
John

Part 01 of 02 // Chapters 1-11

Know God deeply. Live differently.

Greetings from Precept,

We are so glad you've chosen to study God's Word. You're in for a rich time learning about God, His character, His ways, and the relationship we have with Him. We're confident God's Word will give you the knowledge and the motivation to help you walk in a manner worthy of your calling in Christ Jesus and that you'll be personally challenged, encouraged, and changed by the power of His supernatural Word.

We'd like to stay in touch with you so that we can tell you about the wonderful things God is doing through Precept. Will you connect with us? We want to hear your story of how God's Word has impacted you by studying Inductively.

Visit the Precept Africa website at www.precept.org.za or join us on *Facebook* at *Precept Africa*.

Finally, we want to thank you for your commitment to faithfully study God's Word in order to *“present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth”* (2 Timothy 2:15 NASB). We share a special bond with you because of our love of God's Word.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

The Precept Team



PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT

English Standard Version

John

PART 1

THE WORD BECAME FLESH
(CHAPTERS 1–11)

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®
English Standard Version

JOHN
PART 1
THE WORD BECAME FLESH
(CHAPTERS 1-11)

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HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

The New Inductive Study Bible—English Standard Version

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013

Greek Word Study Tools

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures

Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985

TASKER, R. V. G.

Tyndale New Testament Commentaries: John

Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1960

TENNEY, MERRILL C.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary: John

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995

BORCHERT, GERALD

The New American Commentary: Vol. 25A—John 1–11

Nashville, Tennessee: B&H Publishing Group, 1996

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.



LESSON ONE

Chapter One

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheet of John 1
“John 1–11 at a Glance”
“Jesus”
Word studies
Cross-references

“And the Word became flesh . . . and we have seen his glory . . .” (John 1:14). The prayer for this first lesson on the Gospel of John is that Christ will become more real to us as we behold His glory and in beholding His glory that we may believe and in believing that we may do the works that He did and even greater. For the next nine weeks we will saturate our minds and our hearts with the inerrant truths of John.

Let’s begin!

DAY ONE

1. First, you need to develop the habit of praying for understanding before you begin to study. So ask the Lord for what you need to know, understand, and apply from your study.
2. Now let’s begin our study by looking at the author and purpose of the Gospel of John—why God had the author write it.
 - a. First, we’ll observe why the Gospel of John was written. Read John 20:30-31 and record below what you learn about the author’s purpose.



- b. Since the author of this Gospel doesn't give his name, let's see what he says about himself in the book. Read John 21:20-25 and list below how he identifies himself, along with any insights you want to remember about him.

 - c. In the Appendix of this workbook you'll find "John 1-11 at a Glance." Record the Author and Purpose in the appropriate spaces. Then keep this chart out to use again in this lesson.
3. We know why the Gospel of John was written, so let's begin with chapter 1 to study it.
- a. Begin by reading John 1:14, 17. Who is the Word?

 - b. Now read John 1:1-18, marking references to Jesus.*

An asterisk [*] indicates a suggested marking on the Key Word Bookmark, which you'll find on the back cover of this workbook.
 - c. List what the text says about Him on the "Jesus" pages in the Appendix.
4. Before going further, let's make a bookmark to use throughout our study.
- Cut out the Key Word Bookmark mentioned above, and on the blank side write the words listed below and mark them the way you'll mark them throughout the Gospel of John. Use symbols and/or colors.
- a. time references,* such as *in the beginning* and *after*
 - b. *believe**
 - c. *life* (see *eternal life**)
 - d. *witness*

As we continue our study, there will be other key repeated words and phrases to mark in John. Add them to your list on the bookmark when instructed.



5. Observe John 1:1-18 by marking the words you listed on the Key Word Bookmark, along with other key repeated words you see in those verses.
6. How do verses 1-18 fit with John's purpose for writing?

O Beloved, do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God? Do you have life in His name? Are there people in your life who don't believe?

