you are not believing." For Jesus had known from the beginning who the ones not believing were, and who the one was, who would betray⁵¹ him. ⁶⁵He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one has the ability to come to me, unless it is given to him from the Father."

⁶⁶From this,⁵² many of his disciples drew back, and no longer went along with him.

⁶⁷Jesus therefore said to the twelve, "You are not thinking of leaving too, are you?"

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹And we have believed and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God."

⁷⁰Jesus responded to them, "Have I not chosen you, the Twelve, for myself? Yet one of you is a devil."⁵³ ⁷¹He was speaking of Judas, son of Simon of Kerioth; for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him.

Chapter 7

Jesus' Brothers Judge Him Falsely

¹And after these things, Jesus was walking around in Galilee, for he was not wanting to walk in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. ²But the Jewish Festival of Booths was near. ³So his brothers said to him, "Remove yourself from here and go to Judea, so that your disciples *there* also may see the

⁴⁹ **6:55** He is the *real* bread out of heaven, John 6:32, 55; Diatess. 13:39, 45; while the bread during Moses was the type or shadow of the real. (Colossians 2:17; Hebrews 8:5; 10:1)

⁵⁰ **6:62** According to Friedrich Blass, this is a weak NT version of the Classical Greek "aposiopesis." For the interrogative word "what" is not present in the Greek, leaving this sentence with the feeling of incompleteness. Aposiopesis in the strict sense is a breaking off of speech due to strong emotion or to modesty, generally thought not to occur in the NT. On the other hand, a NT form of aposiopesis takes the form of the omission of the apodosis to a conditional subordinate clause (the protasis), which is also classical. If such were the case here, then the implied apodosis would be something like, "would you then still take offense, or be shocked?" Then the whole sentence would be, "If you were observing the Son of Man ascending to where he formerly existed, would you then still be shocked?" What therefore is the sense here? What is Jesus asking? If they would be *more* shocked watching him ascend to his former state of non-flesh? Or would they be *less* shocked watching him ascend to his former state of convincing majesty and authority, and therefore see that he is entitled to put forward a teaching (eating human flesh) so shocking to the Jewish sense of a ceremonially clean diet?

⁵¹ **6:64** Rare NT occurrence of the future participle.

⁵² **6:66** ἐκ τούτου – ek tóutou; Opinion is split on whether this means "because of this teaching," or, "from this point on."

⁵³ **6:70** Or, "one of you is an enemy." Greek: διάβολος – diábolos. This is the Greek word that the Jewish translators of the Septuagint, the Jewish Bible that was translated into Greek prior to the time of Jesus, had chosen to translate the Hebrew 'ha-satan' in I Chronicles 21:1, Job 2:1, and Zechariah 3:1. It means "slanderer, accuser, adversary." Jesus is probably not calling Judas "*the* devil," although the devil did later enter inside Judas, John 13:2, 27; Diatess. 28:22, 44. This can be translated that Judas was *a* devil, because he was a son of the devil, a fact proven by his deeds, John 8:41, 44; Diatess. 15:38, 40. It could be that Jesus here is making a contrast between the fact that he had selected the twelve "for himself," yet one of them is his adversary.

miracles you are doing. ⁴For no one who wants to become famous, acts in secret. If you *really* are doing these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

⁶Jesus therefore said to them, "The time for me has not yet come. But for you the time is always suitable. ⁷The world cannot hate you, but me it hates, because I testify about it, that its works are evil. ⁸You go up to the festival. I am not⁵⁴ going up to this festival, because for me the time is not yet fully come." ⁹And having said these things, he remained in Galilee.

Jesus Goes Up for Sukkot

¹⁰And when his brothers had gone up to the festival, then he also went up, not openly, but in secret. ¹¹The Jews therefore were looking for him in the festival, and saying, "Where is that fellow?"

¹²And there was much whispering about him in the crowds. Some were maintaining, "He is a good man."

"No," others would say. "He is misleading the people." ¹³Though none would speak about him openly, for fear of the Jews.

¹⁴And when it was already the middle of the festival, Jesus went up to the temple, and was teaching. ¹⁵The Jews then were marveling, saying, "How does this man know letters, not having received instruction?"⁵⁵

¹⁶Jesus therefore answered them and said, "My teaching is not mine, but rather his who sent me. ¹⁷If someone is inclined to do His will, he will find out about the teaching, whether it is from God, or I am speaking from myself. ¹⁸One who speaks from himself is seeking his own glory. But one seeking the glory of Him who sent him, such a one is true, and there is no unrighteousness in him. ¹⁹Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you performs the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"

²⁰The crowd responded, "You have a demon. Who is trying to kill you?"

²¹Jesus answered and said to them, "One work I did,⁵⁶ and you are all appalled. ²²Why is it⁵⁷ Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but rather from the patriarchs) and during the Sabbath you

⁵⁴ 7:8 txt {B} οὐκ (not) κ D K M Π 1071 1079 1241 1242 1546 672 673 813 950 1223 ita,aur,b,c,d,e,ff² vg syr^{c,s} cop^{bo} arm eth geo slav Diatessaron Porphyr^{acc.} to Jerome Epiphanius Chrysostom Cyril; Ambrosiaster, Augustine NA27 {C} // οὐπω (not yet) Ɔ⁶⁶ Ɔ⁷⁵ B E F G H L N S T U V W X Γ Δ Θ Λ Ψ Ω 047 070 0105 0141 0211 0250 f¹ f¹³ 2 28 69 124 157 180 205 597 700 788 892 1006 1010 1195 1216 1230 1243 1253 1292 1342 1344 1365 1424 1505 1646 2148 Ɔ¹ Lect it^{f,q} vg^{mss} syr^{p,h,hgr,pal} cop^{sa,pbo,ach²} Basil TR HF RP // omit 33 565 579 (homoioteleuton τὴν ἑορτήν...τὴν ἑορτήν) // lac Ɔ⁴⁵ A C P Q Y 0233 346. The currently dominant theory about the reading "not yet going up" is that it was introduced early in the transmission of the text (Ɔ⁶⁶, about the year 200), to alleviate the seeming inconsistency between verse 8 and what Jesus actually did in verse 10. It is understandable if copyists wanted to defend Jesus, to keep him from appearing to be a liar. Yet I say, that if that was their goal, they did not accomplish it, one, because Jesus was still deceptive, in that he "went up, not openly, but in secret," v. 10. Even without the word "yet" added, Jesus still deceived his brothers, and also those in Jerusalem who were trying to kill him. It is ethically permissible to lie to those trying to kill you. And two, the presence of the word οὐπω is not necessary for a third time in this context for the purpose of defending Jesus from deception, seeing that Jesus already said it two other times: in verse 6 and verse 8, so he still basically did not actually deny altogether that he would go up to this feast ever. On the other hand, since the reading "not yet" is found in the earliest manuscripts, including the ones currently thought to be the most reliable, and included in the vast majority of manuscripts, it is understandable why the UBS editorial committee gives their reading only a C rating of certainty. As for me, I have not seen any convincing argument as to why the copyists who produced those manuscripts not containing the word "yet," why they might have deleted it. It is much easier to explain why copyists might add the word "yet," than why they might delete it.

⁵⁵ 7:15 Normally the only source of Hebrew literacy (literacy meaning reading and writing in the Alphabet – liter = letter), and of advanced knowledge of the religion, was by being a formal disciple of a Rabbi. Such instruction was very repetitious, rote, and had to be reproduced exactly by the disciple, with exactly the same words, the exact same method of delivery. And the disciple was absolutely never to ad lib, or improve on, or make a new application of, or omit any minutiae received from his Rabbi. Thus when a man was teaching, it could be immediately detected which Rabbinical school he was a disciple of. But Jesus' teaching must have been unrecognizable as to its Rabbinical source, yet knowledgeable of Hebrew and the scriptures, and well said, to cause the leaders of Judaism to marvel. Jesus appealed to these scruples, in John 12:50, when he described his own discipleship under his Father, when he says, "And I know, that his commandment means eternal life. Therefore, what things I speak, just as the Father has said them to me, I speak them just so."

⁵⁶ 7:21 They were still indignant that he had worked on the Sabbath, healed the cripple on the Sabbath the last time he was in Jerusalem, in John 5:8-10; Diatessaron 8:3-4.

⁵⁷ 7:22a The Greek words I translated "Why is it," are "διὰ τοῦτο." Remember, the verse numbers are very late additions to the text. Some translations include these words, "διὰ τοῦτο," with the beginning of the sentence that

circumcise a man?⁵⁸ ²³If a man receives circumcision during the Sabbath so that the law of Moses not be broken, why are you incensed at me that I have made the whole man whole during the Sabbath?⁵⁹ ²⁴Judge not by appearances, but judge the righteous judgment."⁶⁰

Is Jesus the Anointed One?

²⁵Then some of the Jerusalemites were saying, "Is this not the man they are trying to kill? ²⁶And behold he is speaking openly, and they say nothing to him. Could it be the authorities have actually come to know that this is the Christ? ²⁷Except this man, we know where he is from; but the Christ, when he comes, no one will know where he is from."

²⁸Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "Yes, me you know, and you know where I am from. Yet I have not come of myself. True rather is the One who sent me; him you do not know. ²⁹I know him, because I am from him, and that One has sent me."

³⁰Then they were trying to seize him, yet no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. ³¹But many of the crowd put trust on him, and they were saying, "When the Christ comes, will he perform more signs than this man has done?" ³²The Pharisees heard these whisperings of the crowd about him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers⁶¹ to arrest him.

³³Jesus continued and said, "Just a short time more I am with you, and then I am going away, to the One who sent me. ³⁴You will look for me, and will not find me, and where I am, you are not able to come."

³⁵The Jews therefore said among themselves, "Where is this man about to go, that we will not find him? Is he about to go into the Dispersion among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks? ³⁶What is the meaning of this statement that he said, 'You will look for me and will not find me, and where I am you are not able to come'?"

³⁷And in the great and final day of the festival, there stood Jesus. And he cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, he should come to me; and drink, ³⁸he who believes on me. As the scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from His belly."⁶² ³⁹Now this he said in reference to the Spirit, whom those believing in him were about to receive. For the Spirit was not yet present, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

starts in verse 22, others with the tail end of the sentence of verse 21: "I did one work, and you are all amazed *about it*." Some translations even leave these words untranslated.

⁵⁸ **7:22b** It was commanded that when a male child was born, he be circumcised on the eighth day. (Gen. 17:12; Ex. 22:30; Lev. 12:3) If the eighth day happened to fall on a Sabbath, no matter; they had to cut part of the boy off on the Sabbath, even though that was working on the Sabbath. But now there is the question of how to translate the Greek word ἄνθρωπος - *ánthrōpos* here in vv. 22 & 23, which is generally translated "human being," or "person," as distinguished from God, angels, demons, and animals. But it is not "human beings" that were circumcised on the eighth day, but only male infants. Thus we have translations like the NIV that render "ἄνθρωπος" as "child," or the NCV, as "baby," or the NLT and CEV as "son," or the JNT as "boy," and CBW as "male child." But adult males were also circumcised; for example, an adult male slave that an Israelite purchased, or also, an adult gentile convert to Judaism. (Gen. 17:12; Josh. 5:2-8; Acts 16:3) Thus the REB translates "ἄνθρωπος" here as "someone." But were such adult males circumcised on the eighth day? Eighth day from what? Their conversion? For the eighth day requirement would seem to be the only compelling reason for performing the rite on a Sabbath day. But I can find no mention in the scriptures of the eighth day involving the circumcision of adults. Therefore it seems reasonable to use the word "son," or "male child." Yet, because of the comparison Jesus makes in v. 23 with the grown man he had healed, "if a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath...why are you incensed at me that I have made the whole man whole on the Sabbath." For a male baby is still a "man" in broad terms.

⁵⁹ **7:23** Circumcision involves cutting off part of a man, so what Jesus is asking, is, "You cut off part of a man on the Sabbath, so how can you be upset with me if I made the whole man whole on the Sabbath?"

⁶⁰ **7:24** τὴν δίκαιαν κρίσιν κρίνετε - *tēn dikáian krínete*; "judge *the* righteous judgment." The definite article in this use may well be "anaphoric," in that it is meant to refer back to something with which they are already familiar: that judgment commanded in Deuteronomy 16:18. The Greek there in the Septuagint is κρινοῦσι ...κρίσιν δικάϊαν - "they shall judge a righteous judgment," without the article. For indeed, those Jesus was probably talking to were judges. The scribes "γραμματεῖς" also sat in judgment, being one component of the Sanhedrin, and the subjects of Deuteronomy 16:18 were "κριτὰς καὶ γραμματοεισαγωγεῖς" - "judges and clerks."

⁶¹ **7:32** Probably temple police officers or guards. Rome did authorize the Sanhedrin to have a company of guards with powers of arrest.

⁶² **7:38** Or, some other interpreters would punctuate this as follows: "If anyone is thirsty, he should come to me and drink. The person who believes on me, as the scripture has said, 'streams of living water will flow from his belly.' They interpret this as saying that the streams of living water will flow from the believer's belly. Whereas the way I have it worded, the water flows from Christ, and the believer drinks of Him, the Living Water, the Rock in the desert, which Moses struck, Exodus 17:6, Numbers 20:8, Psalm 78:15,16. See also Zechariah 14:8; Joel 3:18; Psalm 147:18; Isaiah 48:21; Isaiah 30:25; 32:2; John 15:26; Revelation 22:1. The river flows out of His core, not ours. We drink of Him; I Cor.

⁴⁰Some in the crowd therefore who heard these words were saying, "Surely this man is the Prophet."⁶³

⁴¹Others were saying, "This man is the Christ."

The former⁶⁴ were then saying, "What? The Christ comes from Galilee? ⁴²Didn't the scripture say that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" ⁴³A split therefore occurred in the crowd because of him. ⁴⁴And some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him.

Unbelief of the Jewish Authorities

⁴⁵Then the officers went to the chief priests and Pharisees, and those said to them, "Why have you not brought him?"

⁴⁶The officers answered, "Never has someone spoken so, like this man speaks."

⁴⁷The Pharisees therefore answered them, "Have you also been deceived? ⁴⁸Has anyone of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed on him? ⁴⁹As for this crowd, cursed are they, not understanding the law."

⁵⁰Nicodemus, the one who had come to him previously, who was one of them, says to them, ⁵¹"Our law does not judge the man unless it first hears from him, and knows what he is doing, does it?"

⁵²They answered and said to him, "You aren't from Galilee too, are you? Investigate and see, that no prophet arises out of Galilee."⁶⁵

10:4, "they all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ." The gospel of John contains several allusions to Exodus, such as the Passover lamb, the manna from heaven, the snake up on the pole, and here is another one: Moses striking the rock and water coming forth from the rock. But if you interpret this as meaning streams of living water will come out of OUR, the believers' bellies, then you must find the scripture in the Hebrew Bible which says anything even similar to this. But there is none, except perhaps Isaiah 58:11. But based on my exposure to the Bible, the word κοιλία, which is the Greek word here for "belly" or "core," also in places has the connotation of "the core of the earth," or the core of a huge rock or mountain. For example, there are scriptures that liken the belly to the heart of the earth. Matthew 12:40, "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly- κοιλία of the huge sea creature, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Or Isaiah 8:19, "And if they should say to you, Seek those who have in them a divining spirit, and them that speak out of the earth, them that speak vain words, who speak out of their belly -κοιλία: shall not a nation diligently seek to their God? Why do they seek to the dead concerning the living?" (Brenton) On the other hand, I concede that a great many of the occurrences of κοιλία in the Septuagint are about reproduction (from men also), the issue from one's body. This can be made analogous to being "Born of water" as opposed to "born of the Spirit." In other words, could Jesus be saying here in John chapter 7 that those who believe in him, will reproduce spiritually? Are we able to give the Living Water to others, and cause them to be born? In the very next verse, 7:39 John says, "Now this he said in reference to the Spirit, whom those believing in him were about to receive." So how would the Holy Spirit flow out of our bellies? How would that be so? This would be a teaching not found anywhere else in the Bible. We can give others the Bread, the Word, but I have not seen any scripture that says we can give others the Living Water of Life. The emphasis of this passage in John seems to be the quenching of OUR thirst, by receiving the Spirit. It is not a passage speaking of us quenching the thirst of others. Verse 38 makes sense only as following an invitation to drink from God, not a promise that others will drink from us. There is simply no contextual relevance for that idea. Jesus is the rock, and our wellspring. He is the Living Water, as he said to the Samaritan woman at the well. The BDF grammar discusses this passage in §466(4) under Anacoluthon, "The resumption of a suspended case by a pronoun in another case (the suspended subject [or object] is a construction belonging to the popular idiom.)" Then the section specifically about this passage, section (4), states, "Anacoluthon (without a relative clause) following an introductory participle (nearly always in the nominative) is common: Jn 7:38. This construction is Semitic, but a comparable usage is found in classical Greek; cf. K.-G. II 106f.; Mlt. 225 [356].- Mayser II 3, 189ff.; Ursing 65ff.; M.-H. 423ff.; Rob. 435-7."

⁶³ **7:40** Deuteronomy 18:14-20

⁶⁴ **7:41** οἱ δὲ; the δὲ supposedly complementary to an earlier "ghost" μέν at the beginning of verse 40. Verse 40 starts out Ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου, "of the crowd," with no μέν present and the subject only implied. Granted it is a typical situation for a μέν / δὲ combination. But the fact remains that there is no μέν there, so an anaphoric use of the article here is at least as likely, in my truly humble opinion.

⁶⁵ **7:52** The reading of ϣ⁶⁶ and probably ϣ⁷⁵, and also the Sahidic Coptic, is, "the Prophet does not arise out of Galilee." Papyrus 66 is our earliest or second earliest of all the Greek manuscripts of the gospels. The other manuscripts do not have the article, "the." And the Majority Text says, no prophet "has arisen." A prophet had in fact come out of Galilee before. According to II Kings 14:25, the prophet Jonah was from Gath Hopher, in Galilee, in the territory of the tribe of Zebulun (Joshua 19:13), only one hill over from Nazareth, if not the same hill. This is yet another way in which Jonah was a sign of Christ.

[[*The Woman Caught in Adultery*[[⁵³And each went to his home.⁶⁶

Chapter 8

¹But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²And at dawn he showed up in the temple again, and all the people were coming toward him. And having sat down he was teaching them. ³And the Torah scholars and the Pharisees are bringing a woman caught in adultery. And after they stood her in the midst, ⁴they say to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵In the Law, Moses charged us to stone such women. What then do you say?" ⁶But this they were saying tempting him, in order that they might obtain basis to accuse him.

But Jesus bent down *and* was writing on the ground with his finger. ⁷And after they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "The one among you who is sinless should be first to throw a stone at her." ⁸And after bending down again, he continued writing on the ground.

