

Introducing the Gospel of John

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John is a unique Gospel

- The Gospel of John uniquely begins with creation
- The Gospel of John uses straightforward and simple language
- The goal of the Gospel of John is explicit in the text
- The Gospel of John includes long discourses
- The Gospel of John includes 'I am' sayings

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The Gospel of John begins with creation

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with **God**, and the Word was God ... All things were made through him

John

Creation - Preexistence

Jesus was the son of Joseph, the son of Heli ...the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of **Adam**

Luke

Genealogy - Adam

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of **Abraham** ... and Jacob the father of Joseph

Matthew

Genealogy - Abraham

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by **John** in the Jordan

Mark

Baptism

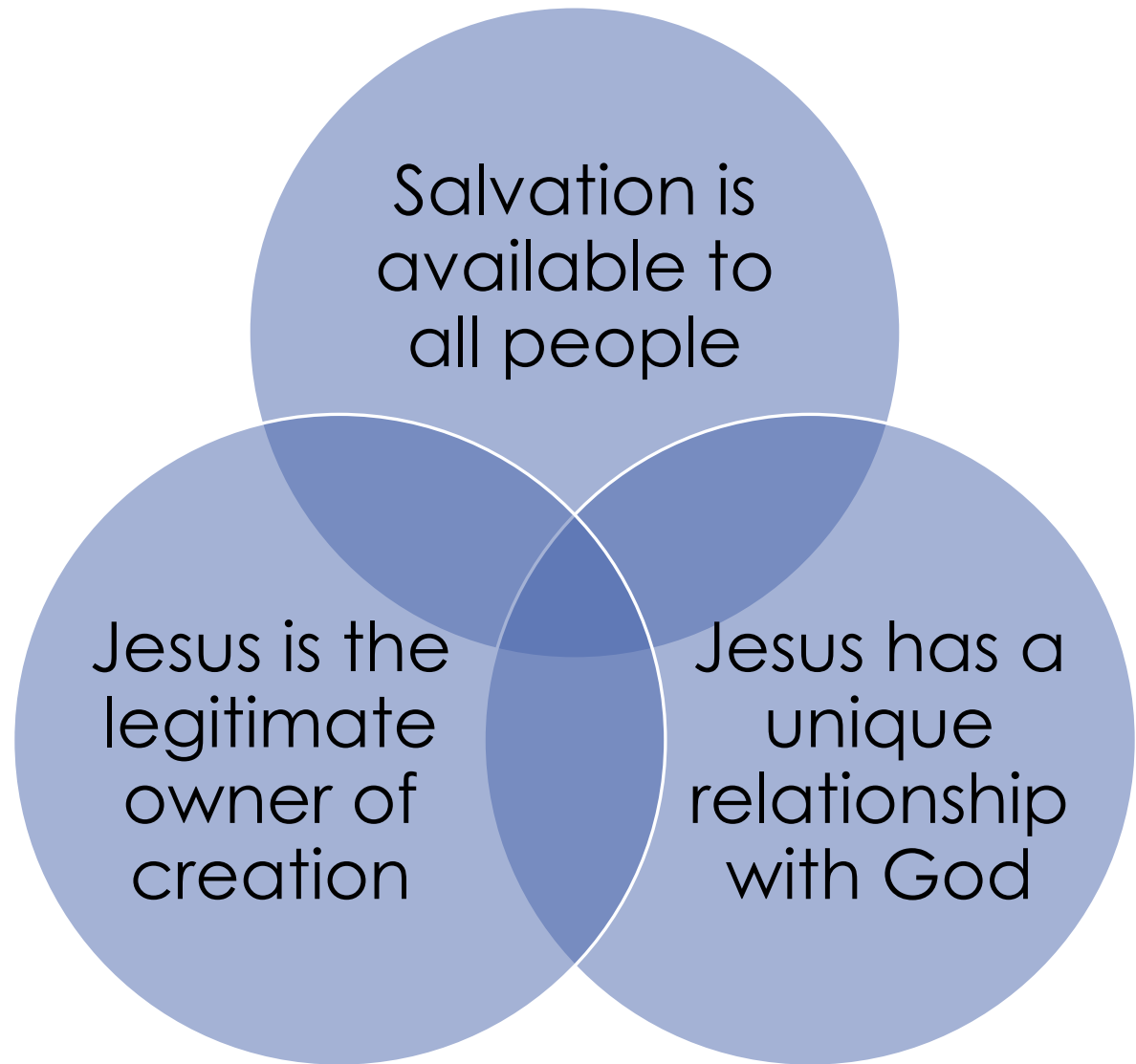


John begins with creation

All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

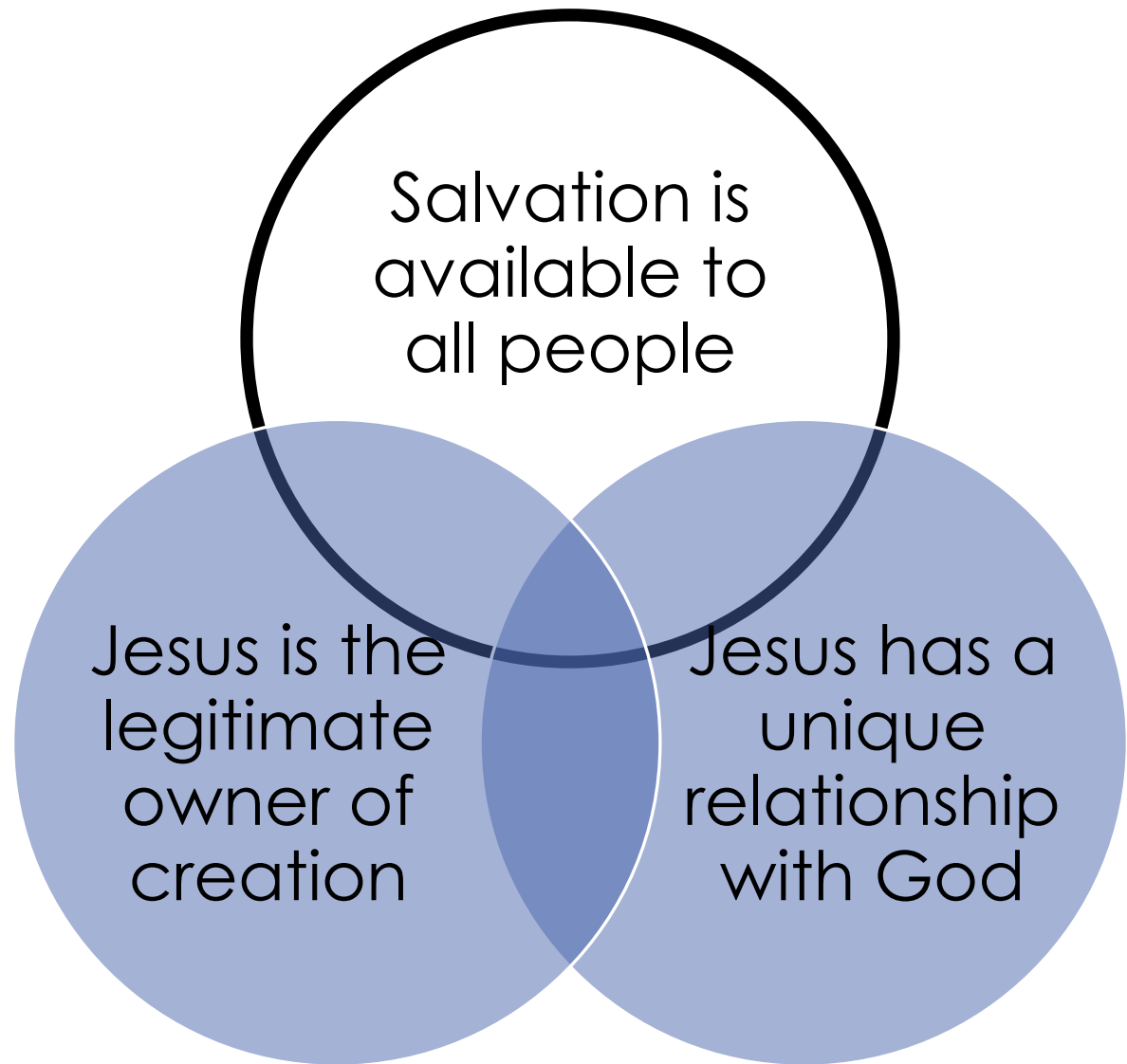
He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.