Before you continue, stop and pray. If you believe, pray that God will use this book to prepare you to share with those you know who don't believe. If you don't believe, ask God to show you truth. His Word is life!

7. You may have noticed that some verse numbers are bold. This is the way the translators show paragraph divisions.

Read verses 1-18 again paragraph by paragraph. Below or in the margin of your Observation Worksheet, summarize each paragraph using a few words from the text.

- a. 1-5
- b. 6-8
- c. 9-13
- d. 14-18



8. Finally, use a few words from the text to summarize what verses 1-18 are about. Record this theme under “Chapter Themes” on “John 1–11 at a Glance.” You can do this in pencil in case you want to adjust your theme later.

As you finish today’s assignments, bow before the Father and thank Him for Jesus—the Word, the Light, the glory of the Father. Worship Him!

DAY
TWO

1. Remember to begin today with prayer and then we’ll look more at John 1:1-18.
2. Read John 1:1, 14, and let’s get a better understanding of “Word.” Use word study tools to look up the Greek word translated “Word.” Record the English transliteration¹ and definition.

For assistance in doing word studies, read the chapter entitled “It’s All Greek to Me!” and “How to Use Word Study Tools” in *How to Study Your Bible*.

3. Now look at Hebrews 1:1-3. Why do you think Jesus is referred to as “the Word”?

¹ The transliteration of a Greek word is that word written out in English letters.



8. According to John 21:24, the author bore witness about the truth of the things in this book.
 - a. Compare John 21:24 with John 1:14.

 - b. Did God become flesh, a man? How do you know?

 - c. John the apostle also wrote the letter 1 John. What does 1 John 1:1-3 say?

9. Finally, we want to look at how the Word became flesh. Read Matthew 1:1, 18-25 and note what you learn.

Press on, Beloved! God wrote this for you to know who His Son is and believe in Him. Finish the course!

DAY
FOUR
AND
DAY
FIVE

We observed in John 1:1-18 that John bore witness about Jesus.

1. After prayer, read John 1:1, 14-15.
2. Look up the Greek word translated “only.” How does this help you understand what verse 14 means?



d. How relevant is grace to your life? How do you show grace to others?

10. It's always a good idea to check out what other godly people have discovered in their study of God's Word. But do this after you have done your own study. You can now read what commentaries say about the author and the purpose in the introductory remarks and what they say about the first eighteen verses of the Gospel of John. You might want to record any insights that help you better understand John 1:1-18.

How we thank God for each and every one of you taking this course. You are enabling us to fulfill 2 Timothy 2:2 as we commit to you faithful men and women the things which God has taught us.



Martha	
Mary	
Lazarus	

APPENDIX

EXPLANATIONS OF THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION BIBLE TEXT FORMAT

Paragraphs are designated by boldface numbers or letters. These were determined by the translators.

In the New Testament, **Old Testament quotes** are indented.

Text in **double brackets** [[]] indicates words not included in some of the earliest manuscripts. **Italicized text in single brackets** [/] indicates words added in some Greek manuscripts that were footnoted in the ESV Bible.



JOHN 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- I**N the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
 - 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
 - 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.
 - 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
 - 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
 - 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.
 - 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.
 - 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
 - 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.
 - 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.
 - 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,
 - 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
 - 14 And 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.
 - 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ”)
 - 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.



- 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
- 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.
- 19** And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"
- 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."
- 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."
- 22 So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"
- 23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."
- 24** (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.)
- 25 They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"
- 26 John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know,
- 27 even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."
- 28 These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.
- 29** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- 30 "This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.'
- 31 "I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."
- 32 And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.



- 33 “I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’
- 34 “And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”
- 35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples,
- 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!”
- 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.
- 38 Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?”
- 39 He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.
- 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.
- 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ).
- 42 He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).
- 43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.”
- 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.
- 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”
- 46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”
- 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!”