⁹And after they heard this, they went away, one by one, starting with the oldest, until he alone was left, and the woman still in the midst. ¹⁰And Jesus straightened up, and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹And she said, "No one, sir."

And Jesus said, "Neither am I condemning you. Go your way, and from now on, sin no more."]]

The Validity of Jesus' Testimony

¹²Jesus then spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. The person who follows me will not walk around in the darkness, but on the contrary, he will have for himself the light of life."

¹³The Pharisees therefore said to him, "You are testifying about yourself. Your testimony is not valid."

¹⁴Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I testify about myself, my testimony is valid, because I know where I came from, and where I am going. But you do not know where I am coming from, or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge by the flesh; I judge no one. ¹⁶But even if I judge, my judgment is valid, because I am not alone: it is I and the one who sent me. ¹⁷Now even in your law it is written, that the testimony of two persons is valid.⁶⁷ ¹⁸I am one testifying about myself, and the one who sent me is testifying about me, the Father."

¹⁹Then they were saying to him, "Where is your father?"

Jesus answered, "Neither me nor my father do you know. If you knew me, you would know my father also." ²⁰These statements he spoke in the treasury, teaching in the temple, and no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

²¹Continuing, he said to them, "I am going; and you will seek me, and you will die in your sins. Where I am going, you are not able to come."

²²So the Jews were saying, "Is he going to kill himself, that he says, 'Where I am going, you are not able to come'?"

⁶⁶ **7:53** The passage known as "The Woman Caught in Adultery," or "the Pericope of the Adulteress," usually located at John 7:53 through 8:11, is absent from many ancient Greek manuscripts (ϕ⁴⁵vid ϕ⁶⁶ ϕ⁷⁵ ✠ A^{vid} B C^{vid} L N T W X Y Δ Θ Ψ 070^{vid} 0141 0211 22 33 124 157 209 213 397 461 713 788 799 821 828 849 865 1073 1192 1210 1230 1241 1242 1253 1333^{txt} 1424* 2193 2323 2561* 2768- some 280+ total) and early translations into other languages, and in some manuscripts it is in other locations in John, and in some it is even found in the gospel of Luke. In addition, in some manuscripts that do contain it, such as E (only 8:2-11) M S Λ Π Ω 18 35 1424^{mg} 1514 (270 minuscules total) there are critical marks. For more details, see the endnote at the end of this document, and also download this <http://www.bibletranslation.ws/trans/pachart.pdf>.

⁶⁷ **8:17** Deutronomy 19:15

²³And he said to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. ²⁴I said to you that you will die in your sins. For if you do not believe that I am *who I am*,⁶⁸ you will die in your sins."

²⁵Therefore they were saying to him, "Who are you?"

Jesus said to them, "Why am I speaking to you at all?⁶⁹ ²⁶I have many things to say about you, and to judge. But the one who sent me is true, and I, what things I hear from him, those are the things I speak in the world."

²⁷They did not understand that he was speaking to them of the Father. ²⁸Then Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will find out that I am *he*,⁷⁰ and of myself⁷¹ I do nothing, but rather exactly as the Father has taught me, those things I speak. ²⁹And the one who sent me is continually with me. He has not left me alone, because I always do the things pleasing to him." ³⁰As he was speaking these things, many believed in him.

The Children of Abraham

³¹Jesus was therefore saying to the ones who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are true disciples of mine, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

³³They responded to him, "We are seed of Abraham, and to no one have we ever been enslaved. How do you mean, that we will become free?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly I say to you, everyone doing sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵And the slave does not abide in the house in perpetuity; the Son abides in perpetuity. ³⁶If therefore the Son should make you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷I know that you are seed of Abraham; yet you are trying to kill me, because my word has no room in you. ³⁸The things that I have seen with the Father I speak, and you then the things you have heard from your father you are doing."⁷²

³⁹They answered and said to him, "Our father is Abraham."

Jesus says to them, "If you were children of Abraham, you would be doing the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰But as it is, you are trying to kill me, someone who has spoken to you the truth he has heard from the Father. This, Abraham did not do. ⁴¹You are doing the works of your father."

They said to him, "**We** were not conceived in fornication.⁷³ We have one father: God."

⁶⁸ **8:24** ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι - hoti egō eimi; literally, "that I am." This could also be translated "that I am he," meaning, the expected one, the Messiah. But that does not make as much sense, because his listeners responded to this by asking "Who are you?" If they had understood Jesus to be saying he was the Messiah, they would not have asked that question. It could be that when Jesus said this, it was meant to remind them of Exodus 3:14, where God told Moses his name was "I am the one who is," or something to that effect, like here, "I am who I am," or "I am who I will be," etc. Or, another possible good rendering could be, "Unless you believe who I am..."

⁶⁹ **8:25** Or possibly, "I am saying to you what I also said originally," or, "What have I been saying to you from the beginning?" There is a Greek textual ambiguity, discussed in a note at the end of this document.

⁷⁰ **8:28a** ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι - hoti egō eimi; literally, "that I am." Possibly meaning, "I am he," meaning, the expected one, the Messiah. Or it could simply mean, "You will find out who I am." But it could also be that when Jesus said this, he was saying merely "I am," and it was unclear what he was claiming to be. Or that he meant to remind them of Exodus 3:14, where God told Moses his name was "I am the one who is," or something to that effect, like here, "I am who I am," or "I am who I will be," etc.

⁷¹ **8:28b** According to Bauer, ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ is an expression known in Classical Greek using the preposition "ἀπό" to indicate the originator or authorizer of the action.

⁷² **8:38** Some manuscripts have "and you then the things you have heard from *the* father..." And there is an ambiguity in the verb "you do." The indicative inflection is in this case the same inflection used for the imperative. Consequently, the two readings in the widest spread of possibility are either as I have it in the text of John above, or, "and you therefore the things you have heard from the Father you should be doing."

⁷³ **8:41** What is the train of thought? If two different gods were their father, they would be conceived in fornication? Or is it, if both a god and a human were their father, they would be conceived in fornication? And is there a god that commits fornication? The only interpretation that makes sense here is that they are taking a dig at Jesus' conception, that he was conceived before Mary was married. In the Greek, the pronoun "we" is emphatic. The meaning is: "We are not the mamzers here. We, unlike you, were not conceived in fornication." The Greek here for "We were not conceived in fornication" is Ἡμεῖς ἐκ πορνείας οὐ γεγεννημέθα. The Septuagint Greek in Deut. 23:2 (v. 3 in some ed.) is οὐκ εἰσελεύσεται ἐκ πόρνης εἰς ἐκκλησίαν κυρίου, "one born of a whore shall not enter into the assembly of the Lord." This is an idea close to what is here in John, and it was rendered from the Hebrew word מַמְזֵר - mamzēr, which is also used in Zechariah 9:6 for a "mongrel" people. Thus there is alternatively a remote possibility that the Judeans could be

The Children of the Devil

⁴²Jesus said to them, "If God were your father, you would love me, for I went out from God and have arrived here. For neither did I come of myself, but that One sent me. ⁴³What is the reason you do not understand my speech? Because you are not able to tolerate⁷⁴ my word. ⁴⁴You are of your father, the Devil, and the yearnings of your father you want to do. That one has been homicidal from the beginning, and in the truth he has never stood still, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he is speaking from his own things,⁷⁵ for he is a liar, and the father of the lie.⁷⁶ ⁴⁵So I, because I am saying the truth, you do not believe me. ⁴⁶Who of you is convicting me of a sin? If I am saying the truth, why is it you do not believe me? ⁴⁷The ones who are of the Father hear the statements of the Father. This is why you do not hear; you are not of God."

The Authorities Attempt Stoning for Claim of Pre-Eminence of Abraham

⁴⁸The Jews answered and said to him, "Do we not rightly say that you are a Samaritan, and have a demon?"

⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon. Quite the opposite, I am honoring my Father. And you are dishonoring me. ⁵⁰It is not me seeking my glory. There is One seeking, and judging. ⁵¹Truly, truly I say to you, If someone follows my word, death he will by no means see, into all time."

⁵²The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, and also the Prophets, and you say, 'If someone follows my word, death he will by no means experience, into all time.' ⁵³Are you greater than our forefather Abraham, who died? And the Prophets also died. What sort of man do you reckon yourself?"

⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, that glory of mine is worthless. My Father is the one glorifying me, the one that you say is your God. ⁵⁵And you have never known him, but I know him. Now if I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know him, and his word I am following. ⁵⁶Abraham, your forefather, made exultation yearning to see my day. And he saw it, and was thrilled."

⁵⁷The Jews therefore said to him, "You are not yet fifty, and you have beheld Abraham?"⁷⁷

making a slur on Galileans and Jesus as one, an attitude they in fact held in their hearts toward them, since "Galilee of the Gentiles" were a result of more intermarriage with Gentiles than were Judeans.

⁷⁴ **8:43** The Greek verb translated "tolerate" is the infinitive form of "ἀκούω," which primarily means "to hear." But here John is using the word similarly to how he used it in chapter 6 verse 60, where some of Jesus' disciples said, "This is a hard teaching; who can hear it?" In other words, who can bear to hear it, or more specifically, who can "stay and listen" to it. They could not bear to listen to it, so they walked away. (This is also in line with what Jesus says in v. 37, "My word has no room in you.) This must be the meaning here, for Jesus compares them in this trait, to their father, the Devil, who does not "stand in the truth." In other words, he does not stick around to hear it. When the truth is being spoken, he is shifty and restless and unable to stand. He cannot bear to hear it. He leaves, and that is sometimes what the Greek word for "stand" means, to be still. To be still while someone is speaking, is a form of submission and openness. So, Jesus says, "like father, like son." The Devil is a liar, and the father of same. In Greek, the word for "hear" is also the word for "listen." The only distinction is whether the context indicates will on the part of the person hearing.

⁷⁵ **8:44a** Is this a contrast to verse 42 where Jesus says about himself, that he did not come of himself? It is not totally identical wording in the Greek. Different translations supply various nouns here, such as "from his own nature," or "his own inventions," or "his own resources," or, "his own language."

⁷⁶ **8:44b** The Greek word translated "the lie" at the end of verse 44, is αὐτός, and in an oblique case; that is, the 3rd person pronoun is here used without concord in number, gender, and case, to any noun present in its context. Thus, different translations supply various words. The BDF grammar, for John 8:44b, refers you to section 282(3), which says that αὐτοῦ is an attributive genitive, in a seemingly oblique case, (not in formal number/gender/case concord with any immediate noun or referent) which here is to be referred through ψεύστης τὸ ὅταν λαλή τὸ ψεῦδος, in other words, "the lie." But it also says that an interpretation such as that of the YLT is possible— "because he is a liar — and also his father." The BAGD lexicon says, "The oblique cases of αὐτός very often (in a fashion customary since Homer) take the place of the 3rd person personal pronoun; in particular the genitive case replaces the missing possessive pronoun." It says, in this case referring to a noun to be supplied from the context.

⁷⁷ **8:57** Several early witnesses say Ἀβραὰμ ἑώρακέν σε, "Abraham has seen you?" But other early witnesses say Ἀβραὰμ ἑώρακας - 'Abraàm heōrakas, "you have seen Abraham?" It is understandable why copyists might have thought the latter less sensible, since Jesus had just said that Abraham had seen Jesus' day. So they corrected it to "Abraham has seen you." The UBS committee said the reason the Jews would say "You have seen Abraham" rather than "Abraham has seen you" is that the former assumes the superiority of Abraham, which they would have held. The sense I got, before I read the UBS commentary, of what the Jews were actually saying, was that the Jews wondered,

⁵⁸Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham was, ⁷⁸ I am." ⁷⁹ ⁵⁹Then they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus hid himself, and went forth from the temple.

Chapter 9

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

¹And as he was going along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples queried him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"

³Jesus answered, "Neither that this man sinned, nor his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must be working at the works of him who sent me, while it is day. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶When he had said these things, he spit on the ground, and made mud with the saliva, and rubbed the mud on the man's eyes. ⁷And he said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of 'Siloam' " (which when translated is "Sent"). He went therefore and washed, and came back seeing.

⁸His neighbors therefore, and those who had previously observed him being a beggar, were saying, "Isn't this the man usually sitting and begging?"

⁹Some were saying, "This is the same man."

Others were saying, "No; he only looks like him."

He himself kept saying, "I am the one."

¹⁰They were saying therefore to him, "How were your eyes opened?"

¹¹He answered, "The man named Jesus made mud and rubbed my eyes with it, and he told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So when I went and washed, I saw."

¹²And they said to him, "Where is that man?"

He says, "I don't know."

The Authorities Investigate the Healing

¹³And they take him to the Pharisees, the man who had once been blind. ¹⁴And the day on which Jesus had made mud and opened his eyes had been a Sabbath. ¹⁵So again, the Pharisees also asked him how he came to see. And he told them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶Some of the Pharisees therefore were saying, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others were saying, "How can a sinful man do such miracles?" So there was a split among them.

¹⁷Then they are talking to the blind man again: "What do you say about him? For *it was* your eyes he opened."

And he said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The result was the Jews did not believe about him that he used to be blind and then saw; until they summoned the parents of the one who had received his sight. ¹⁹And they questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, the one you say was born blind? And if so, how does he now see?"

²⁰His parents therefore answered and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees, we do not know. Or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he has majority. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said these things because they were fearing the Jews. For the Jews had already decided that anyone who acknowledged Him to be the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. ²³This is why his parents said, "He has majority; ask him."

²⁴Then the man who had been blind they summoned a second time. And they said to him, "Give credit to God. We know that this man is sinful."⁸⁰

"How do you know that Abraham was thrilled? How do you know what Abraham's emotions were? Did you behold his countenance? See the expressions on his face?"

⁷⁸ **8:58a** γενέσθαι - genésthai, punctiliar infinitive of γίνομαι - gínomai. This word can mean "to become," or "to come into existence," or "to appear," or simply, "to be." The rendering "before Abraham was born, I am" makes it sound like Jesus was born before Abraham. But rather than birth, the emphasis is on existence, and this includes pre-eminence.

⁷⁹ **8:58b** ἐγώ εἰμι - egō eimi; literally, "I am." The basic meaning is that Jesus existed before Abraham. But many interpreters, in view of the reaction of the hearers, maintain that Jesus meant to remind them of Exodus 3:14, where God told Moses his name was "I am the one who is," or something to that effect, like here, "I am who I am," or "I am who I will be," etc. These interpreters ask, "Why else would they want to stone him?" This interpretation is certainly possible, and has merit. But they could also still have wanted to stone him just for saying he was alive before Abraham, thus making himself immortal, and also greater than their hero, Abraham.

²⁵He then answered, "Whether he is sinful, I do not know. One thing I know: Whereas I used to be blind, now I see."

²⁶They said therefore to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

²⁷He answered them, "I told you already, and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"

²⁸And they ridiculed him and said, "You are the disciple of that one. We are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know for sure that God has spoken to Moses; but this fellow, we don't know where he comes from."

³⁰The man answered and said to them, "Well, there certainly is something strange in this, that you don't know where he comes from, and he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not hear the sinful. But if someone is God-fearing, and practicing his will, this kind he hears. ³²Since time began, reports have not been heard that someone opened the eyes of one born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he would not have been able to do a thing."

³⁴They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and you are teaching us?" Then they threw him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and finding him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"⁸¹

³⁶That one answered and said, "And who is he, sir, so that I may believe in him."

³⁷Jesus said to him, "Not only have you seen him, but he is the one talking with you."

³⁸And he said, "I believe, Lord." And he worshipped him.

³⁹And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that those not seeing may see, and that those seeing, may become blind."

⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees heard these words, some who were with him, and they said to him, "And us, we are not blind, are we?"

⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sins. But as you are now saying, 'We see,' your sins remain.

Chapter 10

The Good Shepherd

¹"Truly, truly I say to you, someone not entering the sheep fold through the door, but instead climbing up another way, that one is a thief and a bandit. ²But the one entering through the door, is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The doorkeeper opens for this one, and the sheep hear his voice. And he calls his own sheep by name, and leads them forth. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes on before them, and the sheep follow him, because they know his voice. ⁵But a stranger they will not follow, but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers."

⁶This parable Jesus told them, but they did not understand what the *principles* were that he was speaking to them.

⁷Again therefore Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters through me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief does not come, except to steal, and to kill, and to ruin. I have come so they might have life, and have it more abundantly.

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The wage earner, not being a shepherd, and for whom the sheep are not his own, sees the wolf coming and abandons the sheep and flees, and the wolf seizes them and scatters them. ¹³For he is a wage earner, and it matters not to him about the sheep.

¹⁴"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine, and mine know me. ¹⁵Just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶Other sheep I also have, which are not of this fold;

⁸⁰ **9:24** Literally, "Give glory to God." Or give credit to God, that he knows the truth anyway, so you might as well admit that this man is sinful. Give up on trying to hide the truth from God.

⁸¹ **9:35** txt υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ϣ⁶⁶ ϣ⁷⁵ Ⲛ B D W 397 pc it^d syr^s cop^{sa,pbo,ach²,mf} eth Origen NA27 {A} // υἱὸν τοῦ θεοῦ A E F G K L M S U X Y Γ Δ Θ Λ Ψ Ω 047 070 0141 0211 0233 0250 0306 f¹ f¹³ 2 28 33 157 180 205 565 579 700 892 1006 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1243 1253 1292 1342 1344 1365 1424 1505 1546 1646 2148 2174 ⲛⲓ lat syr^{p,h} cop^{bo} TR RP // lac. ϣ⁴⁵ C H N P Q T V Π.

those also I am to bring, and my voice they will hear, and the result⁸² will be one flock,⁸³ one shepherd. ¹⁷For this my Father loves me, that I lay down my life, such that I will take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me; I lay it down of myself. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again; this order I received from my Father."

¹⁹Because of these words, there was again a split among the Jews. ²⁰Many of them were saying, "He has a demon, and he's crazy. Why are you listening to him?"

²¹Others were saying, "These are not the expressions of someone demonized. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

The Authorities Attempt Stoning for Claim of Equality With God

²²Then came the Festival of Dedication⁸⁴ at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the Portico of Solomon. ²⁴Then the Jews surrounded him, and were saying to him, "How long are you keeping our souls in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us clearly."

²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I am doing in the name of my Father, these testify for me. ²⁶Yet, you are not believing, because you are not of my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸And I give to them eternal life, and they will by no means perish, into all time, and no one will snatch them out my hand. ²⁹My Father, the one who gave *them* to me, he is greater than all,⁸⁵ and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

³¹Again, the Jews lifted up stones in order to stone him. ³²Jesus responded to them, "Many good works I have shown you from the Father. For which work of them are you stoning me?"

