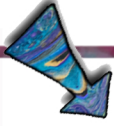


The VideoBook of John

Script by Ivy Brog



WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF JOHN?

John actually never provides his name as the author of the gospel of John. Honestly, identifications like that were not made in any of the other three gospels either, and so it's not something we look at and say "that's kinda weird". But two significant factors point to the identification of John as the author. First, the book itself identifies the author as "the disciple whom Jesus loved."

This description likely pointed to John for three reasons.

#1 The author had to be one of the 12 disciples, because he was an eyewitness to the events in the gospel. John 21:24.

#2 He was probably one of the inner circle of three disciples, that being James, John, and Peter. Because he was among the first that Mary told of the resurrection in Chapters 20:1-10.

#3 The author was distinguished from Peter in the book, while James died much too soon after the resurrection, to be the author.

It is pretty safe to say that JOHN was

#1...the author

#2...the disciple Jesus loved.

WHERE ARE WE?

Christian tradition John's gospel has always been referred to as "the 4th gospel", meaning it was composed after the other three. Polycarp, who was a 2nd Century Christian martyr who knew John personally, actually told Irenaeus that John had written the book during the apostle's time serving the church in Ephesus. These factors suggest that John wrote the book somewhere between AD 85 - AD 95.

WHY IS THE GOSPEL OF JOHN SO IMPORTANT?

John did not include the nativity story in his gospel, instead he introducing his book by going to back even farther into history. Invoking the words, "in the beginning", the language from Genesis 1:1. John makes a direct link between the nature of God and the nature of the Word, Jesus Christ. The emphasis on the deity of Christ is a continual emphasis of John's Gospel. It also comes through very clearly elsewhere in the book, particularly John 8 when Jesus claimed the divine name "I am" for himself, which essentially led this incredible angry mob of Jews to try to kill him for blasphemy, because only God can use that name.