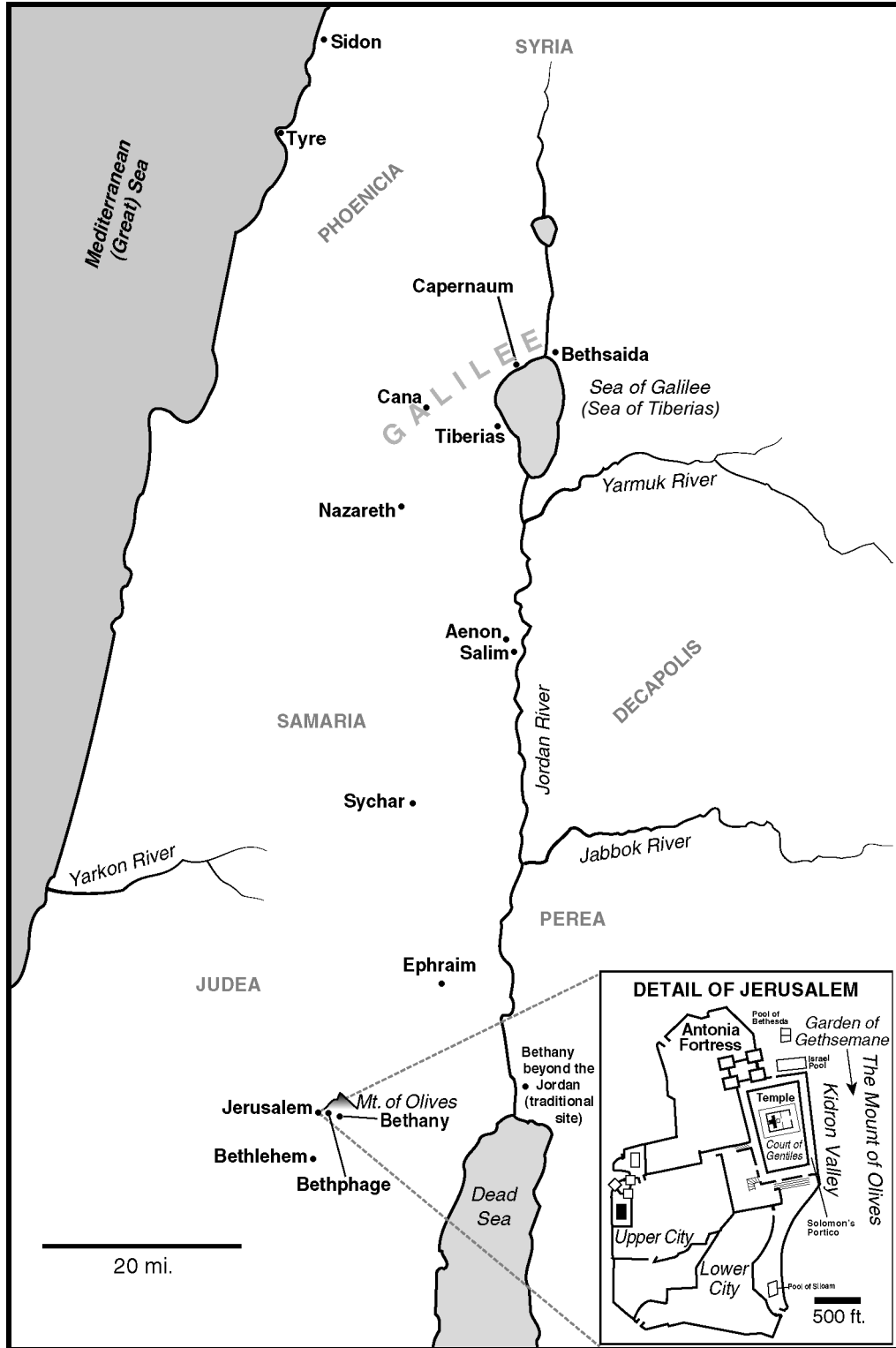
- 48 Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”
- 49 Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”
- 50 Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.”
- 51 And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