³³The Jews answered him, "Not for good works are we stoning you, but for blasphemy, because you, being a human, are making yourself God."⁸⁶

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I have said, "You are gods"'"⁸⁷ ³⁵Why, since he called those to whom the word of God came 'gods,' and the scripture cannot be voided, ³⁶do you say to the

⁸² **10:16a** γενήσεται, 3rd person, singular, future, the reading of Papyrus 66, Codices Sinaiticus and Alexandrinus. Papyrus 45 and Codex Vaticanus read γενήσονται - genēsontai, 3rd person, plural, future indicative, "they shall be one flock, one shepherd." Is it more likely that the original was the 3rd person singular, and the copyists thought the singular awkward and changed it to the plural? Or is the plural even more awkward: "they shall be...one shepherd," resulting in the copyists changing it to the singular? The NA27 reads γενήσονται as does also the UBS4, but in the latter it is given only a C rating of certainty.

⁸³ **10:16b** The King James Version and most of the English translations before it, read "one fold," even though not one single Greek manuscript says that. The KJV followed the reading of the Latin Vulgate instead of the Greek, as is often the case in the Textus Receptus.

⁸⁴ **10:22** Hanukkah, or Feast of Lights, an annual festival for eight days beginning on the 25th day of the month of Kislev. During the Seleucid Dynasty, (That is, either the reign of one of the four generals of Alexander the Great, the one of the four generals who came to rule Syria, or one of his descendants. He and his descendants are called the Seleucid kings) one of the rulers, Antiochus Epiphanes, ransacked Jerusalem, and made observance of the Sabbath, circumcision, and possession of Hebrew scriptures capital offenses. He abolished Jewish worship, and pagan altars were erected in many cities of Judea. His edicts were enforced by the utmost cruelty, and the climax of his sacrilege was when in December of 167 B.C. a female pig was sacrificed on the great altar of burnt offering in the temple area. After Antiochus died, his successor made an agreement with Judas Maccabaeus that included the purification and proper use of the temple. The rededication of the temple took place in December, 164 B.C., exactly three years after it was defiled by the swine's flesh. A feast to celebrate this restoration was instituted, and was kept annually from then on. This was the Feast of Dedication, today called the festival of Hanukkah.

⁸⁵ **10:29b** txt ὃς δέδωκέ μοι μίζων πάντων E F G H K S Δ Π Ω 047 f¹ 2 28 33 157 565 700 1071 1424 HF RP // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι μείζων πάντων Y Γ // ὃ δέδωκέ μοι πάντων μείζων ✠ L W Ψ // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι μείζω πάντων 124 // ὃς ἔδωκέ μοι μίζων πάντων ϣ^{66*} // ὃς ἔδωκέ μοι μίζων πάντων ϣ^{66c} // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι μίζων πάντων 579 // ὃς ἔδωκέ μοι μείζων πάντων M U // οὗς δέδωκέ μοι μείζων πάντων Λ // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι αὐτὰ μείζων πάντων f³ 69 346 788 // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι πάντων μείζων TR // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι πάντων ἐστὶν μείζων X // ὃς ἔδωκέ.. ...των μεί.. ϣ⁷⁵ // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι πάντων μείζων B^c // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι μείζων πάντων A // ὃς δέδωκέ μοι μίζων πάντων Θ // ὃ δέδωκέ μοι πάντων μείζων B* NA27 {} // ὃ δεδωκώς μοι πάντων μείζων D // ὃς δεδοκεν μοι μείζων παντων 0211 // lac ϣ⁴⁵ C N P Q T V 070 0233.

⁸⁶ **10:33** ποιῆς σεαυτὸν θεόν - poieis seautōn theōn. This could also be translated, "you are reckoning yourself to be God." For the verb ποιῶ, "make," was sometimes used in mathematics just like we use the word "make" in English sometimes: "two plus two makes four." It might also be translated, "you are deeming yourself God," or, "you are calling yourself God."

one the Father has consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because he said, 'I am the Son of God'? ³⁷If I am not doing the works of my Father, do not believe me. ³⁸And if I am doing *them*, even if you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may acknowledge and know⁸⁸ that the Father is in me, and I in the Father." ³⁹And again they were trying to arrest him. And he got out of their grasp.

⁴⁰And he went back to the other side of the Jordan, to the place where John had earlier been baptizing, and he stayed there a while. ⁴¹And many came to him. And they were saying, "Though John performed no miraculous sign, everything John said about this man was true." ⁴²And many there believed in him.

Chapter 11

The Death of Lazarus

¹Now a certain man was ailing, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²And the Mary who anointed the Lord with perfumed ointment and wiped his feet off with her hair, was the one whose brother was ailing. ³The sisters therefore sent to him, saying, "Lord, behold, the one you love is ailing."

⁴And when he heard, Jesus said, "This sickness is not to death, but rather for the glory of God, in order that the Son of God be glorified through it." ⁵(But Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.) ⁶When then he heard that he was ailing, at that time he actually⁸⁹ remained in the place in which he was, for two days. ⁷Only then, after this, he says to the disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

⁸The disciples are saying to him, "The Jews were just now trying to stone you, and you are going back there?"

⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of day? If someone walks around in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if someone walks around in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not with him."

¹¹He said these things. And after this, he is saying to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going in order to wake him up."

¹²The disciples therefore said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, that will help him." ¹³But Jesus had spoken of his death, whereas they thought he was speaking of the repose of sleep.

¹⁴So then, Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus died. ¹⁵And for your sakes I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶Then Thomas, the one called the Twin, said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us go also, and die with him."

⁸⁷ **10:34** Psalm 82:6, identical to the letter, to the Septuagint. And get a load of 81:1 (82:1 in English) in the Septuagint: Ὁ Θεὸς ἔστη ἐν συναγωγῇ θεῶν, ἐν μέσῳ δὲ θεοῦ διακρινεῖ - "God stands in the assembly of gods, and in their midst, he judges gods." Some interpreters take "gods" as figurative speech ascribing god-like power to human judges and rulers, as in Psalm 58:1. It was widely held in the ancient world that the universe was judged by a college of gods. So it is said that the Psalmists simply made use of the familiar figure of speech.

⁸⁸ **10:38** txt καὶ γινώσκητε ϣ⁴⁵ ϣ⁶⁶ ϣ⁷⁵ Θ f¹ 33 205 213 397 565 597 799* 865 f⁸⁴⁴ itr^{1vid} syr^{pal} cop^{sa,pbo,bo,ach2} arm eth geo Athanasius Theodoret^{vid}; Hilary NA27 // καὶ γεινώσκητε B // καὶ γινώσκηται L // καὶ γινώσκεται W // καὶ γινώσκετε X f²⁵³ // καὶ πιστεύσητε A G E^c H K M U Y Γ Δ Π Ψ 0141 f¹³ 2 28 180 205 700 892^{s4pp} 1006 1071 1243 1292 1505 1582^c π Lect it^{aur,f} vg syr^{p,h} slav Basil Cyril^{em} John-Damascus; Augustine TR HF RP // καὶ πιστευσίτε N 0211 1010 1293 (f²²¹¹) pc8 // καὶ πιστεύετε 579 1241 pc3 // omit D E* (homoioteleuton) 157 1424 it^{a,b,c,d,e,ff²,l} syr^s Ps-Eustathius Didymus Cyril; Tertullian Cyprian Zeno Ps-Priscillian Niceta Chromatius Varimadum // lac C F N P. John uses two different aspects of the same word for "know," γινώσκω - ginōsko, the first, γνώτε, being punctiliar in aspect, and the second, γινώσκητε - ginōskēte, being linear or continuous in aspect. Later copyists appear to have considered the second ginōsko to be redundant, and either replaced it with "believe," or they omitted any second word entirely. It is easy to sympathize with them, for this earlier reading is hard to interpret. Consult all the English translations, and you will see quite a variety of renderings. The first, punctiliar 'know,' may be thought of as the point that you turn to know, i.e., 'acknowledge or decide or want,' and the second, linear 'know' would be what you do from that point on. The punctiliar form is generally just the unmarked, that is, unremarkable form, and the linear form is the one needing interpreting. The punctiliar in the subjunctive mood here just means that you come to know at some point.

⁸⁹ **11:6** Here is the particle μὲν - mèn, supposedly anacoluthic, that is, not following through to its expected conclusion, which in the case of μὲν means without its usual complementary δὲ following. However, I see it as complemented by the word ἔπειτα - épeita at the beginning of verse 7. If this épeita were not complementary to μὲν, then the phrase ἔπειτα μετὰ τοῦτο, "thereupon after this," would be redundant, a "pleonasm." But that is not the sense I get. I get the sense that a contrast is meant relative to the timing, in order to confirm the unexpected behavior of Jesus.

"I Am the Resurrection and the Life"

¹⁷Arriving therefore, Jesus found him already in the tomb four days since. ¹⁸Now Bethany was close to Jerusalem, about fifteen stadia apart,⁹⁰ ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them regarding their brother. ²⁰When therefore Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary stayed put in the house.⁹¹

²¹Martha therefore said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²Even now, I know that whatever things you ask God for, God will grant you."

²³Jesus says to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha says to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection, and the life. The person who believes in me, even though he dies, will live; ²⁶and everyone who is living and believes in me, will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷She says to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one expected to come into the world."

²⁸And having said this she went off, and discreetly invited her sister Mary, as follows, "The Teacher is here, and is asking for you." ²⁹That one then, when she heard, quickly got up and was coming toward him. ³⁰(Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.) ³¹The Jews therefore who were with Mary in the house and consoling her, when they saw how she quickly got up and went out, they followed her, thinking, "She is going to the tomb, to grieve there."

³²Mary therefore, when she arrived where Jesus was, fell at his feet when she saw him, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³Then Jesus, when he saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he heaved with deep emotion,⁹² and churned inside himself. ³⁴And he said, "Where have you laid him?"

They are saying to him, "Lord, come and see."

³⁵Jesus showed tears.

³⁶The Jews therefore were saying, "See how he loved him."

³⁷But some of them said, "Shouldn't he who opened the eyes of the blind man, also have been able to make it so this man would not have died?"

Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

³⁸Then Jesus, again heaving inside himself, arrives at the tomb. And a cave it was, and a stone was there, covering over it. ³⁹Jesus says, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the sister of the one who was dead, says, "Lord, by now he smells; it is the fourth day."

⁴⁰Jesus says to her, "Did I not tell you, that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

⁴¹They therefore took away the stone. And Jesus lifted his eyes upward, and said, "Father, I thank you, that you have heard me. ⁴²But I already⁹³ knew that you always hear me; only for the sake of the crowd standing around did I say *this*, so that they may believe that it was you who sent me."

⁹⁰ **11:18** About 3 kilometers, less than 2 miles.

⁹¹ **11:20** The Greek literally says, "But Mary was in the house sitting down." This is said to be an idiom, meaning "Mary stayed put in the house." If this is true, then whether she was standing, or pacing, or sitting down, is not the issue. This is similar to how the word for "stand" sometimes means to "stop," or "stay still."

⁹² **11:33** Greek: ἐνβριμήσατο τῷ πνεύματι - "snorted in his spirit." The verb is ἐμβριμάομαι - embriamáōmai, of which there is a relatively small sampling in all of Greek literature. In classical literature it was used a few times for the snorting of horses. Bible occurrences are limited to Daniel 11:30 in some editions of the Septuagint, for "angered;" Matt. 9:30 and Mark 1:43 for "sternly admonish;" and Mark 14:5 for "scold;" and other than those, these two instances here in John 11:33, 38. I can well envision how a scolding or stern warning can be a snorting of sorts. But how do you snort or scold in your spirit? The main lexicons like Lidell & Scott; and Bauer; and the back of the UBS Greek text, say here it means "be deeply moved." Bagster/Moulton says "to be greatly fretted or agitated." As for snorting, humans are known to snort when heaving in crying and at the same time trying to suppress the sobs. Snorts happen. It is significant to me that for the crying that Jesus did in v. 35, John used the verb δακρύω - dakrúō, instead of one of the more usual words for weeping or crying. With δακρύω there is more emphasis on the secretion or exuding of fluid, than on the sound or other considerations like with the other verbs. I get the impression that Jesus was holding his strong emotions in. I notice that Weymouth also, in his translation, rendered this, "curbing the strong emotion of His spirit." Certainly, the simple fact that John twice says the emotion was inside, "in his spirit," and "inside himself," gives this credibility. There is somewhat of a trend in the most recent translations to render this something more pertaining to anger. I do not agree with that. Still, my rendering, "heaved with deep emotion" leaves room for that possibility.

⁴³And having said these things, he shouted out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound up with bandages, and his face wrapped in a handkerchief. Jesus says to them, "Untangle him and allow him to go."

Sanhedrin Decides Jesus Must Die

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, of those who had come to Mary and seen what he did, believed in him. ⁴⁶But some of them went to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done. ⁴⁷So the chief priests and the Pharisees assembled a Sanhedrin.

And they were saying, "What are we doing, that this man is performing *so* many signs? ⁴⁸If we leave him alone like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come, and take away both our place⁹⁴ and our nation."

⁴⁹But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You people know nothing. ⁵⁰Neither are you considering how it is expedient for you that one man⁹⁵ die for the people, and not the whole nation perish."

⁵¹But this, from himself he did not say. But rather, being high priest that year, he prophesied, that Jesus was about to die for the nation. ⁵²And not for the nation only, but such that the children of God scattered about, he would gather also, into one *people*.⁹⁶

⁵³Thus from that time on they were resolved that they would kill him. ⁵⁴Therefore, Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but departed from there to an area next to the desert, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed, along with his disciples.⁹⁷

⁵⁵But then the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem from out of the country before the Passover, to purify themselves. ⁵⁶They were watching for Jesus therefore, and speaking with one another, as they stood in the temple, "How does it seem to you? That he is not coming to the festival at all?" ⁵⁷Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders, that if anyone knew where he was, he should report it, so that they might arrest him.

Chapter 12

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

¹Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²So they made a supper for him there, and Martha was serving, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. ³Then Mary, having taken a litre⁹⁸ of expensive ointment of pure oil of nardroot, anointed the feet of Jesus, and with her hair, she wiped his feet. And the house was filled with the smell of the ointment.

⁴But Judas the Keriothite, one of his disciples, the one about to betray him, says, ⁵"Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii⁹⁹ and given to the poor?" ⁶But he said this not because it mattered to him about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag, he would lift *from* what was put in.

⁷Jesus said therefore, "Leave her alone. It was that she kept it for the day of my burial. ⁸For the poor you always have with you, but me, you do not always have."

⁹³ **11:42** ἤδειν, pluperfect of οἶδα – οἶδα. No word "already" is actually present here, but the point of the pluperfect is that Jesus had already known before he asked.

⁹⁴ **11:48** Perhaps, "our place of worship," or temple.

⁹⁵ **11:50** Greek ἄνθρωπος - ἀνθρώπος, the primary meaning of which is "human being," such that the primary meaning here is that "one human being in our nation die on behalf of the whole nation." Yet, the goat which was to be sacrificed on behalf of the whole people, to make atonement for the whole nation, to which John is connecting this passage, was to be a goat male of sex, Leviticus 16:5-10, as was also the scapegoat, and the sin offering was a ram, a male sheep. See also Leviticus 9:3, 15. The Passover lamb or kid, also, was to be male in sex, Exodus 12:5. Therefore, it did not seem appropriate to change the traditional reading over to a gender neutral one.

⁹⁶ **11:52** Ephesians 3:6; 2:15; John 10:16; I John 2:2; Romans 4:9,12; 11:25,26; Gal. 3:26-29; 6:16; Eph. 2:19,20; Rev. 21:9-14

⁹⁷ **11:54** This verse is another indication that the author of this gospel sometimes uses the term "the Jews" as referring to the Judeans, or the inhabitants of Judea and Jerusalem. See the endnote at the end of this document discussing the term "the Jews."

⁹⁸ **12:3** In modern litres, about one half litre, or about a pint. The *litra* was a loanword from the Latin *libra*, for "pound," a 12-ounce pound.

⁹⁹ **12:5** About a year's wages.

⁹Then the¹⁰⁰ great crowd of the Jews found out that he was there, and they came, not only because of Jesus, but also that they might see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests resolved that they would kill Lazarus also, ¹¹for many of the Jews were going out because of him, and then believing in Jesus.

The Triumphal Entry

¹²The next day, the great crowd that had come for the festival, hearing that Jesus is arriving into Jerusalem, ¹³took the fronds of palm trees, and went out into a merging with him. And they were crying out:

"Hosha na!"¹⁰¹
 "Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord,¹⁰²
 the king of Israel!"

¹⁴And Jesus, having found a young donkey, took his seat upon it, just as it is written:

¹⁵"Fear not, O daughter of Zion;
 Behold, your king is coming
 sitting on the foal of a donkey."¹⁰³

¹⁶These things the disciples did not know at first, but once Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written in reference to him, and that these things they had done to him.

¹⁷The crowd therefore, the one that had been with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead, had been bearing witness. ¹⁸Because of this the crowd had come out to join him, that they had understood him to have done this sign. ¹⁹Then the Pharisees said to each other, "Observe, that you are not prevailing at all. Behold, the world has gone after him!"

Jesus Ponders Crucifixion

²⁰And among those going up to worship at the festival, were some Greeks. ²¹These, then, came up to Philip, he from Bethsaida, Galilee. And they beseeched him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip comes and tells Andrew; Andrew and Philip come and tell Jesus.

²³And Jesus responds to them as follows: "The hour has come, that the Son of Man should be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly I say to you, if a kernel of wheat does not fall to the ground and die, it remains only one; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵The person who loves his life loses it, and the one who hates his life in this world will preserve it into eternal life. ²⁶If someone is serving me, he must follow me; and where I am, there also my servant will be. If someone is serving me, my Father will honor him.

²⁷"Now, my soul has become troubled. And what shall I say— 'Father, save me from this hour?' No, for this very thing I have arrived to this hour."

²⁸"Father, glorify your name."

Then a voice came from heaven: "I both have glorified *it*, and will glorify again." ²⁹The crowd therefore standing and hearing was maintaining thunder to have happened. Others were saying, "An angel spoke to him."

³⁰Jesus answered and said, "Not for my sake has this voice happened, but for you. ³¹Now comes judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. ³²And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will attract all mankind to me." ³³Now this he was saying signaling what manner of death he was about to die.

¹⁰⁰ **12:9** Anaphoric article, referring back to the crowd already mentioned as having come up to the area in preparation for the Passover.

¹⁰¹ **12:13a** Ὁσσαννά = Aramaic הוֹשַׁע נָא - hōša' nā', similar to the Hebrew הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא - hōšī'āh nā', an expression reminiscent of the הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא in Psalm 118:25 meaning "Help" or "Save, I pray," an appeal that became a liturgical formula, and as part of the Hallel (Ps. 113-118), it was familiar to everyone in Israel. The Septuagint Psalm 117:25 has Ὁ Κύριε, σῶσον δὴ - Ὁ Κύριε, σῶσον δὲ, "O Lord, save now!" or "Save indeed!" No doubt some in the crowd accompanying him expected him, as the Messiah ben David, to literally "save now," and deliver them from the Romans and set up the kingdom of David.

