

- B. Just believing something about Jesus will not suffice.
 - 1. That He was a good man? If so, He was what He claimed to be.
 - 2. A prophet, or a great one raised from the dead? More than that!
 - 3. He is truly the Son of God --that necessitates our believing in His virgin birth, His miracles His sinlessness, His atonement, His resurrection, His kingly power, His deity.
 - 4. John 8:24, 21, 32.
- C. This is the confession required. Matt. 10:32,33, Acts 8:37.
 - 1. It cost Christ His life. Mark 14:61,62.
 - 2. And the early Christians persecution and death.
 - 3. Some refused, John 12:42,43. Some refuse now!
- V. And That Believing Ye Might Have Life Through His Name**
 - A. Faith can lead to life. John 1:12
 - 1. Must exist to certain degree. Luke 17:5
 - a. May have some faith and be lost. John 8:30:24; John 12:42,43.
 - b. Saving faith is a working faith. Gal. 5:6; Heb. 5:8,9; Matt 7:21.
 - 2. Must demonstrate itself.
 - B. Life is in His name. Acts 4:11,12.
 - 1. Must do what He authorized: Believe --Mark 16:15,16; Repent --Luke 24:46,47; Confess --Rom. 10:9,10; Be baptized --Acts 2:38.
 - 2. We do that because we believe in Him, and we believe because of what John wrote!

Conclusion:

- 1. Saving faith comes through testimony of the written word. Rom 10:17.
- 2. Our faith will be strengthened when we read and study these evidences preserved for us by John.

The Purpose Of John's Gospel

Introduction:

- 1. The framework of the book of John --
 - a. Thesis -- John 1:1-18
 - b. The Body -- John 1:19 - 20:29
 - c. Purpose -- John 20:30,31
 - d. Conclusion -- John 21
- 2. This study proposes to look at the "purpose" of the book, John 20:30,31. When any man tells why he wrote a book, one must follow his reasons if he understands it.
- 3. The Gospel of John is not really a biography of Jesus.
 - a. Only mentions about 20 day of His life.
 - b. One-third of the verses given to the last 24 hours of Jesus' life.
 - c. A book of selections telling some reasons why He is the Son of God.
- 4. Was written in John's old age.
 - a. Matthew, Mark, and Luke were already in circulation.
 - b. Recalls the three wonderful years spent with Jesus-- and how his faith grew.
 - c. Apparently writes to give reasons why he believed, "that ye might believe".
- 5. To analyze the text -- the text in which John tells why he wrote the book.

Discussion:

- I. And Many Other Signs Truly Did Jesus In The Presence Of His Disciples Which Are Not Written In This Book.**
 - A. "Many ... signs... did Jesus..."
 - 1. A sign is something to prove, to authenticate, to signify.
 - a. A credential, as a policeman's badge.
 - b. Road signs -- contain a message of importance.
 - 2. Three different words used for "miracles", 2 Cor. 12:12; Acts 2:22

- a. Powers -- Things done to produce results.
 - b. Wonders -- the effects on those who saw them.
 - c. Sign -- the value of the operation -- what it means or signifies.
- 3. This book, then, is a study of what the miracles of Jesus prove to us! John 3:1,2.
- B. In the presence of His disciples.
 - 1. many of His wonderful works were done in crowds, and many in the crowds did not understand.
 - 2. But the disciples did grasp the meaning of the signs -- the purpose behind the miracles.
- C. Others not written in this book.
 - 1. Why, John 21:25.
 - 2. Many problems presented if the Bible contained much duplication. This perhaps explains the omission of some epistles, Col. 4:16 (epistle to the Laodicians).

II. But These Are Written

- A. This shows the necessity for careful selection.
 - 1. John knew all that Jesus had done and said, John 14:26, by the help of the Holy Spirit.
 - 2. Ample and proper testimony to convince others was needed.
 - 3. The Holy Spirit guided him in making the selections that were to be recorded, 2 Tim. 3:16,17.
- B. **Written** testimony presented.
 - 1. John doesn't try to prove, but to present the evidence for all generations to consider.
 - 2. We examine the evidence and decide whether to believe or not --and it is so written that one readily sees that it is easier to believe than to disbelieve.
 - 3. Oral testimony would require signs through all generations; continuous miracles would soon lose their proof impact.

III. That Ye Might Believe

- A. The purpose of these miracles --signs to confirm or prove

that what one said was the truth.

- 1. Moses caused people to believe by the use of signs. Exodus 4:1-9.
- 2. Gabriel made a believer out of Zacharias with a sign. Luke 1:18-20.
- 3. And so, Jesus' miracles were signs to prove His claim of Sonship. Acts 2:22.
- 4. The apostles used powers as signs when they preached Jesus. Mark 16:20.
- 5. The written signs produce the same faith now.
- 6. Miracles ceased when purposed accomplished, I Cor. 13:8-13.

- B. Faith is produced by testimony. Heb 11:1.
 - 1. Jesus often questioned as to whether He was the Messiah or not.
 - 2. John presented evidence.
 - a. An eye-witness account. "In the presence of disciples."
 - b. Told of things contrary to nature that mere man could not do.
 - c. Showed that Jesus was master over: disease, the elements, time, distance, demons, even death.
 - 3. Many books written to destroy faith -- here is one written to produce it.

IV. That Jesus Is The Christ, The Son Of God

- A. The evidence is sufficient for anyone to believe that Jesus is THE Son Of God.
 - 1. Not as the modernists assert --that He is a son like all the rest of us.
 - 2. In a divine sense --the only begotten Son. (Virgin birth is implied here. See Isa. 7:17; Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:31-34.)
 - 3. Believe that Peter was right in Matt. 16:13-20.
 - 4. Was with God in the beginning. John 1:1; Col. 1:15-17.
 - 5. That He was in intrusion from without --spiritual light shinning in moral darkness --the miracle of miracles.