John 1:3, 10



John 1:1-18

¹In the beginning was the Word ... **All things** were made through him, and without him was **not any thing** made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was **the light of humanity ...** ⁷[John] came as a witness ... that **all might believe** through him ... ⁹The true light, which **gives light to everyone**, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world ... yet the world did not know him ... ¹²But to **all who did receive him**, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God



John 1:1-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of humanity ... ⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

Salvation is available to all people

Jesus is the legitimate owner of creation

Jesus has a unique relationship with God

Jesus is the legitimate owner of creation

“I will no longer talk much with you, for **the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me**” (14:30)

“So Pilate said to him, ‘You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you’? Jesus answered him, ‘**You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above**’” (19:10-11)

“Pilate said to them, ‘Shall I crucify your King’? The chief priests answered, ‘**We have no king but Caesar**’” (19:15)

John begins with creation

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

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, **glory as of the only Son from the Father**, full of grace and truth.

¹⁸No one has ever seen God; **the only God, who is at the Father's side**, he has made him known

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John's language is straightforward

Repetition

"When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you ... I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed" (17:1, 4-5)

Simple grammar

"the Word became flesh" (1:14)

"the Word was God" (1:1)

"God is spirit" (4:24)

"I am the bread of life" (6:48)

"before Abraham was, I am" (8:59)

"the Spirit proceeds from the Father" (15:26)

"we are one" (17:22)

John's language is straightforward

John 1:1

¹In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—
⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. ¹¹In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹²in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

John's language is straightforward

"Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?'" (3:9)

"The well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" (4:11)

"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" (6:52)

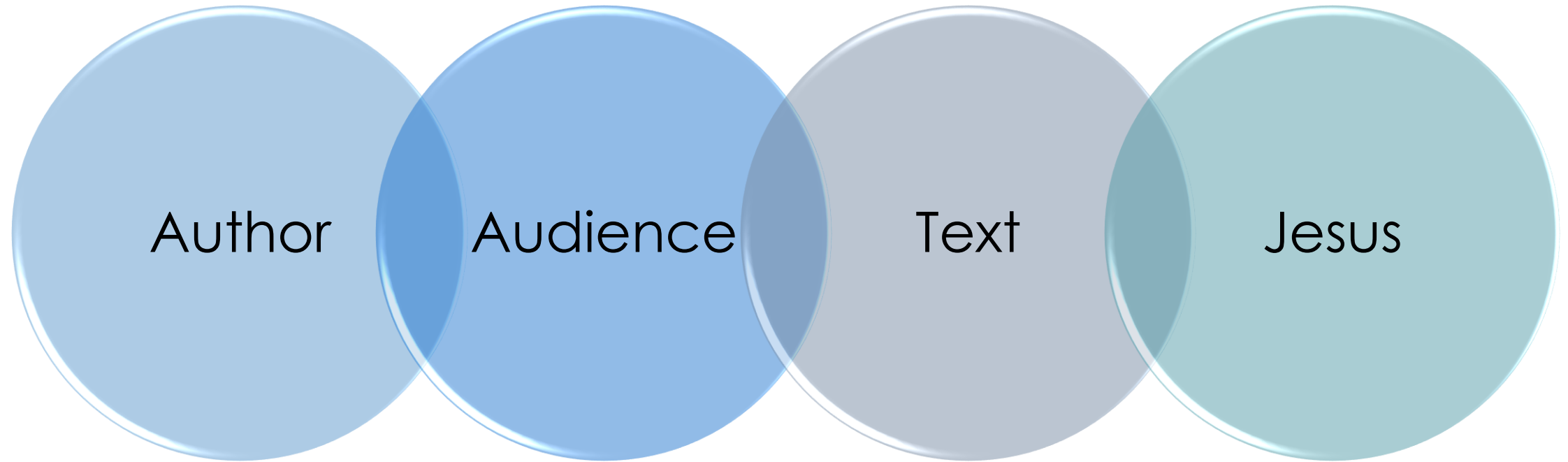
"They said to him, 'Who are you?'" (8:25)

"Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" (14:5)

"Pilate said to him, 'What is truth'?" (18:38)

"What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about" (16:18)

John's language is straightforward



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John's goal is explicit

John 20:30-31

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but **these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name**”

John's goal is explicit

I. Prologue (1:1-18)

II. Book of Signs (1:19 – 12:50)

A. From Cana to Cana

B. Jesus and Jewish Festivals

III. Book of Glory (13:1 – 21:25)

B. Jesus' passion

C. Jesus' resurrection



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II. Book of Signs (1:19 – 12:50)