¹⁰² **12:13b** Psalm 118:26

¹⁰³ **12:15** Zechariah 9:9

³⁴The crowd then responded to him: "We have heard out of the law that the Christ remains for ever, so how is it you are saying that the Son of Man is to be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"

³⁵Jesus therefore said to them, "The light is among you a little while longer. Walk, while you have the light, so that darkness does not overtake you. For the person walking in darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may be children of light."

Jesus spoke these things, then went away and was hidden from them.

The Authorities Continue in Unbelief

³⁷But, though having done so many signs right in front of them, they were not believing in him, ³⁸so that the word of Isaiah the prophet would be fulfilled, which said,

"Lord, who has believed our report?
And the arm of the Lord,
to whom has it been revealed?"¹⁰⁴

³⁹Because of this they were not able to believe: that again, Isaiah said,

⁴⁰"He has blinded their eyes,
and he has hardened their hearts,
so that they would neither see
with their eyes,
nor understand with their hearts,
nor look back around,
such that I would heal them."¹⁰⁵

⁴¹(Isaiah said these things, because he saw Jesus' glory, so he spoke about him.)

⁴²Even so, many even of the rulers believed in him. But, because of the Pharisees, they were not confessing it, for fear they would be put out of the synagogue. ⁴³For:

They loved the approval
of human beings
over and above
the approval of God.¹⁰⁶

⁴⁴But Jesus cried out, and said, "The person believing in me, is not believing in me but in the one who sent me, ⁴⁵and the one looking upon me, is looking upon the one who sent me. ⁴⁶I have come into the world as a light, so that everyone believing in me may not abide in darkness.

⁴⁷"And if someone hears my sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come in order to judge the world, but to save the world. ⁴⁸The person rejecting me and not believing my statements, has what judges him: the word which I spoke, that will judge him at the last day. ⁴⁹For I from myself have not spoken; rather, the Father who sent me, he has given me commandment, what I should say, and how I should speak. ⁵⁰And I know, that his commandment means eternal life. Therefore, what things I speak, just as the Father has said *them* to me, I speak them just so."

Chapter 13

The Passover Supper

¹And before the Festival of the Passover, Jesus, aware that the hour had come for him to pass on from this world to the Father, *and* having loved those of his own in the world, loved them to the end. ²And supper having started, with the devil having already put it in the heart of Judas son of Simon of Kerioth to betray him, ³*and* aware that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come forth from God and

¹⁰⁴ **12:38** Isaiah 53:1

¹⁰⁵ **12:40** Isaiah 6:10

¹⁰⁶ **12:43** The words are in the character of a solemn pronouncement or verdict.

to God he was going, ⁴Jesus rises from the supper and lays down his clothing, and taking a towel, he fastened it around himself. ⁵Then, he is putting water into a basin. And he began to wash the feet of the disciples, and to wipe them off with the towel in which he was girded.

⁶Thus he comes to Simon Peter. Who says to him, "Lord, **You** are washing **my** feet?"

⁷Jesus answered, and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not know yet, but after these things, you will know."

⁸Peter says to him, "No way will you ever wash my feet."

Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you have no place with me."

⁹Simon Peter says to him, "Lord. Not just my feet, but my hands and my head as well."

¹⁰Jesus says to him, "One who is bathed has no need, except for the feet, to wash, but is clean on the whole. And you *men* are clean; though not all of you." ¹¹For he already knew of the one betraying him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When therefore he had washed their feet and taken his clothes and reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done for you? ¹³You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly you say so, for I am. ¹⁴If therefore I, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash the feet of one another. ¹⁵For I have given an example for you, so that just as I have done, you also might do. ¹⁶Truly, truly I say to you: A servant is not greater than his lord, neither an emissary greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷Since these things you are knowing, blessed are you if you do them.

¹⁸"I am not speaking about all of you; I know whom I have chosen; but, so that the scripture is fulfilled, 'Someone eating my bread has lifted up his heel against me.'¹⁰⁷

¹⁹"Yes indeed:¹⁰⁸ I am telling you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe who I am.¹⁰⁹

²⁰Truly, truly I say to you, The person who accepts whomever I send, is accepting me; and the person who accepts me, is accepting the One who sent me."

²¹When he had said these things, Jesus was disturbed in his spirit, and he testified, and he said, "Truly, truly I say to you: One of you will betray me."

²²The disciples were looking at one another, puzzling over about whom he was speaking. ²³One of his disciples was reclining close at Jesus' side, the one Jesus loved. ²⁴Simon Peter therefore nods to this one to inquire *of Jesus* about whom he was speaking.¹¹⁰ ²⁵That one therefore simply leaned back onto the chest of Jesus and says to him, "Lord, who is it?"

²⁶Jesus replied, "It is that one for whom I shall dip and give the piece of bread." After dipping the piece of bread therefore, he takes it and gives it to Judas, the son of Simon of Kerioth.

²⁷And after the bread *transaction*, at that time Satan entered into that one. Then Jesus says to him, "What you are doing, do quickly."

²⁸But none of those reclining knew why he said this to him. ²⁹For some thought that since Judas was in charge of the money bag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy things we need for the festival," or, that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰When therefore that one had taken the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

¹⁰⁷ **13:18** Psalm 41:9

¹⁰⁸ **13:19a** Greek: ἀπάρτι - aparti. Most Greek NT editions (TR HF RP NA27) have ἀπ' ἄρτι - ap' arti, which if it were two separate words, would mean, "from now." (The original Greek manuscripts were all-capital letters, and there were no punctuation marks or spaces, so APARTI could be understood as either one word APARTI, or AP' ARTI, a contraction for APO ARTI.) If however as DeBrunner says, it was originally one word, "ἀπάρτι," before the diacritics and spaces were added, then it could mean something similar to "amen." Or, it could also mean adverbially, "exactly," as in "I am telling you exactly before it happens, so that..." As for the rendering, "from now on," this would seem a strange juncture at which to say that, since Judas was only a few hours away from doing it. How many times "from now on" in the next hour or so was he going to predict it? The awkwardness of this "from now on" idea is reflected by the various translations' attempts to get around it. Some (Weymouth, JB Phillips, CB Williams, Beck) got around the problem of predicting the one event "from now on," by pluralizing and generalizing it, i.e., "from now on I will tell you *things* ahead of time, so that when *they* happen..." Others (KJV, NKJV, Darby, RSV, ESV, JB, NIV, NLT, JNT, REB, NRSV) coped with it by dropping out the "from" of ἀπό altogether. These rendered it something like, "I am telling you now before it happens..." And thirdly, there are the translations (Young's, ASV, Recovery, NASB, NAB) that left it, "from now on," and also singular as the Greek says, awkward as it may be. See also Rev. 14:13, where DeBrunner says it was originally one word, ἀπάρτι, and it would make sense that ναί (yes) was added by later copyists as a replacement for the same idea.

¹⁰⁹ **13:19b** Or, "you may believe that I am he," or, "may believe that I AM," or, "may believe that I am who I am."

¹¹⁰ **13:24** Other manuscripts (B C L X 068) read: Simon Peter therefore nods to this one, and says to him, "Say who it is." Codex Sinaiticus has a longer variation of the latter.

Where Is Jesus Going?

³¹Then after he had gone out, Jesus says, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and in him God is glorified. ³²If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify the Son in himself, and glorify him at once.

³³"Children, I am with you only a little while longer. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, I now say to you also: 'Where I am going, you are not able to come.'

³⁴"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you also should love one another. ³⁵By this will everyone know that you are my disciples: if you have love among one another."

³⁶Simon Peter says to him, "Lord, where are you going?"

Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you are not able to follow now, but you will follow later."

³⁷Peter says to him, "Why am I not able to follow you now? I will lay down my life for you."

³⁸Jesus answers, "You will lay down your life for me? Truly, truly I say to you, a rooster will not crow, until such time you deny me three times.

Chapter 14

¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God. Trust also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many abodes. Otherwise, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?¹¹¹ ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you in with myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And where I am going, you know the way."

Jesus the Way to the Father

⁵Thomas says to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going— how is it we know the way?"

⁶Jesus says to him, "I am the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you have come to know me, you will come to know my Father as well; indeed, from now on you know him, and have seen him."

⁸Philip says to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and that will satisfy us."

⁹Jesus says to him, "All this time I have been with you, and you have not come to know me, Philip? The person who has seen me has seen the Father; how is it you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The statements which I say to you I do not speak from myself, but the Father abiding in me is doing his works.¹¹² ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. But if not, believe because of those works. ¹²The person who believes in me, truly, truly I say to you, the works that I do, that one also shall do, and even greater than these *shall do*, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Indeed, whatever you shall request in my name, this I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me¹¹³ for something in my name, I will do it.

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep¹¹⁴ my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, that he may be ever with you, ¹⁷the Spirit of truth, which the world is unable to receive,

¹¹¹ **14:2** See chapter 13 verse 36.

¹¹² **14:10** See Isaiah 26:12, "Yahweh, you will establish peace for us, since you have also performed for us all our works." And Galatians 2:20, "I am no longer living, but Christ lives in me; and what life I now live in the flesh, I am living by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me."

¹¹³ **14:14** txt με "me" Ɔ⁶⁶ Ⲛ B E H S U W Γ Δ Θ Ω 060 0211 f¹³ 2 7 8 9 28 33 124 461 475 579 700 788 892 1006 1073 1203 1212 1230^{vid} 1242 1342 1514* 1519 1646 it^{c,f} vg syr^{p,h} [WH] RP NA27 {B} // μοι "me" 346 // τὸν πατέρα 249 Ɔc // omit A D G K L M Q S Y Λ^c Π Ψ 18 27 35 69 157 180 597 1071 1079 1192 1194 1195 1216 1241 1243 1292 1344 1424 1505 1514^c 1519 1546 2148 2174 it^{a,aur,de,q,r}1 vg^{mss} cop^{sa,pbo,bo,ach²,fay} eth slav Cyril^{lem}; Vict-Rome Aug^{2/3} TR // omit entire verse X Λ* 0141 f¹ 118 157 565 1009 1210 1365 it^b vg^{ms} syr^{s,pal} arm geo Diatess^{f,l,t} // lac Ɔ⁴⁵ Ɔ⁷⁵ C F N P T V 047.

¹¹⁴ **14:15** txt τηρήσετε (fut ind act 2nd pl) B L Ψ 1010 1071 1195^T 2148 cop^{sa,pbo,bo,ach²,fay} geo² Euseb^{1/2} Theodore-Heraclea Meletius Macarius/Symeion^{1/2} Epiph Chrysost^{com} Cyril^{com} NA27 {C} // τηρήσητε (aor subj act 2nd pl) Ɔ⁶⁶ Ⲛ 060 0141 33 579 1344 1546 arm geo¹ Cyril // τηρησηται Ɔ⁶⁶ 579 acc. to Swanson // τηρήσατε (aor imper act 2nd pl) A D E G H K M Q U W X Γ Δ Θ Λ Π 0141 (0211 τηρισατε) f¹ f¹³ 2 28 118 157 180 205 565 597 700 892 1006 1009 1079 1195^{mg} 1216 1230 1241

because it neither perceives him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides among you, and will be¹¹⁵ in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹Just a little while longer and the world will be seeing me no more; but you will be seeing me. Because I will be living, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know, that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹The person who has my commandments and also keeps them, that is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me, will be loved by my Father, and I also will love him, and will reveal myself to him."

²²Judas (not the Keriothite) says to him, "Lord, and on what basis is it that, to us, you intend to reveal yourself, and not to the world?"

²³Jesus answered, and said to him, "If someone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him; and we will come to him, and make our abode with him. ²⁴One who does not love me will not keep my word. And the word that you are hearing is not mine, but the Father's, who sent me.

²⁵"These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. ²⁶But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, that one will teach you all things, and remind you of all the things I have said to you.

²⁷"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

²⁸"You heard how I said to you, 'I am going away, and will be coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you, before it happens, so that when it happens, you will believe. ³⁰I will not speak with you much longer, for the ruler of this world is coming. And he has no pull in me; ³¹but, just as the Father has commanded me, this I do, so that the world may know that I love the Father.

"Arise, let us leave here."

Chapter 15

"I Am the Vine, You Are the Branches"

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the farmer. ²Every branch in me bearing no fruit, he removes, and every branch bearing the fruit, he cleans, so it may bear more fruit. ³You are now clean, because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. Just as the branch is not able to bear fruit from itself, unless it abides in the vine, in the same way neither are you, unless you abide in me.

⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who abides in me and I in him, this one bears much fruit, for without me you can produce nothing. ⁶If someone does not abide in me, he is thrown aside like the branch that¹¹⁶ is withered; they gather such and put them in the fire; and it is burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and

1242 1243 1292 1342 1365 1424 1505 1646 2174 π it^{a,aur,b,c,d,e,f,ff²,q,r¹} vg slav Or^{lat} Euseb^{1/2} Basil Dyd^{dub} Macarius/Symeion^{1/2} Chrysost^{lem} Cyril^{lem} Novat Vict-Rome Lucifer Ambrosiast Hegem Ambr Jer Aug Sepc Ps-Vigilius TR RP // lac \mathfrak{P}^{75} C F N P.

¹¹⁵ **14:17** txt εσται \mathfrak{P}^{66C} \aleph A E G H K L M Q S U X Y Γ Θ Λ Π Ψ Ω \mathfrak{f}^{13} 2 28 35 118 157 461 579 700 892 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1344 1424 1519 1546 1646 2148 2174 TR RP NA27 {C} // εστιν \mathfrak{P}^{66*} B D* W 0211 \mathfrak{f}^1 69 565 1365 goth WH // εστειν D^c // εστε Δ // lac \mathfrak{P}^{75} C F N P T V 047 060 070 0233 33.

¹¹⁶ **15:6** Greek: καὶ, as substitute for ὅτι - hōti, "that." A colloquialism drawn from Hebrew. As for "the branch," the article must be anaphoric, referring back to something either previously mentioned or that is otherwise familiar to the reader. It is said that vine growers when they pruned would hang the trimmings aside and dry them, for later use as fuel in their fires. Another reference of the anaphoric article could be to the principle as in Isaiah 56:3, where the eunuch says, "I am only a dry tree." For "dry" is an antonym of "fruitful." Contrast this to Psalm 1:3, where a tree with plenty of water produces fruit in season, and its leaves do not wither. The anaphoric article could also be referring back to John 15:2, to "the unfruitful branch." (Psalm 80:15-16 as well.) The dry branch became dry in the first place because it did not abide in the vine. At the same time, one could gather from this that the branch dried up AFTER it was pruned off. The simple language of John can lead you in many directions, and this may be intentional on the part of God. Whether a branch can be "on the vine" and yet not be "abiding in the vine" is the question. This does seem to be the case here. For every branch starts out "on the vine," but Jesus says that some are cut off for the very fact that they are unfruitful. Certainly, in nature a branch can still be connected, and yet be unfruitful or wither, if something has interrupted the flow of the sap from the trunk, or if something has diseased only that branch. Now, changing the subject, there are difficulties here with lack of agreement as to number. In the Greek, the word "branch" is singular, and so is the verb "it is burned." On the other hand, in the phrase "they gather αὐτὰ," the topic is neuter plural, which can take a singular verb. But I translated αὐτὰ as "such" because I insist the topic is still generally "the" unfruitful branch of 15:2. By the way, FYI, in the phrase "that is dry," the aorist is a "gnomic" aorist. So also in the phrase, "he is

my sayings abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it will happen for you. ⁸In this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and show to be my disciples.¹¹⁷

⁹"Just as the Father has loved me, I also have loved you; abide ye in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you are abiding in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and am abiding in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ¹²This is my commandment: that you love one another, as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: that one lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends, if you practice the things I am commanding you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his lord is doing. But you I have called friends, because all things that I have heard from my Father, I have made known to you. ¹⁶You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and appointed you, that you go and bear fruit, and that your fruit might abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, it may be granted to you. ¹⁷These instructions I am giving you, so that you will love one another.¹¹⁸

For This the World Hates You

¹⁸"If the world hates you, be assured that it hated me first, before you. ¹⁹If you were of the world, the world would like its own; but because you are not of the world, and indeed rather I have chosen you out of the world, for this the world hates you. ²⁰Be mindful of the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his lord.'¹¹⁹ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they took my word to heart, they will take yours to heart also. ²¹But all these things they will do against you because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me. ²²If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin; but now, they have no excuse for their sin. ²³One who hates me also hates my Father. ²⁴If I had not done works among them which no one else has done, they would have no sin; but now they have both seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵But so that the word written about them in the law might be fulfilled, 'They hated me without a cause.'¹²⁰

²⁶"When the Counselor has come, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth, who flows forth from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

Chapter 16

¹"These things I have spoken to you so that you may not fall away. ²They will cause you to be put out of the synagogue; but an hour is coming such that everyone who kills you will reckon to be offering up religious service to God. ³And these things they will do, because they have not known the Father, neither me. ⁴But these things I have spoken to you, so that when the hour of them comes, you might remember them, that I told you.

The Holy Spirit Will Finish My Work

"And I have not told you these things from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now, I am going to the one who sent me, and none of you is asking me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶Instead, because I have spoken these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷But I am telling you the truth: it works out better for you that I go away, for if I were not to go away, the Counselor would not come to you. Whereas if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he has come, that one will refute¹²¹ the world concerning sin, and concerning

thrown aside." A gnomic aorist expresses an action that is valid for all time; either because it fills the void left by the non-existent perfective present, or because the author had some real example in mind when he is telling a parable narrative. And we do have a mini parable here. See also Ps. 80:15-16; Ez. 15:4-6; Matt. 3:10.

¹¹⁷ **15:8** Compare the parable of the wheat and the tares, Matt. 13:26, Diatessaron 11:27, where the species of plant was not evident until they bore fruit. Until the seed heads appeared, the wheat and zizania plants looked exactly alike.

¹¹⁸ **15:17** The subjunctive mood is so often interchangeable with the imperative and future, and the subjunctive also took the place of the optative mood. This subjunctive here could be an optative meaning, an attainable wish on Jesus' part. It would be sad if we only got a picture of Jesus issuing commands, and miss the pathos of Jesus' heart, that he yearns to see us loving one another.