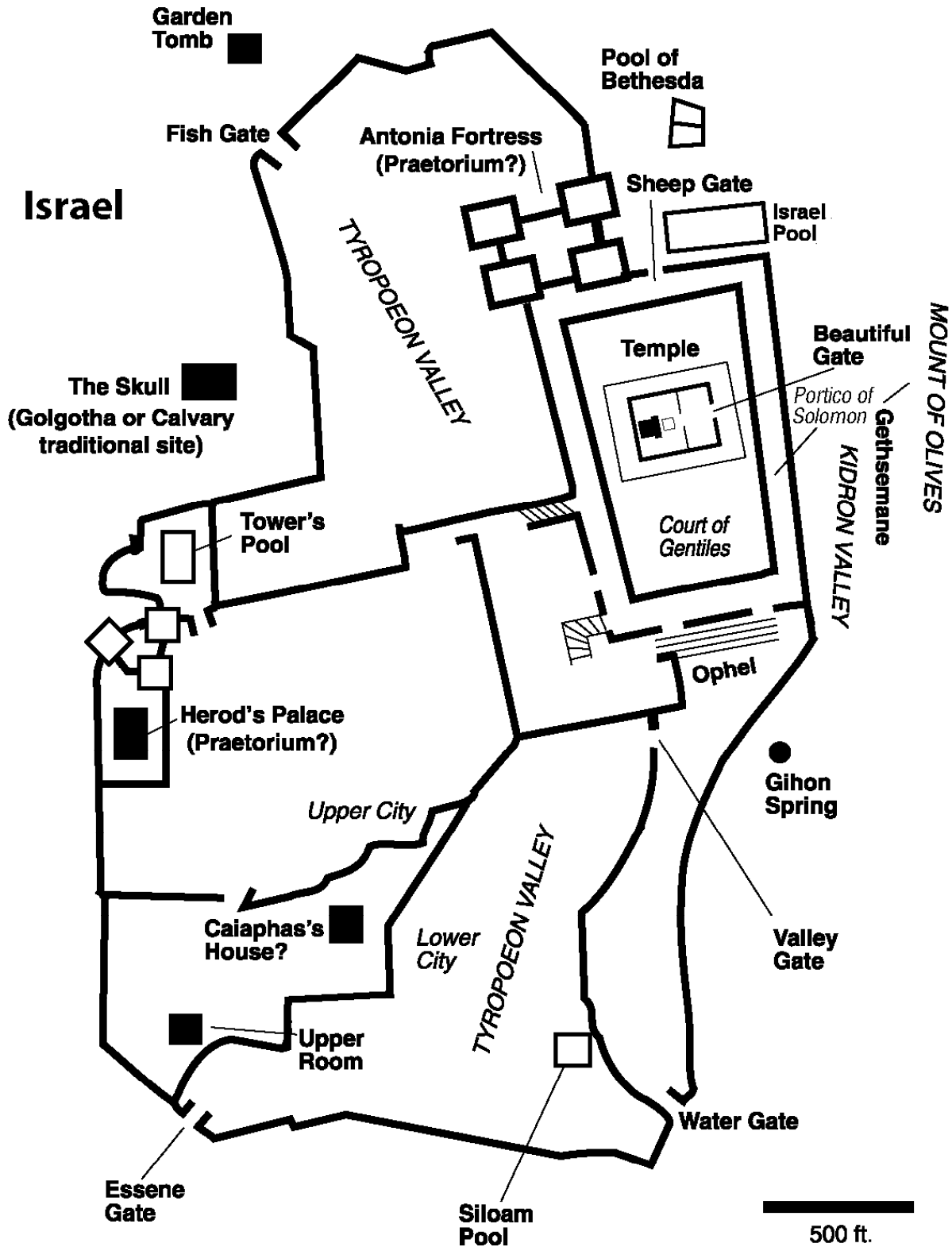


JOHN 1-11 AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:



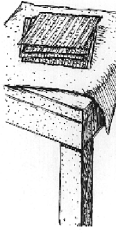






		Segment Divisions		
		Signs	"I am"	Ministry to
Author	Chapter Themes			
	1:1-18			
When written	1:19-51			
	2			
Purpose	3			
	4			
Key Words	5			
	6			
	7			
	8			
	9			
	10			
	11			







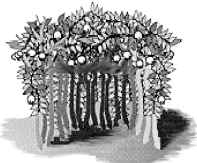
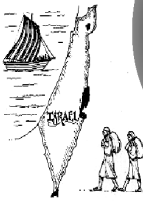




THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL

		1st Month (Nisan) Festival of Passover (<i>Pesach</i>)			3rd Month (Sivan) Festival of Pentecost (<i>Shavuot</i>)	
Slaves in Egypt	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Feast of Weeks		
						
Everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin	Kill lamb & put blood on doorpost Exodus 12:6, 7	Purging of all leaven (symbol of sin)	Wave offering of sheaf (promise of harvest to come)	Wave offering of two loaves of leavened bread		
	1st month, 14th day Leviticus 23:5	1st month, 15th day for 7 days Leviticus 23:6-8	Day after Sabbath that occurs during the week of Unleavened Bread Leviticus 23:9-14	50 days after firstfruits Leviticus 23:15-21		
	Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed	Clean out old leaven... as you really are unleavened	Christ has been raised...the firstfruits	Going away so Helper can come	Promise of the Spirit, mystery of church: Jews-Gentiles in one body	
				 Mount of Olives		
John 8:34	1 Corinthians 5:7	1 Corinthians 5:7, 8	1 Corinthians 15:20-23	John 16:7 Acts 1:9-12	Acts 2:1-47 1 Corinthians 12:13 Ephesians 2:11-22	

Months: Nisan—March, April • Sivan—May, June • Tishri—September, October



7th Month (Tishri) Festival of Tabernacles (<i>Succoth</i>)			
Interlude Between Festivals	Feast of Trumpets 	Day of Atonement 	Feast of Booths or Tabernacles 
	<i>Trumpet blown — a holy convocation</i>	<i>Atonement shall be made to cleans you</i> Leviticus 16:30	<i>Harvest celebration memorial of booths in the wilderness</i>
	7th month, 1st day Leviticus 23:23-25	7th month, 10th day Leviticus 23:26-32	7th month, 15th day, for 7 days; 8th day, Holy Convocation Leviticus 23:33-44
	Regathering of Israel in preparation for final day of atonement Jeremiah 32:37-41 	Israel will repent and look to Messiah in one day Zechariah 3:9,10; 12:10; 13:1; 14:9 	Families of the earth will come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Booths Zechariah 14:16-19 
Ezekiel 36:24	Ezekiel 36:25-27 Hebrews 9, 10 Romans 11:25-29	Ezekiel 36:28	

Israel had two harvests each year—spring and autumn



HOW TO DO A CHAPTER STUDY
LET'S GET STARTED!

*A **chapter study** helps you to focus in on the details in the chapter to better understand what the author is saying. Each of the skills is used to bring important points to light.*

- LOOK FOR THE 5 Ws AND H

Read the text asking the 5 Ws and H—*Who, What, When, Where, Why, How*. For example, when studying John 1, read the text asking questions like:

Who is this about?

When?

Where was the Word?

Who was the Word?

What did the Word do?

Don't expect every verse or chapter to answer all the 5 Ws and H about a particular subject or person, but you should read with a questioning mind-set.

- MARK KEY WORDS AND PHRASES

Marking key words and phrases and making lists help you to answer the 5 Ws and H.

KEY WORDS are repeated words within a text which are vital to its meaning.

Mark in a distinctive way each key word or phrase in the chapter along with its pronouns and synonyms. Use colors and/or symbols.

Example: **Word** is a repeated word that is key to understanding John 1.