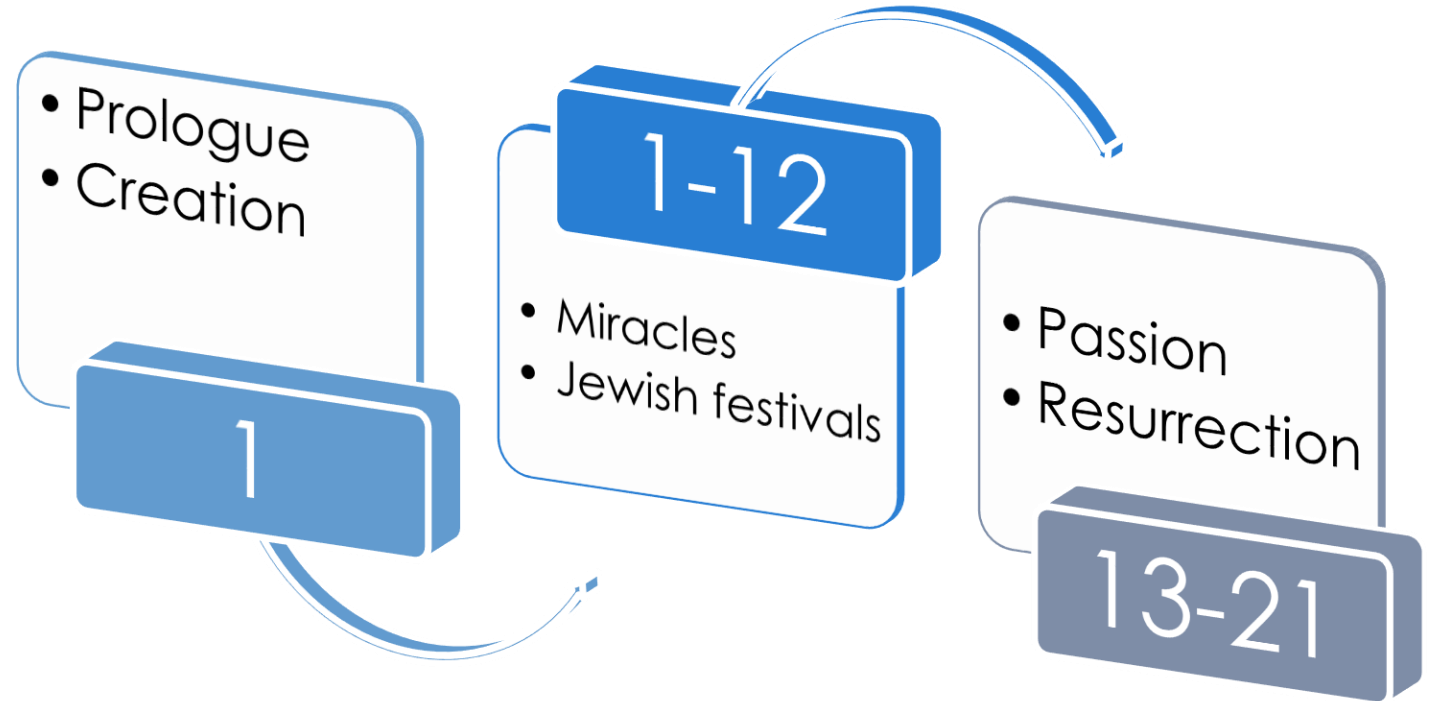
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The Book of Signs (from Cana to Cana)

"On the third day there was a wedding at **Cana in Galilee**,
and the mother of Jesus was there" (2:1)

"This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at **Cana in Galilee**, and manifested his glory.
And his disciples believed in him" (2:11)

"So he came again to **Cana in Galilee**, where he had made the Water wine.
And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill" (4:46)

"This was the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to **Galilee**" (4:54)

The Book of Signs (Jewish festivals)

1. Sabbath (5:1-47)

2. Passover (6:1-71)

3. Tabernacles (7:1 – 9:41)

4. Rededication (10:1-39)

Passover

- Early Spring
- Liberation from Egypt

Tabernacles

- Late Spring
- Immigration to promised land

Dedication

- Autumn
- Covenant, Law

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Discourses

1. Eternal life discourse (John 3)
2. Sabbath work discourse (John 5)
3. Bread of life discourse (John 6)
4. Good shepherd discourse (John 10)
5. Farewell discourses (John 13-17)

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'I am' sayings

1. I am the bread of life
2. I am the light of the world
3. I am the gate for the sheep
4. I am the good shepherd
5. I am the resurrection and the life
6. I am the way, truth and life
7. I am the true vine