¹¹⁹ **15:20** John 13:16; Diatessaron 28:32

¹²⁰ **15:25** Psalm 35:19; 69:4

¹²¹ **16:8** It is hard to choose an English word to render the Greek word here, ἐλέγχω. For example, if you chose the word "convict," it sounds odd that the Holy Spirit convict the world of righteousness. Our word "convict" we use only when convincing someone regarding something bad; but the Greek word has a bigger semantic range. But "convince" is not wide enough in range either, because "ἐλέγχω" means more than that; it means to convince someone they are wrong

righteousness, and concerning judgment; ⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰concerning righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will be observing me no longer; ¹¹and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

¹²"I have many things yet to say, but you are not able at the present time to bear *it*. ¹³But when that one comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you in¹²² all the truth. For he will not speak from himself, but rather, whatever things he hears he will speak; and he will report to you the things that are coming. ¹⁴That one will glorify me, because from mine he will take, and report *it* to you. ¹⁵Everything the Father has is mine; this is how I said, 'from mine he will be taking, and report *it* to you.'

¹⁶"A little while, and you will be observing me no longer; and another little while, and you will see me."

The Disciples' Pain Will Be Turned to Joy

¹⁷Then some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he is saying to us, 'A little while, and you will not be observing me; and another little while, and you will see me'? And, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸They kept saying therefore, "What is this 'little while'?"¹²³ We don't know what he is saying."

¹⁹Jesus knew that they were wanting to query him, and he said to them, "Is it this you are deliberating among yourselves about, that I said, 'A little while and you will not be observing me, and another little while and you will see me'?" ²⁰Truly, truly I say to you, You will weep and lament, and the world will be cheered. You will be in pain. But your pain will be turned into joy. ²¹In the case of the woman about to give birth, she has pain, because for her the hour has come. But when she has delivered the child, no longer is she mindful of the distress, because of the joy that a human being is brought forth into the world. ²²Thus you also, now you do have pain; but I will see you again, and your hearts will be cheered, and your joy, no one is taking away from you. ²³And in that day you will not query me at all. Truly, truly I say to you, whatever you will ask the Father in my name, he will grant it to you. ²⁴Up to now you have not asked anything in my name; ask, and you will receive, so that your joy may be full.

²⁵"These things I have spoken to you in allegories; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in allegories, but I will tell you about the Father plainly. ²⁶In that day you will make requests in my name, and I am not saying to you that I will make request of the Father on your behalf. ²⁷For the Father himself likes you, because you have liked me, and have believed that I came forth from God. ²⁸I went forth from the Father and have come into the world; I am taking leave of the world, and going my way back to the Father."

²⁹His disciples are saying, "There, now you are talking with clarity and not speaking any allegory. ³⁰Now we know that you know all, and with you there is no need that someone query you. By this we believe that you have come forth from God."

³¹Jesus answered them, "For now you believe. ³²Behold, an hour is coming, and indeed has come, that you will be scattered apart, each to his own, and me you will have abandoned, alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

³³"These things I have spoken to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you do have tribulation; but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world."

about something. But no matter which word you chose, it is necessary to add various helper words at various places, since one English word is not enough. I suggest you look up all verses that use ἐλέγχω and then you will have a more complete sense of what it means.

¹²² **16:13** Some manuscripts, ἐν - en, others, εἰς - eis. According to the editorial committee of the UBS, the construction with εἰς with the accusative appears to have been introduced by copyists who considered it more idiomatic after ὁδηγήσει than the construction of ἐν and the dative found in $\aleph D L W \Theta f^1 33 565 1071$ *al*. The word ὁδηγέω - hodēgeō can mean either to guide or to lead or to conduct. And "ἐν," especially in John, can denote a state of being, or a very close connection or personal relation, such as "abide IN me," or "abide IN the vine." On the other hand, "ἐν" is sometimes used with verbs of motion and direction, with the dative, where εἰς with the accusative would be expected, and still indicating motion in a direction. Yet the main verb here, "ὁδηγέω", itself contains the root word for "way or path or road," ὁδός, and with ἐν could mean simply "he will conduct you along the road of truth." For He is "the Spirit of Truth," and his road is "the Way of Truth." So that translation is viable, as are also, "lead you into all truth," and "guide you through all truth," or "guide you with all truth."

¹²³ **16:18** The latest evidence is that the words ὁ λέγει, "which he is saying," do not belong here. They are not found in Papyrus 5, third century; Papyrus 66, 200 A.D.; nor Codex Sinaiticus, fourth century; to name a few.

Chapter 17

Jesus Prays for Himself

¹Jesus spoke these things, and when he had lifted up his eyes to heaven, he said:

"Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son, so that the Son may glorify you; ²inasmuch as to him you have granted jurisdiction of all flesh, so that to all *flesh* that¹²⁴ you have given him, he may grant eternal life. ³And this is eternal life: to know you, the only true God, and the one whom you have sent, Jesus Christ. ⁴I have glorified you upon the earth, having finished the work which you have given me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify thou me, along with yourself, with the glory which I used to have along with you, before the existence of the world.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

⁶"I have made known your name to the humans of the world that you have given to me. They had been yours, and you gave them to me, and they have taken your word to heart. ⁷Now they are persuaded that all the things you have given to me are *indeed* from you; ⁸for the sayings which you gave to me I have given to them, and they accepted and knew for sure that I came forth from you, and they believed that you had sent me. ⁹I am making request concerning them; not concerning the world am I making request, but only concerning those whom you have given to me. For they are yours; ¹⁰indeed everything of mine is yours, and of yours is mine. And I am glorified in them; ¹¹yes, no longer am I to be in the world, yet they are in the world, and I am coming to you. O holy Father, keep them in your name, that *flesh* that¹²⁵ you have given to me, so that they may be one, just as we are *one*. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, that *flesh* that¹²⁶ you have given to me, and I stood guard, and not one of them met destruction, except the Son of Destruction,¹²⁷ so that the scripture may be brought to completion.

¹³"But now I am coming to you, and I am speaking these things in the world, so that they may have in them my joy brought to completion. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I am not asking that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify¹²⁸ them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸Just as you sent me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And on their behalf I sanctify myself, so that they also may be ones sanctified in truth.

Jesus Prays for All Believers

²⁰"And not concerning these only am I making request, but also concerning the ones who through their word believe in me, ²¹that they all may be one. Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you, so let them also be in us, so that the world might believe that you sent me. ²²The glory which you have given to me, I also have given to them, so that they may be one, just as we are one: ²³I in them, and you in me, so that they may become fully developed into one,¹²⁹ that the world may know that you sent me, and that you have loved them just as you loved me.

¹²⁴ **17:2** See the footnote on 6:39.

¹²⁵ **17:11** This is not referring to "your name," but to those the Father has given him; see John 18:9. See the footnote on 6:39.

¹²⁶ **17:12a** This is not referring to "your name," but to those the Father has given him; see John 18:9. See the footnote on 6:39.

¹²⁷ **17:12b** ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας – ho huio̅s tēs apōleias. Jesus is referring to Judas Iscariot. The appellation "Son of Destruction" is full of meaning. Destruction personified is "Ἀπολλύων," Apollyon, another name for the Destroyer demon, who is king over the demons in Abaddon, or the Abyss, Revelation 9:11. The word "son" here means both one who is like his father, and one who is "heir" of his father's station. See as another example of this use of "son," the "sons of the kingdom" or "heirs of the kingdom," in Matthew 8:12; Diatessaron 10:21. Another thing one must take note of is that the Antichrist is also called the Son of Destruction, in 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Certainly, two things that Judas and the Antichrist have in common are, One, that Satan dwelt in their hearts, and Two, that scripture long ago predicted their destiny and their inheritance, to be in that place that God has reserved for the eternal destruction of such as they.

¹²⁸ **17:17** ἀγιάζω - hagiázō; dedicate or set something apart for God's holy purposes.

¹²⁹ **17:23** This is the way the apostle Paul understood it; see Ephesians 4:11-16. Paul says that God gave the apostles and other offices so that someday the believers will be fully developed into one, in unity with God and with one another.

²⁴"O Father, that *flesh* that¹³⁰ you have given to me, I desire that where I am, they might also be along with me, so that they may behold that glory of mine, which you have given to me, for you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵"O righteous Father, indeed the world has not known you, but I have known you, and these have known that you sent me. ²⁶And I have made known to them your name, and will do so in the future, so that the love with which you have loved me might always be in them, and I also in them."

Chapter 18

Gethsemane

¹After he said these things, Jesus went forth with his disciples to the other side of the wadi Kidron, where there was a garden, into which he himself went, and also his disciples. ²And Judas, the one betraying him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples.

Jesus Arrested

³Judas therefore, after taking the cohort¹³¹ and some guards, from the high priests and from the Pharisees, comes there, with lamps and torches and weapons. ⁴Then, aware of all the things coming upon him, Jesus went forward, and he says to them, "Whom are you seeking?"

⁵They answered him, "Jesus the Nazarene."

He says to them, "I am *he*."

And Judas the one betraying him is also standing there with them. ⁶When therefore he said, "I am *he*," they moved away backward, and fell to the ground. ⁷Again therefore, he asked them, "Whom are you seeking?"

And they said, "Jesus the Nazarene."

⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that I am *he*. If therefore it is me you are seeking, allow these to go their way." ⁹In order that the word which he had said would be fulfilled: "Of those you have given me, I have not lost even one."

¹⁰Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. And the name of the servant was Malchus. ¹¹Jesus therefore said to Peter, "Put the sword in the sheath. The cup which the Father has given me, am I not to drink it?"

Jesus Taken to Hananiah

¹²Then the cohort and its chiliarch and the guards from the Jews took Jesus prisoner and bound him, ¹³and they led him to Hananiah first, for he was father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest for that year. ¹⁴And Caiaphas was the one having advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man die instead of the people.

Peter's First Denial

¹⁵And Simon Peter was following Jesus, along with another disciple. And that other disciple was known to the high priest, and he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter had stopped outside, at the door. The other disciple therefore, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the doorman, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷Then the maidservant, the doorkeeper, says to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?"

He says, "No I am not."

¹⁸And the servants and the guards stood by a fire they had made, for it was cold, and they were warming themselves. So Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

Apparently, neither Jesus nor Paul expected such oneness to occur in his own lifetime. Just as with the individual new birth, maturity is a process and not instantaneous at birth, so also it is with the corporate man, that maturity is a process, and not instantaneous at its creation. But, if you believe that Jesus was asking that this unity take place at once, then surely you must admit that Jesus' prayer has gone ungranted, up to and including this present day.

¹³⁰ **17:24** See the footnote on 6:39.

¹³¹ **18:3** A *cohort*, if a complete one including reserves, was a thousand soldiers, (one tenth of a legion) commanded by ten centurions, who commanded a hundred men each. The number here was probably the lesser, about 600 soldiers, but could have been up to 1,000.

The High Priest Questions Jesus

¹⁹The high priest, then, questioned Jesus, about his disciples and about his teaching.

²⁰Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I always taught in a synagogue or in the temple, where all the Jews come together. ²¹Why ask me? Ask the ones who have heard what I spoke to them. You see, they know what things I said."

²²As he was saying these things, one of the guards standing by gave Jesus a whack, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

²³Jesus answered him, "If I spoke wrongly, testify to the wrong; but if acceptably, why are you hitting me?"

²⁴Then Hannaniah sent him, bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

Peter's Second and Third Denials

²⁵And Peter was standing and warming himself. They said therefore to him, "Are you not also one of his disciples?"

He denied it and said, "No I am not."

²⁶One of the servants of the high priest, who was a relative of him whose ear Peter had cut off, says, "Did I not see you with him in the garden?" ²⁷Again therefore, Peter denied it, and immediately a rooster crowed.

Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

²⁸They then are leading Jesus away from Caiaphas toward the Praetorium; and it was very early. And they entered not into the Praetorium, so that they would not be defiled but rather might eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate came outside to them. And he says, "This man? You are bringing what kind of charge against him?"

³⁰They answered, and said to him, "If he were not doing wrong, we would not have brought him over to you."

³¹Pilate therefore said to them, "You take him, and you judge him according to your law."

The Jews said to him, "For us it is not lawful to execute anyone." ³²So the word of Jesus would be fulfilled, which he had spoken indicating by what means of death he was going to die.

³³So Pilate went back into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus, and he said to him, "You are the king of the Jews?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "From yourself are you saying this, or have others spoken to you about me?"

³⁵Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What have you done?"

³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have fought so that I not be handed over to the Jews. But in fact¹³² my kingship is not from here."

³⁷Pilate therefore said to him, "So then you ARE a king."

Jesus answered, "You are saying that I am a king; I, for this reason have been born, and for this reason have come into the world: to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth hears my voice."

³⁸Pilate says to him, "What is truth?" And with that said, he went out again to the Jews, and says to them, "I find in him no *causa capitalis*.¹³³ ³⁹But there is a custom with you that I release to you one prisoner during the Passover. Would you therefore have me release to you the king of the Jews?"

⁴⁰They then shouted back, saying, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Chapter 19

¹At that time therefore, Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. ²And the soldiers, after weaving a wreath of thorns, set it on his head, and threw a purple robe around him. ³Then they were approaching him and saying, "Hail, O king of the Jews," and giving him slaps in the face.

¹³² **18:36** The Greek words for "but in fact" are *vōv δε*, "but now." Usually the particle "*vōv*" is an indicator of present time. But sometimes it is a transitional or contrastive particle. Another possible translation of this here would be, "But at the present time, my kingship is not from this place." But would this make any difference theologically? It would not change the fact that at the time Jesus is saying it, his kingship was not from this place. Unless the fact is that Jesus' kingdom never will, at any time, be "from here." Will humans from here anoint him king in the future? Or is his kingship in fact granted to him from heaven?

¹³³ **18:38** Basis for capital punishment.

⁴And Pilate went outside again, and says to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you, so that you will know that I find no *causa capitalis* in him." ⁵Jesus came outside therefore, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate says to them, "Behold the man."

⁶When therefore the chief priests and their officers saw him, they shouted out, saying, "Crucify! Crucify!" Pilate says to them, "You take him yourselves and crucify him. As for me, I do not find *causa capitalis* in him.

⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law, he deserves to die because he called himself the son of God."

⁸When therefore Pilate heard this information, he was more afraid, ⁹and he entered the Praetorium again, and says to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus did not give him an answer.

¹⁰Pilate then says to him, "To me you are not speaking? Do you not know, that I have authority to free you, and I have authority to crucify you?"

¹¹Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over me if it had not been given you from above. Because of this, the one who handed me over to you has the greater guilt."

¹²From this point on Pilate tried to free him; but the Jews shouted out, saying, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar! Everyone calling himself a king is opposing Caesar."

¹³When therefore Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside, and he sat down on the judgment seat, at a place called The Pavement, but in Hebrew called Gabbatha. ¹⁴And it was Preparation for the Passover, about 6:00 am. And he says to the Jews, "Behold, your king."

¹⁵They then shouted out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate says to them, "Shall I crucify your king?"

The chief priests responded, "We have no king but Caesar."

¹⁶At that time therefore he handed him over to them, to be crucified.

The Crucifixion

They took Jesus therefore. ¹⁷And carrying the cross by himself, he proceeded forth, to what is called the Skull Place, which in Hebrew is pronounced Gulgolta, ¹⁸where they crucified him, and with him, two others, one on this side and one on the other, and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹And Pilate also wrote a notice and put it on the cross, and it was inscribed: "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS." ²⁰Many of the Jews therefore read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was close to the city, and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

²¹The chief priests of the Jews therefore were saying to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but rather: 'He SAID, I am King of the Jews.'"

²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³The soldiers then, when they crucified Jesus, took his garments and made four shares, a share for each soldier, plus the tunic. For the tunic was seamless, woven continuously from the top through the whole. ²⁴They said therefore to one another, "We should not tear it, but cast lots as to whose it shall be." So that the scripture would be fulfilled,

"They divided my garments
among them;
and cast lots
over my clothing,"¹³⁴

those things therefore the soldiers did.

²⁵And near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, and his mother's sister; *and* the Mary belonging to Clopas, and the Magdalene Mary. ²⁶Jesus therefore, seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near, says to his mother, "Dear woman, behold your son."

²⁷Then he says to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that time on, that disciple took her into his own home.

¹³⁴ **19:24** Psalm 22:18

Jesus' Death

²⁸Jesus, knowing that after these things, all things were now completed, next says, "I am thirsty," so that the scripture would be fulfilled.¹³⁵ ²⁹A container full of vinegar¹³⁶ was sitting there, so after sticking a sponge full of the vinegar around a hyssop stem, they held it out to his mouth. ³⁰When therefore he had received the vinegar, Jesus said, "It is finished." And after he bowed his head, he gave up his spirit.

³¹The Jews therefore, since it was Preparation *Day*,¹³⁷ asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken away, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross during the Sabbath; for that day was great among Sabbaths.¹³⁸ ³²The soldiers came therefore, and broke the legs of the first one, and of the other crucified with him, ³³but when they came to Jesus they realized he was already dead, and did not in his case¹³⁹ break the legs. ³⁴But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water. ³⁵And the one who has seen has borne witness, and his testimony is reliable, and he knows that he is saying something true; so you may believe. ³⁶And these things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled:

"Not a bone of it shall be broken."¹⁴⁰

³⁷And again, another scripture says:

"They shall look upon him
whom they have pierced."¹⁴¹

Jesus' Burial

³⁸And after these things, Joseph from Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because of the fear of the Jews, made request of Pilate that he might take the body of Jesus; and Pilate consented. He went therefore, and took his body. ³⁹And Nicodemus, the one who earlier had come to Him by night, came as well, carrying a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.¹⁴² ⁴⁰They then took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths, with the spices, as is the burial custom with the Jews. ⁴¹And there was in the place where he was crucified, a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, one in which no one had ever yet been laid. ⁴²So, since it was Preparation for the Jews, and because the tomb was close at hand, that is where they laid Jesus.

Chapter 20

The Empty Tomb

¹And on the first day of the week, very early while still dark, Mary the Magdalene is coming to the tomb; and she sees the stone having been removed from the tomb. ²She runs therefore, and goes to Simon Peter and to the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and she says to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we¹⁴³ don't know where they have put him."

¹³⁵ **19:28** Psalm 22:15

¹³⁶ **19:29** Psalm 69:21; This was a sour wine, a cheaper drink than regular wine, and yet more refreshing to the thirst.

¹³⁷ **19:31a** The word "preparation" always means the day of the week we call Friday; see Luke 23:54; John 19:14, 31; Josephus: Jewish Antiquities xvi. 6. 2 §163. (There is no word "day" in the Greek here.) "Preparation Day" does not mean the 24 hours leading up to the evening that starts the Sabbath. Instead it means simply "Friday."

¹³⁸ **19:31b** Or, "That day of sabbath was higher." Sabbath days at the beginning of a festival week were higher Sabbaths. The Saturday of Passover week was called the Great Sabbath. But the fact is, Deuteronomy 21:22-23 commanded that hung corpses be removed before the end of any day, not just days of sabbath.

