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Precept Upon Precept

NASB

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# John

Part 01 of 02 // Chapters 1–11

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Looking forward to hearing from you,

The Precept Team

PRECEPT  
UPON  
PRECEPT

# *John*

PART 1

THE WORD BECAME FLESH  
(CHAPTERS 1–11)

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®  
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—New American Standard Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000*

**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](http://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 saw 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, testify*

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. In the *New American Standard Bible*, 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 transliteration<sup>1</sup> 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”?

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<sup>1</sup> The transliteration of a Greek word is that word written out in English letters.







8. According to John 21:24, the author testified to 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 testified about Jesus.

1. After prayer, read John 1:1, 14-15.
2. Look up the Greek word translated “only begotten.” 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.*

# APPENDIX

## EXPLANATIONS OF THE NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE TEXT FORMAT

**Italics** are used in the text to indicate words which are not found in the original Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek but implied by it.

**Small caps** in the New Testament are used in the text to indicate Old Testament quotations or obvious references to Old Testament texts. It should be noted that modern rules for the indication of direct quotation were not used in biblical times; thus, the ancient writer would use exact quotations or references to quotation without specific indication of such.

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

Text in **brackets [ ]** indicate words probably not in the original writings.

JOHN 1  
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- IN 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 came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
- 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.
- 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
- 6 There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.
- 8 He was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light.
- 9 There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.
- 11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.
- 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,
- 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 saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- 15 John testified about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’ ”
- 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.
- 17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.
- 18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.
- 19** This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent to him priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?”
- 20 And he confessed and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.”
- 21 They asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” And he said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.”
- 22 Then they said to him, “Who are you, so that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?”
- 23 He said, “I am A VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, ‘MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY OF THE LORD,’ as Isaiah the prophet said.”
- 24** Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.
- 25 They asked him, and said to him, “Why then are you baptizing, if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”
- 26 John answered them saying, “I baptize in water, *but* among you stands One whom you do not know.
- 27 “*It is* He who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.”
- 28 These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.
- 29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
- 30 “This is He on behalf of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’

- 31 “I did not recognize Him, but so that He might be manifested to Israel,  
I came baptizing in water.”
- 32 John testified saying, “I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out  
of heaven, and He remained upon Him.
- 33 “I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said  
to me, ‘He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining  
upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.’
- 34 “I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God.”
- 35** Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples,  
36 and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of  
God!”
- 37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.
- 38 And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, “What do  
you seek?” They said to Him, “Rabbi (which translated 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 Him, was Andrew,  
Simon Peter’s brother.
- 41 He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found  
the Messiah” (which translated 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 is  
translated Peter).
- 43** The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He found Philip.  
And Jesus said to him, “Follow Me.”
- 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, of 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 any good thing come out of Nazareth?”  
Philip said to him, “Come and see.”
- 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to 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 and  
said to 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 and said to him, “Because I said to you that 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 the  
heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on  
the Son of Man.”

JOHN 2  
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- ON the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;
- 2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.
- 3 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.”
- 4 And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come.”
- 5 His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”
- 6 Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each.
- 7 Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” So they filled them up to the brim.
- 8 And He said to them, “Draw *some* out now and take it to the headwaiter.” So they took it *to him*.
- 9 When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom,
- 10 and said to him, “Every man serves the good wine first, and when *the people* have drunk freely, *then he serves* the poorer wine; *but* you have kept the good wine until now.”
- 11 This beginning of *His* signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.
- 12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He and His mother and *His* brothers and His disciples; and they stayed there a few days.
- 13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
- 14 And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers seated *at their tables*.

- 15 And He made a scourge of cords, and drove *them* all out of the temple,  
with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money  
changers and overturned their tables;
- 16 and to those who were selling the doves He said, “Take these things  
away; stop making My Father’s house a place of business.”
- 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, “ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE  
WILL CONSUME ME.”
- 18 The Jews then said to Him, “What sign do You show us as your  
authority for doing these things?”
- 19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will  
raise it up.”
- 20 The Jews then said, “It took forty-six years to build this temple, and  
will You raise it up in three days?”
- 21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body.
- 22 So when He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that  
He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus  
had spoken.
- 23 Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast,  
many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing.
- 24 But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them, for He  
knew all men,
- 25 and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He  
Himself knew what was in man.

