

**LECTURE OUTLINE**  
**GOSPEL OF JOHN**  
**INTRO NT**  
**10 FEBRUARY 2016**

**BASIC STRUCTURE OF JOHN'S GOSPEL**

1. Descent into the World (Word became Flesh) - Chaps. 1-12
  - a. Prologue 1:1-18
  - b. Clarifying the relationship of John, Jesus, and the Disciples 1:19-51
  - c. Episodes revealing Jesus' identity
2. Ascent back to the Father - Chaps. 13-21
  - a. Passion and Death 13-19
  - b. Empty Tomb and 1<sup>st</sup> Resurrection Appearance 20:1-29
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> Conclusion 20:30-31
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Resurrection Appearance 21:1-23
  - e. 2<sup>nd</sup> Conclusion 21:24-25
3. Major Differences with Synoptics
  - a. Chronology – Cleansing of Temple, Three-year ministry, Last Supper
  - b. “I am” speeches – Jesus reveals himself
  - c. No parables
  - d. Extension of John the Baptist narrative
  - e. Ordering of “signs”
  - f. Not an omniscient narrator

**OBSERVATIONS FROM STRUCTURE**

1. Dualism
  - a. Literary
  - b. Theological
  - c. Social, see 17:14-16
2. Plot – not the story of a Galilean peasant radical teacher. Story is framed by the Logos poem. The Johannine narrative is about Jesus as a heaven-sent redeemer.
3. Evidence of Revision
  - a. Signs Source (?): See 2:11 & 4:54; see also 6:26-36
  - b. Narrative disconnections
    - i. Insertions, e.g. Baptist material in Logos poem
    - ii. 14:31: “Rise...” cf. 18:1
    - iii. 5:1 & 6:1: Nonsensical narrative geography
    - iv. Two conclusions: chaps 20 & 21
4. Explicit Presence of Narrator
  - a. Conclusions turn to speak to reader
  - b. “dwelt among us”
  - c. “first of Jesus’ signs”
  - d. retrospective interpretation, see e.g., 2:21-22; 12:16; 20:30-31
  - e. beloved disciple

## **CHRISTOLOGY**

1. John's Jesus compared to synoptics
  - a. Jesus is divine
  - b. Alien to the world
  - c. Lamb of God – Passover sacrifice
  - d. Jesus proclaims himself
  - e. More similar to Thomas?
2. Docetism: If Jesus is entirely divine, did he only *seem* to exist in the flesh? See 6:52-57;
3. Logos: God's word; God's wisdom; Reason
4. Paraclete, see 14:26, 15:26

## **TERMS**

Signs  
Dualism  
Lamb of God  
John the Baptist  
Beloved Disciple  
Paraclete  
Docetism  
Logos

## **CLASS DISCUSSION COMPARING IMAGES OF JESUS IN THE GOSPELS**

### **Mark**

Secret Messiah  
Somber  
Misunderstood  
Apocalyptic  
Not a good communicator  
Abandonment by followers  
Suffering

### **Matt**

Fulfillment of the law  
Teacher of torah  
Mission to the Jews  
New Moses  
Prophet  
Abandonment  
Sacrifice for sins  
Divine  
Descendent of David

### **Luke**

Prophet

Descendent of David  
Sage – Socrates - martyr  
Hellenistic  
Pro-people  
Divine man  
Fully god and fully man  
Does fewer objectionable things

## **JOHN**

Divine-not human  
Pre-existent  
Cosmic  
Word (logos)  
Sharp/sarcasmic/condescending  
Savior  
Lamb of god  
Absorbed in Hellenistic philosophy  
Intimate with disciples  
Miracles = Signs  
No parables  
Events are even more inevitable