¹³⁹ **19:33** Verse 33 begins with the particle "de," as complement to the particle "men" in verse 32, contrasting two cases.

¹⁴⁰ **19:36** Numbers 9:12; Exodus 12:46; Psalm 34:20

¹⁴¹ **19:37** Zechariah 12:10

¹⁴² **19:39** Greek, "a hundred litras," a loan-word from the Latin, *libra*. The *libra* was the Roman pound, which was comprised of 12 ounces, so when translated to 16-ounce pounds, it comes to about 75 pounds, or 34 kilograms.

¹⁴³ **20:2** Some people make much of the fact that John mentions only Mary the Magdalene by name, as if she were the only woman who went to the tomb, as a contradiction of the other gospels, like the gospel of Mark, which names three

³Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple also, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴And the two were running together; and the other disciple ran faster ahead, and came to the tomb first. ⁵And after stooping down, he sees the linen cloths lying there. He did not enter inside, however. ⁶Then comes Simon Peter also, following behind him. And he entered into the tomb, and he observes the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and also the sweat cloth which used to be on his head, except not lying with the linen cloths, but folded up in one place apart. ⁸Then at that time the other disciple entered, the one who had arrived to the tomb first; and he saw and believed.¹⁴⁴ ⁹For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

Jesus Appears to Mary of Magdala

¹⁰The disciples then went back to their own homes. ¹¹But Mary stayed with the tomb, and there she stands, outside, weeping. ¹²As she thus was weeping, she stooped down into the tomb, and she beholds two angels in white, one sitting at the head and one sitting at the foot of where the body of Jesus had been lying.

¹³And they say to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

She says to them, "They have taken my Lord away, and I don't know where they have put him."

¹⁴When she had said these things, she looked toward the rear, and beholds Jesus having been standing; and she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵Jesus says to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?"

She, thinking he is the gardener, says to him, "Sir, if it is you who took him, tell me where you put him, and I will get him.

¹⁶Jesus says to her, "Mary."

She when she turned around, says to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher).

¹⁷Jesus says to her, "Do not cleave to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers, and tell them: 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father; to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸Mary goes, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and also *announcing* those things he had said to her.

Jesus Appears to the Ten Apostles

¹⁹Then, when it was evening on that first day of the week, with the doors locked where the disciples were, because of the fear of the Jews, Jesus appeared, and stood in their midst. And he says to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰And when he had said this, he showed them both his hands and his side. Therefore the disciples rejoiced, seeing the Lord.

²¹Then Jesus again said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so also I send you." ²²And having said this, he blew,¹⁴⁵ and says to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whose ever sins you forgive, they are forgiven them; whose ever you retain, they are retained."

Jesus Appears to Thomas

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one who was called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples were telling him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and put my finger into the place from the nails, and put my hands into his side, there is no way I will believe."

²⁶And after eight days, his disciples again were inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus is appearing, even though the doors were locked. And he stood in the midst, and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Thereupon he says to Thomas, "Bring your finger here, and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believing."

women. But this view reflects a very shallow, careless, and probably prejudiced reading of John. For here in John, Mary the Magdalene says "We" don't know where they have put him, indicating that she was not alone. And so also, most other so-called contradictions between the four gospels may be resolved by those truly wanting to know the truth, and not coming to it with prejudice.

¹⁴⁴ **20:8** Believed what? Not that Jesus had risen from the dead. We know they did not believe he was risen from the dead, because later when the women came to them and told them they had seen Jesus walking around, none of the eleven apostles believed the women. Here it is saying that John believed Mary's report that the body of Jesus was missing.

¹⁴⁵ **20:22** ἐμφυσᾶω - *emphusāō*, breathe out or blow; the same verb used in Genesis 2:7 to translate the Hebrew verb פָּנַח, used for how God breathed into the nostrils of the dust-man the breath of life, causing the man to become a living being. Here in John, there is no object for the verb; I do not believe we are to imagine that Jesus approached each of the ten individually, and breathed upon each of them in turn.

²⁸Thomas responded and said to him, "My Lord and my God."

²⁹Jesus says to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those believing¹⁴⁶ without having seen."

³⁰While¹⁴⁷ therefore Jesus did also do many other signs in the sight of his disciples which are not written in this book, ³¹these have been written so that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ,¹⁴⁸ the Son of God, and that believing, you might have life through his name.

Chapter 21

Resurrection Fish & Bread

¹After these things, Jesus revealed himself another time to his disciples, on the Sea of Tiberius. And this is how he revealed *himself*. ²Simon Peter, and Thomas called the Twin, and Nathaniel from Cana of Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples of his, were together. ³Simon Peter says to them, "I am going to fish."

They say to him, "We are also coming with you."

They went, and embarked in the boat. And throughout that night, they caught nothing. ⁴And now that it is turning morning, Jesus had stood at the shoreline. However, the disciples have not realized that it is Jesus. ⁵Jesus therefore says to them, "Children, have you no fish?"¹⁴⁹

They answered, "No."

⁶And he said to them, "Cast the net into the area to the right of the boat, and you will find something." They cast it therefore, and they were not strong enough to retrieve it, because of a fullness of fish.

⁷So that disciple whom Jesus loved says to Peter, "It is the Lord." When therefore Simon Peter heard that it is the Lord, he fastened his cloak around himself, for he was stripped for work,¹⁵⁰ and he threw himself into the lake ⁸(for they were not far from shore, but only about two hundred cubits¹⁵¹ away), while the other disciples came in the boat, towing the fish net. ⁹As they get down therefore onto the beach, they see a fire of coals established, and fish lying on it, and bread.

¹⁰Jesus says to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have now caught." ¹¹Simon Peter therefore got up, and dragged the net to the beach, very full of fish, *153 of them*; and though there were so many, the net was not torn.

¹²Jesus says to them, "Come, eat breakfast." And not one of the disciples got up the courage to challenge him, "Who are you?" For they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus comes, and he takes the bread and distributes to them, and the fish likewise. ¹⁴This was now the third time Jesus had revealed himself to the disciples after having risen from the dead.

Jesus Reappoints Peter

¹⁵When therefore they had eaten breakfast, Jesus says to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

He says to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

He says to him, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶Again, he says to him a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

¹⁴⁶ **20:29** The Greek word translated "believing" here is a linear participle, and not in the indicative mood, and therefore it does not indicate past, present or future time. Quite often in Greek, the linear aspect in a situation like this means a near future event. In other words, "Blessed are those who are going to be believing, without having seen."

¹⁴⁷ **20:30** There is a μὲν - men here, complemented by a δὲ at the beginning of verse 31, which accomplishes the setting off for the purpose of contrast, of the signs mentioned in v. 30, and what was done with them, compared to the signs mentioned in v. 31, and what was done with them.

¹⁴⁸ **20:31** That is, the promised Anointed One, the Messiah, Ha-Moshiach.

¹⁴⁹ **21:5** The Greek word translated "fish" is προσφάγιον - prosphágion; "a relish;" a derivative from a prepositional expression, the preposition πρὸς (toward or with) affixed to the word "φαγεῖν" (to eat.) According to Moeris (204.24), second century, προσφάγμα is Hellenistic for the Attic ὄψον, "side dish." In other words, what is eaten besides bread. And according to Bauer, ὄψον often meant simply "fish." (This word ὄψον is later also used in its diminutive form, in verse ten of this chapter.)

¹⁵⁰ **21:7** According to Chrysostom, [Dio Chrysostom](#) 55[72], the mariners would wear only underwear while working.

¹⁵¹ **21:8** Equivalent to 100 yards, or 92.4 meters.

He says to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

He says to him, "Pastor my sheep."

¹⁷He says to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt that he said to him the third time, "Do you love me." And he says to him, "Lord, you know all. You know that I love you."

Jesus says to him, "Feed my sheep."¹⁵² ¹⁸Truly, truly I say to you: When you were younger, you would dress yourself, and walk around where you wanted; but after you have become old, you will stretch out your hand, and someone else will dress you, and lead you somewhere you will not want." ¹⁹This he said signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And having said this, he says to him, "Follow me."

And What About John?

²⁰Peter turned around, *and* sees the disciple whom Jesus loved following, that is, the one who in the supper had leaned back onto His chest and said, "Lord, who is the one betraying you?" ²¹So when he saw this one, Peter says to Jesus, "Lord, and what about him?"

²²Jesus says to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me." ²³This therefore is the word that got out to the brothers: that that disciple would not die. But Jesus had not said to him that he would not die; rather, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?"

²⁴That disciple is the one who is bearing witness to these things, and the one who wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if written in detail, I reckon not even the world itself would be able to hold the books that would be written.

¹⁵² **21:17** Up until the time we see the Lord, it will continue to be the topic of discussion, the meaning of why Jesus used the verb ἀγαπάω in vv. 15 and 16, but φιλέω in v. 17; and why Peter used the verb οἶδα in vv. 15 and 16, but γινώσκω in v. 17; and whether the reason Peter was hurt was that Jesus asked him three times, or that Jesus changed the verb the third time, etc.

Principal Witnesses to the gospel of John

Date	Witnesses
II	ⲡ ⁵² ⲡ ⁹⁰
II/III	ⲡ ⁶⁶
III	ⲡ ⁵ ⲡ ²² ⲡ ²⁸ ⲡ ³⁹ ⲡ ⁴⁵ ⲡ ⁷⁵ ⲡ ⁸⁰ ⲡ ⁹⁵ ⲡ ¹⁰⁶ ⲡ ¹⁰⁷ ⲡ ¹⁰⁸ ⲡ ¹⁰⁹ ⲡ ¹¹⁹ ⲡ ¹²¹ 0212 cop ^{sa} cop ^{bo} Origen (253/254)
III/IV	0162 syr ^{s,c}
IV	ⲡ ⁶ ⲡ ¹²⁰ Ⲡ* (01) B (03) 0258 it ^a Eusebius Ambrosiaster
IV/V	ⲡ ¹²² W (032)
V	ⲡ ⁹³ A (02) C* (04) D (05) Q (026) T (029) 068 0216 0217 0218 0264 0301 it ^{b,e,ff2} syr ^p arm geo Epiphanius Chrysostom Augustine
V/VI	ⲡ ⁶³
V-VII?	Ⲡ ²
VI	ⲡ ² ⲡ ³⁶ ⲡ ⁷⁶ N (022) P (024) 060 065 070 078 086 087 091 0260 0302 0309
VI/VII	ⲡ ^{44a} ⲡ ^{44b} ⲡ ⁵⁵ 083 it ^q syr ^{pal}
VII	ⲡ ⁵⁹ ⲡ ⁶⁰ 0109 0145 0210 0268 it ^{aur,r1} syr ^h
VIII	E (07) L (019) 047 054 0101 0127 0233 0234 0238 0256 it ^{l,q}
IX	F (09) G (011) H (013) K (017) M (021) U (030) V (031) Y (034) Δ (037) Θ (038) Λ (039) Π (041) Ω (045) 050 063 0211 0273 0287 0290 0306 33 565 892 it ^f slav
IX/X	Ψ* 1424
X	S (028) [yr 949] X (033) Γ (036) 0105 0141 1079 ⲗ770
X/XI	0286 0299
XI	055 28 124 700 1006 1195 1216 1243 ⲗ773

ENDNOTES

Endnote #1

GENDER INCLUSIVENESS

The culture in English speaking western countries has changed such that there is demand for a common-gender third person singular pronoun. I truly wish there were one in English. It would make it easier to make clear in translation which gender is meant, including when both genders are meant. But alas, there is no such word, neither is there a widely acceptable convention for a phrase of words. If there were, I would be the first to use it.

One trend is to use the English third person plural pronoun, since it is gender neutral. Yet this sacrifices accuracy in number, for the sake of accuracy in gender. This makes the value judgment that gender is a more important part of the semantic content of the text than is number. But it is easier to understand gender inclusiveness from defaultly masculine pronouns, than it is to recognize singular number from pronouns changed to the plural. Another method of accomplishing gender neutrality is by using phrases of several words. Unfortunately, they have to differ from passage to passage. In my opinion, the result is a bland, flat prose that has lost the rhythm and consistency of the original. It is for this reason that many people, including myself, cannot memorize scripture in any translation but the King James Version: because most modern translations have no rhythm. But the gospel of John, for example, has its own unique rhythm, including redundancies, that some modern translations apparently feel the need to eliminate.

My approach toward more gender inclusiveness was first of all, obviously, to render the Greek word ἄνθρωπος – *ánthrōpos* to something more neutral like human being, person, or people. In aphorisms, like "He who would come after me must deny himself daily, and take up his cross, and follow me," I changed the initial "He" to "The person," but left the him as him and the his as his. The reader can take the cue from the words "The person," that the whole aphorism is gender inclusive.

It was the norm in the Greek language of the New Testament, that the masculine singular pronoun was the default pronoun for gender-neutral usage, just like it has always been in English. God's people have long understood this and accepted this, in many cultures and many languages. The vast majority of people, Christian or not, can understand perfectly well the gender inclusiveness of an aphorism such as I worded it above, "The person who, ... he..."

As for words like "brothers," as in John 21:23, obviously the word got out to female believers, too. Yet the word "brethren" has long been understood to mean the community of believers both male and female. When you start adding words like "community" that are not strictly in the Greek text, I am a little uncomfortable. I can understand why some would render it, "community of believers." On the other hand, there is the possibility that the words "the brothers" in John 21:23 mean the same as in John 20:17-18. There, Jesus says to Mary the Magdalene, "Go to my brothers and tell them..." And Mary told those things to the apostles. In the same way, in this passage in John 21, the meaning could be: "This therefore is the word that got out to *the rest of the apostles*: that that disciple would not die." For not all the apostles had gone on this particular fishing trip. Therefore, I thought it best to leave it literally as the Greek says, "brothers."

Endnote #2

THE MEANING OF THE PHRASE, "THE JEWS," IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

PROBLEM: In the gospel of John, "the Jews" are often set over against Jesus as his enemies, even though both Jesus and the writer, John, were themselves Jews. This is a problem in that present day Jews reading the gospel of John feel attacked by it, and fringe racist groups reading the gospel of John find ammunition in it.

The meaning of the English word "Jew" is not widely agreed upon or understood. But the word is indisputably descended from the Hebrew name of one of the twelve sons of Jacob or Israel, the one named Judah. Judah became the largest of the twelve tribes and also contained the royal line of David and David's descendant, the future king, the Messiah. Israel for much of its political history was divided between the Judean tribes of Judah and Benjamin in the south, on the one hand, and on the other hand the ten tribes to the north, and also east of the Sea of Galilee. The southern kingdom's capital city was Jerusalem, and the capital city of the northern kingdom was Samaria.

The people of the southern kingdom were named after their dominant tribe, Judah, and so became known as "Judeans" or "Jews," and the people of the northern kingdom came to be named after their capital city, and were called "Samaritans." Later also, there was an intermediate group called Galileans. Here's an analogy: Not all facial tissues are made by the "Kleenex" brand company, but the Kleenex brand has been so dominant, that the trademark "Kleenex" has become a generic word for all facial tissues of any brand. In the same way, the Judeans, the tribe of Judah, were the dominant tribe in the longer lasting part of Israel before the captivity. They considered themselves superior to and holier than the Samaritans. The northern tribes did in fact intermarry with Gentiles sooner and perhaps more often than did the southern tribes, mainly because the northern kingdom was conquered sooner, by the Assyrians and Persians. For this reason, the northernmost tribes became known as "Galilee of the Gentiles," that is, "the *galil* (circle or district) of the Gentiles." The Judeans despised Samaritans and Galileans and considered them ceremonially unclean, like Gentiles.

I see three different meanings of the words "the Jews" in the gospel of John:

1. "The Jews" means "Judeans."

This is how David H. Stern literally rendered it in his "Jewish New Testament." For example, John 5:16 in his version says, "...and on account of this, the Judeans began harassing Yeshua because he did these things

on Shabbat." It does seem at times that the writer of the gospel of John hints that by the term "the Jews," he means the inhabitants of Judea and Jerusalem. John 7:1 says, "And after these things, Jesus was walking around in Galilee, for he was not wanting to walk in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him." John 11:54 says, "Thus from that time on they [the Sanhedrin] were resolved that they would kill him. ⁵⁴Therefore, Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but departed from there to an area next to the desert, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed, along with his disciples." This may be a hint indicating that by leaving the area of Jerusalem, he was leaving "the Jews." Jesus testified that it was the Jerusalemites who killed the prophets. (Matt. 23:37; Luke 13:34) The gospel of Mark says, "Even the Jerusalemites went out to be baptized by John." (Mark 1:5) Later in the New Testament, Jerusalem is spoken of disparagingly also. The apostle Paul likens earthly Jerusalem to Hagar the slave-woman, representing the form of legalistic Judaism opposed to Jesus, whereas the true Jerusalem, of Sarah and her true children, is above; that is, is heaven. (Galatians 4:25-26) John again, in his apocalypse, the book of Revelation, calls the city of Jerusalem, "Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified." (Rev. 11:8)

Judeans resisted any theological point put forth by Samaritans, no matter how reasonable or true the point may have been. It has been suggested that the "triennial cycle" of the reading of the Pentateuch in the synagogue, in which cycle the passages or "sedarim" of the Law pertaining to each festival were read on the customary dates of those festivals, was designed specifically for the purpose of controverting the views and customs held by the Samaritans pertaining to calendars for those festivals. By Jesus' time, there were at least three "castes" of Israelites. The "highest" or "purest" caste was comprised of the "Jews" of Jerusalem and Judea, who felt superior for another reason also: more of them maintained knowledge of the Hebrew language. The second caste was the Israelites in the far north and northeast, called the Galileans. Fewer of these knew Hebrew, and knew rather their native tongue, Aramaic; and many also spoke Greek and some Latin, because of their geo-political situation. The third and bottom caste was the "Samaritans" of Samaria. These literally were "untouchable," as in Diatessaron 6:7 and John 4:9. Even the second caste, Galileans, looked down on Samaritans. The town of Nazareth, where Jesus was from, was fairly close to Samaria. It was also said of Jesus that he was a Samaritan: "The Jews answered and said to him, 'Do we not rightly say that you are a Samaritan, and have a demon?'" (John 8:48) When a Galilean man, Nathaniel, was told to come meet Jesus of Nazareth, Nathaniel said, "Is it possible for anything good to be from Nazareth?" (Diatessaron 5:14; John 1:46) The disciples James and John were perfectly willing to call down fire from heaven and burn up Samaritans; see Diatessaron 18:2; Luke 9:54.

The word "Samaria" came to mean a region, with vague borders, north of Judea but south of Galilee, and west of the Jordan. This was by then not a political region. (As for the city formerly called Samaria, it had been renamed "Sebaste" by Herod the Great.) Jesus, unlike the rest of those of the two upper castes, would not always avoid Samaria. Those of the two upper castes, when traveling back and forth between Galilee and Judea, would be sure they conducted most of their north-south progress east of Jordan River, and approach Jerusalem from the east via Jericho, in order to avoid passing through Samaria.

