

Week 5 - **Jesus and the Gospels**

with Dr. Geoffrey Lentz



Wednesday, February 8—John: So You May Have Life

Reading: John 1, John 3, John 4, John 21

John's Gospel is the most spiritual. Using double meanings and deep theological motifs, John draws the reader into a mystical connection with Christ resulting in new spiritual life.

I. Opening Prayer

II. Review

III. Background

- A. Written—circa 100AD
- B. Anonymous Authorship, the Beloved Disciple, John the Evangelist
- C. Written in Greek for a Jewish Christian Audience, (the Johannine Community) likely in Ephesus
- D. The Non-synoptic Gospel, Possible Markan Supplement
- E. “a spiritual Gospel,” St. Clement—Eagle Symbol

IV. The anti-Semitic problem of John

V. Themes

- A. Incarnation—John 1, sent from God, word made flesh
- B. Double Entendre, born again, living water
- C. 7 Signs (1. Water into wine, 2. Healing of noble man's son 3. Healing of crippled man 4. Feeding of 5,000, 5. Walking on the water 6. Healing of man born blind 7. Razing of Lazarus
- D. 7 I am statements (1. Bread of life, 2. Light of the world, 3. Sheep gate, 4. Good shepherd, 5. Resurrection and life, 6. way, truth, and life, 7. True vine)
- E. Absolute I am's 4:26, 6:20, 8:24, 8:28, 8:58, 13:19, 18:5-8
- F. Holy Week Timeline

VI. Great Commission—“When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’.....³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe* that Jesus is the Messiah,* the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name”

VII. Song and Prayer

I'VE GOT A RIVER OF LIFE

Verse 1

**I've got a river of life flowing within me;
It makes the lame to walk and the blind to see.
It opens prison doors, sets the captives free.
I've got a river of life flowing within me.**

Chorus

**Spring up, O well, within my spirit!
Rise up and tell, so all can hear it!
Spring up, O well, so I experience
That life abundantly.**

Verse 2

**I've got a river of life flowing within me;
It started gushing up when God set me free.
That I keep the flow is my only plea.
I've got a river of life springing within me.**

(Chorus)