- LISTS

The next step is to list what the chapter says about each of the key words. Look at each place you marked a key word and list what the text says.

A LIST is a compilation of the facts given about a particular word or person. It gives the 5 Ws and H (who, what, when, where, why, how) about that word or person. Use words from the text.

A list about the **Word** from John 1 begins this way:

was in the beginning, v. 1

was with God, v. 1

was God, v. 1

was in the beginning with God, v. 2



• MARK AND EVALUATE:

CONTRASTS — point out differences. To mark a contrast, put a symbol in the margin by the verse(s), such as *V*.

John 1:17: *For the **Law** was given through Moses; **grace** and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.*

But, however, or nevertheless might indicate a contrast.

John 4:2: *...Jesus Himself was not baptizing, **but** His disciples were....*

COMPARISONS — point out similarities. To mark a comparison, put a symbol in the margin by the verse(s), such as *=*.

John 10:9: *I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved....*

Sometimes *like* or *as* indicate a comparison.

John 3:14-15: ***As** Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.*

TERMS OF CONCLUSION — show that a conclusion or summary is being made. These help us understand *why*. Look for the words signifying a conclusion or result such as *therefore*, *for this reason*, and *finally*.

John 12:50: *I know that His commandment is eternal life; **therefore** the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me. ☼*

EXPRESSIONS OF TIME — give timing, sequence of events, or progression. Look for words such as *then*, *after*, *when*, *until*, *the day of...*

John 1:2: *He was **in the beginning** with God. ○*

• IDENTIFY SUBJECTS OR THEMES

Identify main subjects, events, or points of a chapter by observing it paragraph by paragraph. Paragraphs can be shown with boldface type for the first verse number of a paragraph, by a paragraph symbol, or by an indention at the beginning of a paragraph.

Read each paragraph, and in the margin list the event, subject, or main point of the paragraph.

John 1:6-8 **6** *There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.*
John testified **7** *He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.*
about the Light **8** *He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.*

To learn more about doing a chapter study and other inductive Bible study skills, we encourage you to keep on hand a copy of *How to Study Your Bible*. If you don't yet have a copy, you can order one by visiting shop.precept.org.za or calling +27 (021) 531 1836.

ABOUT PRECEPT

PRECEPT was raised up by God for the sole purpose of establishing people in God's Word to produce reverence for Him. It serves as an arm of the church without respect to denomination. God has enabled Precept to reach across denominational lines without compromising the truths of His inerrant Word. We believe every word of the Bible was inspired and given to man as all that is necessary for him to become mature and thoroughly equipped for every good work of life. This ministry does not seek to impose its doctrines on others, but rather to direct people to the Master Himself, who leads and guides by His Spirit into all truth through a systematic study of His Word. The ministry produces a variety of Bible studies and holds conferences and intensive Training Workshops designed to establish attendees in the Word through Inductive Bible Study.

Jack Arthur and his wife, Kay, founded Precept in 1970. Kay and the ministry staff of writers produce *Precept Upon Precept* studies, *In & Out* studies, *Lord* series studies, the *New Inductive Study Series* studies, *40-Minute* studies, and *Discover 4 Yourself Inductive Bible Studies for Kids*. From years of diligent study and teaching experience, Kay and the staff have developed these unique, inductive courses that are now used in nearly 185 countries and 70 languages.

ANSWERING THE CALL

Now that you've studied and prayerfully considered the scriptures, is there something new for you to believe or do, or did it move you to make a change in your life? It's one of the many amazing and supernatural results of being in His life-changing Word—God speaks to us. At Precept South Africa, we believe that we have heard God speak about our part in the Great Commission. He has told us in His Word to make disciples by teaching people how to study His Word. If you share our passion for establishing people in God's Word, we invite you to join us! Will you prayerfully consider giving monthly to the ministry? To do so, you can make a payment online at <https://precept.org.za/get-involved/support-us> or make a direct deposit into our account:

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