This was lamentable. The well of the man Israel himself, that is, Jacob, was in Samaria, at which well Jesus astounded the Samaritan woman by drinking from the same vessel as she a Samaritan. In their conversation, she soon brought up theological and customary disagreements between the Jews and Samaritans. It is clear the Samaritans considered themselves Israelites. In that same passage, Jesus appears to consider himself a "Jew." In the genealogical sense, he certainly was a Judean, that is, descended of the tribe of Judah. In a geographical sense, however, he was not a Judean. The Judeans for their part considered Samaritans either as not Israelites, or if Israelites at all, disobedient, unclean and "cast out of the camp." Jesus in Matthew 10:5 excluded Samaritans from the group he called "the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But he apparently regarded them as more Israelite than the Phoenicians of Mark 7:26-28, Matthew 15:21-27, and Diatessaron 14:11-17, who were called "dogs." (But Jesus did reward even the Canaanite woman for her faith.) The apostles Peter and John evidently later on considered Samaritans to be Israelites, for in Acts 8:14-17, they readily went to Samaria to help them receive the Holy Spirit. This is in contrast to Acts 10, when Peter resisted the idea of Cornelius the Roman receiving the Holy Spirit, whom he clearly thought of as non-Israelite, Gentile and untouchable.

In modern times, the English word "Jew" means all descendants of the Shemite man Jacob, not just Judeans. And not really descendants in a racial sense, but in the sense of practicing the traditions passed down from the Judean Sanhedrin. Again, it was because Judah was the largest and most prominent tribe, that the whole

people came to be named after him. The message from Jews themselves, as to what a Jew is, is contradictory. On the one hand, it is said that there is no Jewish race per se, but a Jewish religion and culture. On the other hand, by Jewish law, any child of a Jewish mother is a Jew, whether practicing the religion or not. Agreement cannot be reached even in the state of Israel, as to who or what is a Jew, or how one becomes a Jew. Thus we must accept that the word Jew has several meanings.

2. The leaders of Pharisaic or Rabbinical Judaism.

Here is the text of John 7:11-13. ¹¹The Jews therefore were looking for him in the festival, and saying, "Where is that fellow?" ¹²And there was much whispering about him in the crowds. Some were maintaining, "He is a good man." "No," others would say. "He is misleading the people." ¹³Though none would speak about him openly, for fear of the Jews.

Here we have the crowds wanting to speak about Jesus, but not openly doing so, for fear of "the Jews." Clearly, the "Jews" the crowd were fearing were the Sanhedrin, who had decided that anybody who confessed that Jesus was the Messiah, should be put out of the synagogue. Yet, in the same passage, the crowd are called "Jews."

John 9:22 "His parents said these things because they were fearing the Jews. For the Jews had already decided that anyone who acknowledged Him to be the Christ, would be put out of the synagogue."

Here we have Jewish parents, who are afraid of "the Jews," and it is clear here that "the Jews" means the leaders of Rabbinical Judaism.

The leaders and Pharisees held in contempt the majority of the regular people, whom they referred to as אֲמֹת הָאָרֶץ- 'am hā'ārets, "people of the land." Originally, this phrase am-ha'arets only meant to distinguish the majority of Israelites from the leaders (Lev. 4:27; 20:4; 2 Kings 11:18, 19; 15:5; 16:15; 21:24; Ezekiel 7:27), but after the return from the exile, it came to mean those people living in Palestine whose Judaism was mixed or suspect, and with whom the more strict Jew could not intermarry. (Ezra 9:1-2, Nehemiah 10:30-31) But by New Testament times the Pharisees used it as a term of contempt in John 7:49 for all the people who "know not the law," which really meant those who did not observe the law according to their interpretation. The Pharisee considered the "people of the land" to be immoral, irreligious, and unclean and untouchable. According to the Pharisaic / Sanhedrin rabbinical law, their testimony was not admissible in court, and so they were not summoned as witnesses. They were not trustworthy enough to be appointed fiduciaries in a legal matter. And Pharisees were not allowed to eat with the "people of the land," and were not allowed to marry one of them, for, they said, "their women are unclean vermin."

Thus it is understandable why on several occasions when Jesus bested the Pharisees in theological or moral debate, the crowds "listened with delight."

3. False Jews

The gospel of John was written a relatively long time after Christ, after God's people had developed a new, spiritual meaning to the word "Jew." By the time John wrote his gospel, the disciples of Jesus identified themselves as Christians, and not so much as Jews. So John at various times uses both the widely used meaning, and also at other times the later meaning of "false Jew." For they taught that if a Jew did not accept Jesus as the Jewish Messiah, such a Jew is cut off from Israel, Acts 3: 22-23; Romans 11:17-21. The notion that a human being can inherit the kingdom of God solely by virtue of the fact that he is a Jew, is as false today, as it was when John the Baptizer warned, "And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham." (Matthew 3:9; Luke 3:8)

So we must accept that the word Jew, both in the New Testament, and in the world today, has more than one meaning. But how to render the word in the gospel of John? Should we change it passage by passage? I decided that this was too difficult to do with certainty. I left all instances rendered as the word "the Jews," and the reader must interpret these words by context. And I urge the reader to accept the ambiguity of the words "the Jews" as representative of the present word in general, that this is the situation with these words, difficult as it may be.

The danger of this is that a Jewish reader who is a non-believer, may get the feeling that John's gospel, and thus the Christian message in general, is anti-Jew. Or that non-Jewish readers may reckon to find in the gospel of John, scriptural justification for their hate of Jews. But in fact, neither the gospel of John nor the New Testament as a whole, teach any such thing. Witness the following quotations.

You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is of the Jews. John 4:22

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes; to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile. Romans 1:16

Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews are entrusted with the oracles of God. What if some were unfaithful? Does their unfaithfulness nullify the faithfulness of God? By no means! Let God be true, and every man a liar..." Romans 3:1-4

...I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen by race. They are Israelites, and to them belong the sonship, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race according to the flesh, is the Christ. God who is over all, be blessed for ever. Amen. But it is not as though the word of God had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his descendants.; but 'through Isaac shall your descendants be named.' This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are reckoned as descendants. Romans 9:2-8

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to you Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump; and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the richness of the olive tree, do not boast over the branches. If you do boast, remember that it is not you that support the root, but the root supports you. You will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you... Romans 11:13-21

Critical Apparatus re. Bethany vs. Bethabara in John 1:28

This is the most complete data available to me as of Oct 08, 2008, including a full accounting of extantness versus lacunae of all majuscules cited on the IGNTP site, and correcting Rueben Swanson's error regarding Γ (036).

Βηθανία ℘⁵ ℘⁵⁹ ℘⁶⁶ ℘⁷⁵ ⚭* A B C* E F H L M N S W^{supp} Δ Θ Ψ* Ω 063 0211 2* 7 8 9 18 27 28 118 124 157 205 461 475 579 597 700 892^{txt} 1006 1009 1010 1073 1194 1195 1203 1210 1212 1216 1241 1242 1243 1253 1342 1344 1365* 1424 1505*^{vid} 1514 2148 2174 ⚭^l Lect it^{a,aur,b,c,e,f,ff²,l,q,r¹} vg syr^{p,h,pal^{mss}} cop^{bo} slav Origen Eusebius Epiphanius mss^{acc.} to Chrysostom Chrysostom; Ambrosiaster Augustine HF RP PK NA27 {C}

Βιθανία G X 565 1071 1192^c 1519

Βηθαβαρά C² K (T^{vid} the last letter is not readable) Γ Π Ψ^c 083 0141 1 2^c 33 180 1079 1192* 1230 1292 1365^c 1505^c 1546 1646^c ℓ770 ℓ773 ℓ^{AD} syr^{s,c,pal^{mss}} cop^{sa^{mss}} arm geo Origen Eusebius Epiphanius mss^{acc.} to Chrysostom Cyril TR (Joshua 18:22 LXX)

Βηθαβαρά ⚭² 892^{mg} pc syr^{h^{mg}} (Joshua 18:22 Heb.; 15:6, 61 Grk. LXX; cf. also Judges 7:24 LXX)

Βιθαβαρῶ U 18 35

Βηθεβαρῶ Λ 13 69 828

Βιθαρῶ 1646*

lac ϣ⁴⁵ D P Q V Y 047 050 054 060 065 068 070 078 086 087 091 0101 0105 0109 0127 0145 0162 0210 0216 0217 0218 0233 0234 0238 0256 0258 0260 0264 0268 0273 0286 0287 0290 0299 0301 0302 0306 0309.

Origen declares that in his time, "nearly all the manuscripts" said Bethany. But, he preferred Bethabara, because, he said, he could not find a Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, but only the one near Jerusalem, plus he was attracted to the edifying etymology of Bethabara, "house of preparation," (about which he was mistaken; actually means "house [or place] of passing over") versus the meaning of Bethany, which is "house of obedience."

For a map of the pertinent areas and a full TC discussion by Jeremy M. Hutton, use this download URL:
<http://www.bibletranslation.ws/download/Hutton.pdf>

Swanson lists Γ for lacuna here, but he was mistaken. He consulted the Oxford fragment, and was unaware that another piece of the manuscript resided St. Petersburg. The IGNTP site lists the correct readings for 036 (Γ).

Note that though the old apparatuses list 0141 as an uncial, we now know it is "a minuscule commentary manuscript whose lemmata are written in majuscule." source: IGNTP

Witnesses arranged by date, up to the 12th century:

Date	Witnesses	Reading
II/III	ϣ ⁶⁶	1 - Βηθανία
III	ϣ ⁵ ϣ ⁷⁵ cop ^{bo} Origen (253/254)	1 - Βηθανία
III	cop ^{samss} Origen (253/254)	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
III/IV	syr ^{s,c}	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
IV	κ* B it ^a Eusebius Ambrosiaster	1 - Βηθανία
IV	Eusebius	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
V	A C* it ^{b,e,ff2} syr ^p Epiphanius Chrysostom Augustine	1 - Βηθανία
V	arm geo Epiphanius Chrysostom	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
V	T ^{vid} (the last letter is not readable)	(2) Βηθαβαρ_
V-VII?	κ ²	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
VI	N	1 - Βηθανία
VI/VII	it ^q syr ^{pal} mss	1 - Βηθανία
VI/VII	083 syr ^{pal} mss	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
VII	ϣ ⁵⁹ it ^{aur,r1} syr ^h	1 - Βηθανία
VIII	E L it ^{l,q}	1 - Βηθανία
IX	Δ* F H M Θ Ω 063 0211 892 it ^f	1 - Βηθανία
IX	G 565 slav	(1) Βιθανία
IX	K Π 33	2 - Βηθαβαρῶ
IX	U	(2) Βιθαβαρῶ
IX	Λ	(2) Βηθεβαρῶ
IX/X	Ψ* 1424	1 - Βηθανία
X	S	1 - Βηθανία

X	X	1 - Βηθανία
X	Γ 0141 1079 ℓ770	2 - Βηθαβαρᾶ
XI	28 124 700 1006 1195 1216 1243	1 - Βηθανία
XI	ℓ773	2 - Βηθαραβᾶ
XI/XII	2	1 - Βηθανία
XII	157 1010 1241 1344 1365	1 - Βηθανία
XII	1071	(1) Βιθανία
XII	1 180 1230 1505	2 - Βηθαραβᾶ
XII	828	(2) Βηθεβαρᾶ
XII	1648*	(2) Βιθαρᾶ

Endnote #3

SHOULD "THE PERICOPE OF THE ADULTERESS" BE INCLUDED?

John 7:53- 8:11

PROBLEM: Did the apostle John, the author of the gospel of John, write this section? Did the apostles who laid the scriptural foundation for the church intend that this story of the woman caught in adultery be part of that foundation? Does the passage have weight and authority equal to that of scripture? This passage is not found in any Greek manuscript dated before the fifth century (Codex D). It is not found in the earliest translations of the Bible into other languages, such as the old Syriac, fourth century; the old Latin, fourth century; the Georgian Bible, fifth century; the Slavic Bible, and the Coptic Bible, as late as the ninth century. It was not in the gospel of John when the decision was made to include John in the canons of scripture: the Muratorian Canon, A.D. 170; Eusebius' "Ecclesiastical History," c. 340; the Council of Hippo, A.D. 393; and the Council of Carthage, A.D. 397; Codex Bezae Cantabrigiae 206 θ, A.D. 692. No Greek church father prior to the 12th century comments on the passage (as being part of the gospel of John specifically). These are the manuscripts from which it is absent on purpose: \mathfrak{P}^{45vid} \mathfrak{P}^{66} \mathfrak{P}^{75} \aleph A^{vid} B C^{vid} L N T W X Y Δ Θ Ψ 070^{vid} 0141 0211 22 33 124 157 209 213 397 461 713 788 799 821 828 849 865 1192 1210 1230 1241 1242 1253 1333^{txt} 1424* 2193 2323 2561* 2768 (some 280+ total) // *include it with critical marks*: E (only 8:2-11) M S Λ Π Ω 18 35 1424^{mg} 1514 (270 minuscules total) // *include the Pericope with wide variation among themselves*: 1,863 Greek mss. including lectionaries TR HF RP // *contains John 7:53, but then rest after Luke 21:38* 124 // *place after Luke 21:38* f^{13} (13 69 124 346 543 788 826 828 983 1709, but not 174 230 1689) 1434 // *place at the end of Gosp. of John* f^1 (1 565* 1582 2193 but not 118 131 209) also 1076 1570 // *after Jn 7:36* 225 1128 // *after John 8:12* 17 mss. // *after Jn 8:14a* 2691 // *after Jn 8:20* 981 // *at end of gosp. of Luke / beginning of gosp. of John* 1333^{mg} // *lac* P Q V 050 054 060 063 065 068 078 083 086 087 091 0101 0105 0109 0127 0145 0162 0210 0216 0217 0218 0234 0238 0256 0258 0260 0264 0268 0273 0286 0287 0290 0299 0301 0302 0306 0309 (565*- apparently used to have P.A. at end of gospel of John, and still contains a faded introduction to the P.A., per Maurice Robinson and Klaus Witte), there are critical marks.

Both Philip Comfort and Maurice Robinson ("Preliminary Observations Regarding the Pericope Adulterae," *Filologia Neotestamentaria* 13: 35-59) would list \mathfrak{P}^{39vid} as omitting the Pericope based on space considerations, as Comfort is quoted on the Sotheby's Auction: "(2005, pp. 353-4) makes interesting calculations by working backwards from the page number. He notes that the scribe evidently wrote 330 characters on p. 73 and 333 on p. 74. He then counts 23,796 characters from John 8:14 back to John 1:1 at the start of the Gospel. 23,796 divided by 333 is almost exactly 71½ pages. This would not allow enough space for inclusion of the disputed passage of the Woman taken in Adultery (John 7:53-8:11), which cannot have been present." Others however say that there are too many other possibilities as to what text might have been omitted to declare that Papyrus 39 is a witness to omission.

Papyrus 45, A, C and 070 are for more likely to have omitted, since the area of missing text is more proximal, and shorter.

The earliest Greek manuscript of the Gospel of John that contains the story is Codex D from the 5th century. Jerome, also 5th century, says in PL 23:553, "in the Gospel according to John in many manuscripts, both Greek and Latin, is found the story of the adulterous woman who was accused before the Lord."

The STORY of the woman caught in adultery was known very early to some church Fathers, but that is not the same as it being known to be a part of the Gospel of John. Papias from the 2nd century knew of the story. And even yet Didymus the Blind, 398, in "Commentary on Ecclesiastes," says of the Pericope, "We find, therefore, in certain gospels..."

For a chart showing all the various readings of the Pericope in the Greek manuscripts, arranged in the Swanson format, right-click or copy and paste this link: <http://www.bibletranslation.ws/trans/pachart.pdf> and choose "save as."

Some observations on Style

When you translate this passage from the Greek, you see that there is a very marked change in the style of Greek, compared to the rest of the gospel of John. One change is in the more frequent use of the particle δὲ all of a sudden. There is also a marked increase in the use of the circumstance-setting participle near the beginning of a sentence, more often than is John's style.

Here is the pericope in question:

John 7:53 Καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν ἕκαστος εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ,
⁵³And each went to his home.

Chapter 8

John 8:1 Ἰησοῦς δὲ ἐπορεύθη εἰς τὸ ὄρος τῶν Ἐλαιῶν.

¹But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

John 8:2 Ὁρθρου δὲ πάλιν παρεγένετο εἰς τὸ ἱερόν, καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἤρχετο πρὸς αὐτόν, καὶ καθίσας ἐδίδασκεν αὐτούς.

²And at dawn he showed up in the temple again, and all the people were coming toward him. And having sat down he was teaching them.

John 8:3 ἄγουσιν δὲ οἱ γραμματεῖς καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι γυναῖκα ἐπὶ μοιχείᾳ κατειλημμένην, καὶ στήσαντες αὐτὴν ἐν μέσῳ

³And the Torah scholars and the Pharisees are bringing a woman caught in adultery. And after they stood her in the midst

John 8:4 λέγουσιν αὐτῷ, Διδάσκαλε, αὕτη ἡ γυνὴ κατείληπται ἐπ' αὐτοφώρῳ μοιχευομένη·

⁴they say to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery.

John 8:5 ἐν δὲ τῷ νόμῳ ἡμῶν Μωϋσῆς ἐνετείλατο τὰς τοιαύτας λιθάζειν· σὺ οὖν τί λέγεις;

⁵And in the Law, Moses charged us to stone such women. What then do you say?"

John 8:6 τοῦτο δὲ ἔλεγον πειράζοντες αὐτόν, ἵνα ἔχωσιν κατηγορεῖν αὐτοῦ. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς κάτω κύψας τῷ δακτύλῳ κατέγραφεν εἰς τὴν γῆν.

⁶Now this they were saying tempting him, in order that they might obtain basis to accuse him. But Jesus bent down *and* was writing on the ground with his finger.

John 8:7 ὡς δὲ ἐπέμενον ἐρωτῶντες αὐτόν, ἀνέκυψεν καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Ὁ ἀναμάρτητος ὑμῶν πρῶτος ἐπ' αὐτὴν βαλέτω λίθον·

⁷After they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "The one of you who is sinless should throw a stone at her first."

John 8:8 καὶ πάλιν κατακύψας ἔγραφεν εἰς τὴν γῆν.

⁸And after bending down again, he continued writing on the ground.

John 8:9 οἱ δὲ ἀκούσαντες ἐξήρχοντο εἰς καθ' εἷς ἀρξάμενοι ἀπὸ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων, καὶ κατελείφθη μόνος, καὶ ἡ γυνὴ ἐν μέσῳ οὐσα.

⁹And after they heard this, they went away one by one, starting with the oldest, until he alone was left, and the woman still in the midst.

John 8:10 ἀνακύψας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῇ, Γύναι, ποῦ εἰσιν; οὐδεὶς σε κατέκρινεν;

¹⁰And Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

John 8:11 ἡ δὲ εἶπεν, Οὐδεὶς, κύριε. εἶπεν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Οὐδὲ ἐγὼ σε κατακρίνω πορεύου, [καὶ] ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν μηκέτι ἀμάρτανε.

¹¹And she said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither am I condemning you. Go your way, and from now on, sin no more."

Probably the foremost authority on questions of authenticity of passages in the Greek text is the book "A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament," by Bruce M. Metzger on behalf of and in cooperation with the Editorial Committee of the United Bible Societies' Greek New Testament: Kurt Aland, Matthew Black, Carlo M. Martini, Bruce M. Metzger, and Allen Wikgren. The following is a quote from it¹⁵³ concerning this passage:

"The evidence for the non-Johannine origin of the pericope of the adulteress is overwhelming. It is absent from such early and diverse manuscripts as $\mathfrak{P}^{66, 75}$ \aleph B L N T W X Y Δ Θ Ψ 0141 0211 22 33 124 157 209 788 828 1230 1241 1242 1253 2193 *al.* Codices A and C are defective in this part of John, but it is highly probable that neither contained the pericope, for careful measurement discloses that there would not have been space enough on the missing leaves to include the section along with the rest of the text. In the East the passage is absent from the oldest form of the Syriac version (*syr^{c,s}* and the best manuscripts of *syr^p*), as well as from the Sahidic and the sub-Achmimic versions and the older Bohairic manuscripts. Some Armenian manuscripts and the Old Georgian version omit it. In the West the passage is absent from the Gothic version and from several Old Latin manuscripts (*it^{a,1*},q*). No Greek Church Father prior to Euthymius Zigabenus (twelfth century) comments on the passage, and Euthymius declares that the accurate copies of the Gospel do not contain it.

When one adds to this impressive and diversified list of external evidence the consideration that the style and vocabulary of the pericope differ noticeably from the rest of the Fourth Gospel (see any critical commentary), and that it interrupts the sequence of 7:52 and 8:12 ff., the case against its being of Johannine authorship appears to be conclusive.

At the same time the account has all the earmarks of historical veracity. It is obviously a piece of oral tradition which circulated in certain parts of the Western church and which was subsequently incorporated into various manuscripts at various places. Most copyists apparently thought that it would interrupt John's narrative least if it were inserted after 7:52 (D E (F) G H K M U Γ Π 28 700 892 *al.*). Others placed it after 7:36 (ms. 225) or after 7:44 (several Georgian mss.) or after 21:25 (1 565 1076 1570 1582 *arm^{mss}*) or after Luke 21:38 (*f¹³*). Significantly enough, in many of the witnesses which contain the passage it is marked with asterisks or obeli, indicating that, though the scribes included the account, they were aware that it lacked satisfactory credentials.

Sometimes it is stated that the pericope was deliberately expunged from the Fourth Gospel because it was liable to be understood in a sense too indulgent to adultery. [Jerome speculated this.] But, apart from the absence of any instance elsewhere of scribal excision of an extensive passage because of moral prudence, this theory fails "to explain why the three preliminary verses (vii 53; viii 1-2), so important as apparently descriptive of the time and place at which all the discourses of c. viii were spoken, should have been omitted with the rest" (Hort, "Notes on Select Readings," pp. 86 f.).

Although the Committee was unanimous that the pericope was originally no part of the Fourth Gospel, in deference to the evident antiquity of the passage a majority decided to print it, enclosed within double square brackets, at its traditional place following Jn 7:52."

¹⁵³ pp. 219-221 of the commentary on the corrected edition of the Greek New Testament of 1975, printed 1983?

The Committee included it in its traditional place "in deference to its antiquity." But they omitted scores of other passages that are even older than the pericope. So why did they choose to include this particular passage? Probably because of its relatively large size, and because it is so well known and loved. They are unanimous that the passage is not original holy writ, but include it because it probably is truth. However, I would like the criterion for inclusion of a passage to be, not whether or not it is a true story, but whether or not the apostles intended it to have the authority of scripture. Truth and authority are not the same. "2+2=4" is truth, but it is not scripture. God did not inspire one of his apostles or prophets to put it among the foundational truths that are authoritative original holy writ. So it is with the Pericope of the Adulteress. I would think we would want our translations of the gospel of John to be 100% pure scripture, all the real thing.

Nevertheless, I decided to include the passage in the text of John, with a footnote indicating that it may not be original scripture. Though I personally consider it to be New Testament pseudepigrapha,¹⁵⁴ I know it is a story beloved by many. So I decided to leave in the text of my translation, considering that it probably does no harm, unlike the spurious ending that tradition has added on to the gospel of Mark.

FREQUENCY OF THE PARTICLE δε

On the style of Greek, you can check it out yourself and see, that the passage John 7:53 to 8:11 is not written in the style of John. John does not use the Greek word "de" near as often as the other gospel writers, but in this passage, it is found much more often than in the rest of John.

Out of the other 867 verses in the gospel of John, the word "de" is found 203 times, or in an average of 23% of the verses, while in these 12 verses, John 7:53 to 8:11, the word "de" is found 11 times, or an average of 92% of the verses. Another change in style is an increase of participial phrases. For these reasons and others, I feel no uncertainty in flatly declaring that the passage is not written in the style of the apostle John.

Someone has said in rebuttal to my general argument:

As for DE suddenly occurring "much more frequently", this is not the only place in John where a run of DE's happens to occur. Cf. DE in Jn 2:17, 21, 23, 24; 3:1; cf. also DE in Jn 3:18, 19, 21, 23; cf. also DE in Jn 3:29, 30, 36, 4:4, 6; cf. also DE in Jn 6:3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12; cf. also 7:2, 6, 7, 9, 10. Basically there is not much difference, and John simply fluctuates in his usage at different points.

First of all, he must be using the Byzantine text, because John 2:17 and 6:11 do not contain DE in my Greek New Testament.

Again, the Pericope contains 11 instances of DE in 12 verses. But the examples given above are:

Cf. DE in Jn 2:17, 21, 23, 24; 3:1;

4 instances in 10 verses. (I don't accept the 2:17 instance; it is not in my Greek New Testaments.)

cf. also DE in Jn 3:18, 19, 21, 23;

4 times in 6 verses. This is a lot, but the impact of this sampling is lessened because its 6 verses is such a small sample of verses compared to the 12 verses of the Pericope, one half the number of verses.

cf. also DE in Jn 3:29, 30, 36, 4:4, 6;

5 times in 13 verses.

¹⁵⁴ Writings attributed to an author falsely, and regarded as not inspired by God and not authoritative

cf. also DE in Jn 6:3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12;

5 times in 10 verses. (I don't accept the 6:11 instance; it is not in my Greek New Testaments.)

cf. also 7:2, 6, 7, 9, 10.

5 times in 9 verses.

These examples he gives don't match the rate of the sudden frequency of increase of DE in the pericope. Yes, John fluctuates, but this much, as follows:

The Pericope is just 12 verses. Out of the other 867 verses in the gospel of John, the word DE is found 203 times, or in an average of 23% of the verses, while in just these 12 verses, John 7:53 to 8:11, the word DE is found 11 times, or an average of 92% of the verses. **That is almost once per verse.**

The examples the person gives show about one half the rate of increase of DE's as does the Pericope.

What the he should say is that John fluctuates in his frequency of the use of DE a few times, and this Pericope of the Adulteress that is being debated, just happens to be the most extreme example of such a fluctuation. It would be a more convincing argument if his examples of other concentrations of DE were greater or at least equal to the Pericope, instead of only half as. But you see, add to this definite increase of the use of DE, to the sudden increase of sentence-initial participial phrases, which John just does not use as often as other NT writers, and add other non-Johannine traits, and it all adds up to being non-Johannine in style of writing, in my mind.

USE OF SENTENCE-INITIAL PARTICIPIAL PHRASES TO SET THE CIRCUMSTANCE

In New Testament Greek, there were several ways you could set the circumstance for the sentence as to timing, or other such situation. An aorist participle could be used, such as EMBLEPSAS, "When he saw, he did such and such," or "after he looked, he did such and such." A linear participle could be used, as meaning "as he was looking, he did such and such."

John does use the above device with participles, but less than do the other gospel writers. John also likes to use what we English speakers would consider stright-forward adverbs, such as META, "after," HWS, "as," HOTE, "when." And even instead of the linear participle, he will use an imperfect verb to accomplish the same thing, something more like we do in English.

But when you come to the Pericope of the Adulteress, you find a marked increase of the use of sentence-initial participles to set the circumstance. Heavy use of this device is a style not inconsistent with one of the synoptic gospels, but inconsistent with John.

I find such participial phrases in the Pericope as follows:

8:2 καθίσας – And having sat down, he was teaching them

8:3-4 στήσαντες – And having stood her in the midst, they said to him

8:6 κύψας –But Jesus after bending down, began to write on the ground

8:7 ἐρωτῶντες – But as they continued questioning him, he straightened up

8:8 κατακύψας – And again having bent down, he was writing on the ground

8:10 ἀνακύψας – And after straightening up, Jesus said to her

This comes to 6 examples of this in 9 verses. – 66% of the verses start this way.

In the rest of John, I found 55 examples in 867 verses. – 6% of the verses in the rest of John start this way.

This is a heavy concentration of sentence-initial participial circumstance-setting phrases, and I challenge anyone to find such a concentration elsewhere in John's writings.

Following are the 55 examples I found in the rest of the gospel of John. (Note: I scanned both the UBS Greek New Testament and the Hodges and Farstad text, and in this count they are not different.)

1:36, 1:38, 1:42, 2:3, 2:15, 4:47, 4:51, 5:6, 6:5, 6:14, 6:15, 6:19, 6:25, 6:61, 7:14, 8:30, 9:1, 9:6, 11:4, 11:17, 11:28, 11:43, 11:51, 12:3, 12:14, 13:2 (3,4?), 13:21, 13:25, 13:26, 13:30, 16:8, 18:1, 18:3, 18:4, 18:10, 18:22, 18:38, 19:2, 19:13, 19:17, 19:26, 19:28, 19:30, 20:5, 20:14, 20:20, 20:22, 21:4, 21:7, 21:19, 21:20, 21:21.

Note that there are long stretches in John without this trait. Yet those long stretches are where Jesus is teaching, without interruption of narrative of events and travel and different characters inter-acting. When there is a concentration of sentence-initial participles for setting the circumstance, they are where there is more movement in the circumstance of the narrative than just teaching, like in chapter 13, 18, and 19. That consideration does lessen the impact of this change I am pointing out, I admit. Neither the increased concentration of DE argument, nor this participle argument are very strong by themselves, but together they are stronger. The more traits that the Pericope has that are not Johannine, the more convincing.

Another trait of the Pericope that is not like John, is that there is a greater variety of vocabulary for such a small passage.

On the other side, Zane C. Hodges and Arthur L. Farstad, in their Introduction to their "The Greek New Testament According to the Majority Text," Second Edition (Nashville, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1985) point to the following traits in the Pericope as being Johannine:

John 8:6 has the phrase τοῦτο δὲ ἔλεγον πειράζοντες αὐτόν - Now this they were saying tempting him." This same kind of phrase, τοῦτο δὲ followed by a form of the word for saying, is found elsewhere in John as follows:

6:6 – τοῦτο δὲ ἔλεγεν πειράζων οὐτόν But he said this testing him

7:39 - τοῦτο δὲ εἶπεν περὶ τοῦ πνεύματος Now this he said in reference to the Spirit

11:51 - τοῦτο δὲ ἄφ' ἑαυτοῦ οὐκ εἶπεν But this, from himself he did not say.

12:6 - εἶπεν δὲ τοῦτο οὐχ ὅτι περὶ τῶν πτωχῶν But he said this not because it mattered to him about the poor (I think this example is weak, not exactly like the phrase in John 8:6.)

12:33 - τοῦτο δὲ ἔλεγεν σημαίνων ποίῳ θανάτῳ Now this he was saying signaling by what kind of death

21:19 - τοῦτο δὲ εἶπεν σημαίνων ποίῳ θανάτῳ Now this he said signaling by what kind of death

Secondly, they argue that the use of the vocative Γύναι (*woman*) in 8:10 is a very typical Johannine usage, cf. 2:4; 4:21; 19:26; cf. also 20:13, 15. In fact, by my count, there are 9 other instances of this word in the vocative case in the New Testament, and not limited to John: Matt 15:28, Luke 13:12; 22:57; John 2:4; 4:21; 19:26; 20:13; 20:15; I Cor. 7:16.

Thirdly, they say that that the phrase μηκέτι ἁμάρτανε - "sin no more" in 8:11 occurs only one other time in the New Testament, at John 5:14. In those exact inflections, this is true.

However, Wieland Willker points out a dozen phrases that are typical Lukan usage, in his pdf document to which I give the link below. This all would not be inconsistent with some writer other than John or Luke, who shares some writing traits of both John and Luke.

Another Byzantine text advocate, Maurice Robinson, believes that the Pericope was omitted by some copyists early on, as a result of the practice of dividing up the scriptures into liturgical sections, "lectionary readings," for various times of the year. Such that the Pericope was put at the end of manuscripts, because the story was thought inappropriate for the Pentecost reading. A summary of his arguments can be found at this link: <http://www.dtl.org/versions/e-mails/adultery.htm>

On the other hand, Wieland Willker rebuts this lectionary argument, in an article well worth reading, the link to which I give below. Among other things, it shows stylistic traits in the Pericope that are more like Luke. It also shows how the Pericope interrupts the flow of John's gospel. It is an Adobe Acrobat Reader pdf document: <http://www-user.uni-bremen.de/~wie/TCG/TC-John-PA.pdf>

And here is an excellent article about the Pericope, by Samuel Davidson, a [freely downloadable pdf](#).

I have compiled a chart of the Greek manuscripts of the entire Pericope of the Adulteress, in the Swanson style, showing all the variant readings in the pericope. That is a pdf, and can be [downloaded here](#):

<http://www.bibletranslation.ws/trans/pachart.pdf>

Endnote #4

IN JOHN 8:25, WAS JESUS SAYING, "I AM WHAT I HAVE BEEN TELLING YOU FROM THE BEGINNING," OR WAS HE SAYING, "WHY DO I SPEAK TO YOU AT ALL!"?

John 8:25, Diatessaron 15:32

GREEK TEXT: Τὴν ἀρχὴν ὅ τι καὶ λαλῶ ὑμῖν;

PROBLEM: In most of the early manuscripts of the New Testament, only capital letters were used, and there were no spaces between words and sentences. Nor was there much punctuation. This makes it difficult at times to tell where one word ends and the next begins, thus difficult to know which words the author meant. To illustrate this, suppose we had the same practice in English, and you were confronted with the letters: ANDTHENHEISNOWHEREWHATAMYSTEROUS. Take the words in the letters, HEISNOWHERE. Did the author mean "He is nowhere" or "He is now here"? There is exactly this kind of problem in interpreting John 8:25. The Greek words translated "Just what" in the sentence "Just what I have been saying along" in John 8:25, Diatessaron 15:32 are the words ὅ τι - hó ti, which mean "that which." Or are they one word, ὅτι - hó ti, a Greek word which can mean "because" or "that," or, in "Biblical Greek," "why."

Consequently, according to the UBS textual commentary, edited by Bruce M. Metzger, the sentence could be variously translated as follows:

1. As a question, with ὅτι = "why?" ("Why do I speak to you at all?") Where τὴν ἀρχὴν in the accusative case would be adverbial and equivalent to ὅλως - hólōs - "altogether." This use of hó ti as meaning "why" is what is called "Biblical Greek." It is a result of the influence of the Septuagint, the translation of the Hebrew scriptures into Greek, which had a strong effect on the Greek spoken by Jews. In the Septuagint, whenever ὅ τι - hó ti is used, it is always a translation of the Hebrew interrogative pronouns used in direct questions and meaning "why," such as מָה לָמַדָּה and מָה יִשְׁאָל.
2. As an exclamation, with hó ti as a Hebraism¹⁵⁵ after הֲלוֹא ("That I speak to you at all!")
3. As an affirmation, with hó ti and implying *I am* ("[I am] from the beginning what I am telling you" or "Primarily [I am] what I am telling you" or "[I am] what I have told you from the beginning").

¹⁵⁵ A Hebrew idiom transferred to the Greek language by Greek-speaking Jews.

The Bodmer Papyrus II (P⁶⁶) reads, according to a marginal correction which may be by the original scribe, "Jesus said to them, 'I told you in the beginning that which also I am telling you.'" For full discussions of the difficulties of the passage, see R.W. Funk, *Harvard Theological Review*, LI (1958), pp. 95-100, and E.R. Smothers, S.J. *ibid.*, pp. 111-122, who independently prefer the reading of the papyrus 66 corrector.

An argument in favor of the third alternative mentioned above, is that a few verses later, John says "many of his hearers put their faith in Him." There are hearers present with whom he is sympathetic.

On the other hand, Jesus' next words, "I HAVE MUCH TO SAY to you, but...I only speak what I hear from the Father," would be a natural continuance from him saying something like "Why do I speak to you at all?" For his next words indicate a holding back from speaking. Both sentences then would have a theme of him not speaking.

Another problem with the traditional rendering "I am what I have told you from the beginning," is that Jesus had not really told them who he was prior to this. He was rather evasive to them about it. Clearly from context, these are not conversation partners with whom he was sympathetic: "You are from below, I am from above... You shall die in your sins..."

It would not be out of character for Jesus to refuse to speak with someone. For remember, Jesus knew what was in people's hearts and minds. It could be that the particular people who were questioning him in the verse in question were hypocrites, and Jesus knew that they wouldn't believe what he said anyway, and that they wouldn't ask sincere, God-seeking questions. And that only the nonvocal bystanders were coming to believe in him in this setting. With these conditions in view, he could say to the actual questioners only: "Why do I even bother speaking to you?"

In any case, it would not be out of character for Jesus to verbally express frustration or dislike about the insincerity (Diatess. 26:3; Mk 12:13-15) or hypocrisy (Diatess. 14:2,4; 19:35,36; 26:3; Mk 7:5,6; Lk 13:14-17) or lack of cooperative intent (Diatess. 30:16,17; Luke 22:67-69) or lack of intelligence (Diatess. 14:8,9,31; Matt. 15:15-16; Mk 7:7-19; 8:14-21) of his conversation partners.

Want to read cursive N.T. Manuscripts, but you don't know the ligatures? Get a quick-reference ligature chart here: <http://www.bibletranslation.ws/ligatures.html> .