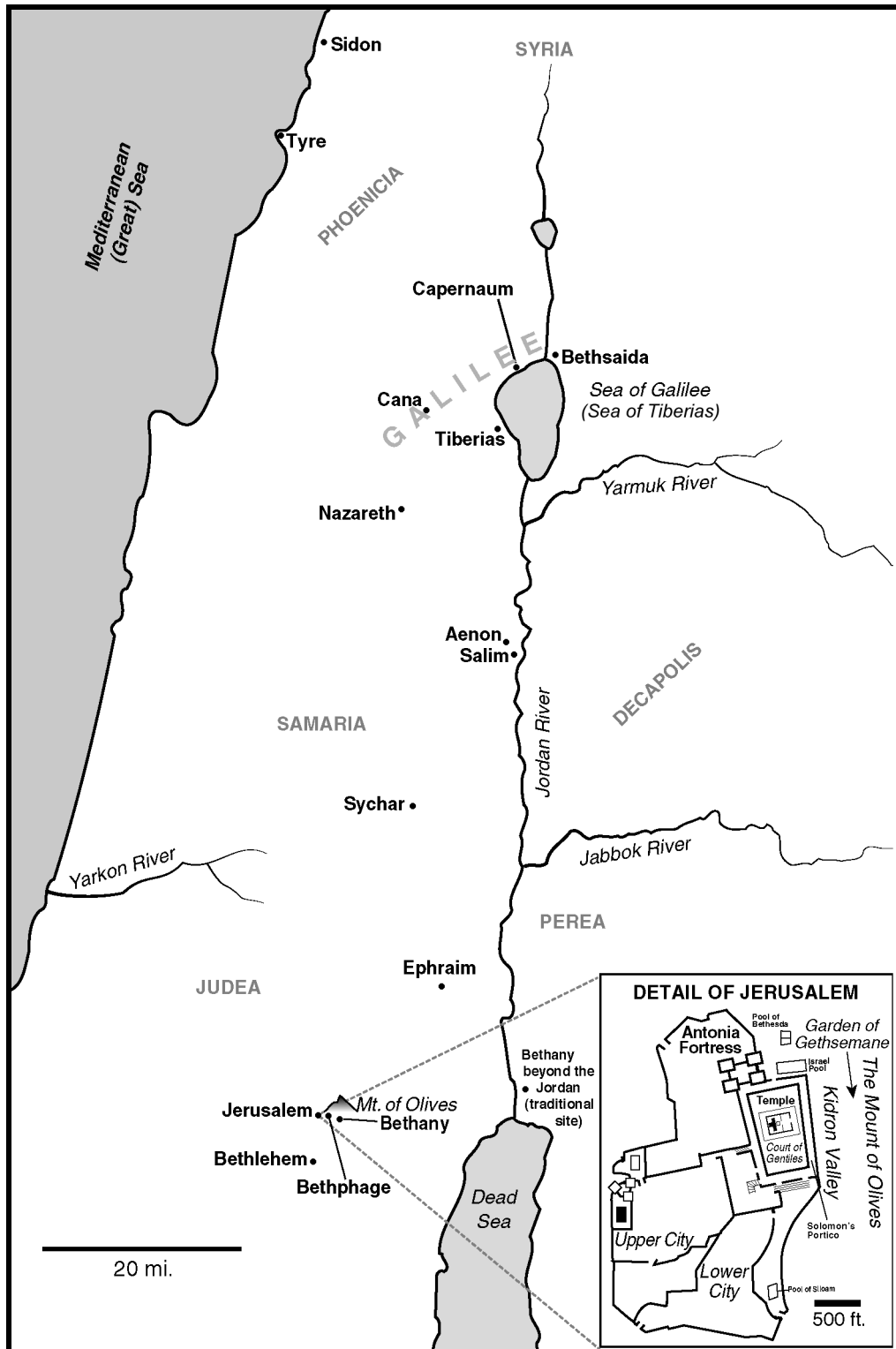
JOHN 1-11 AT A GLANCE

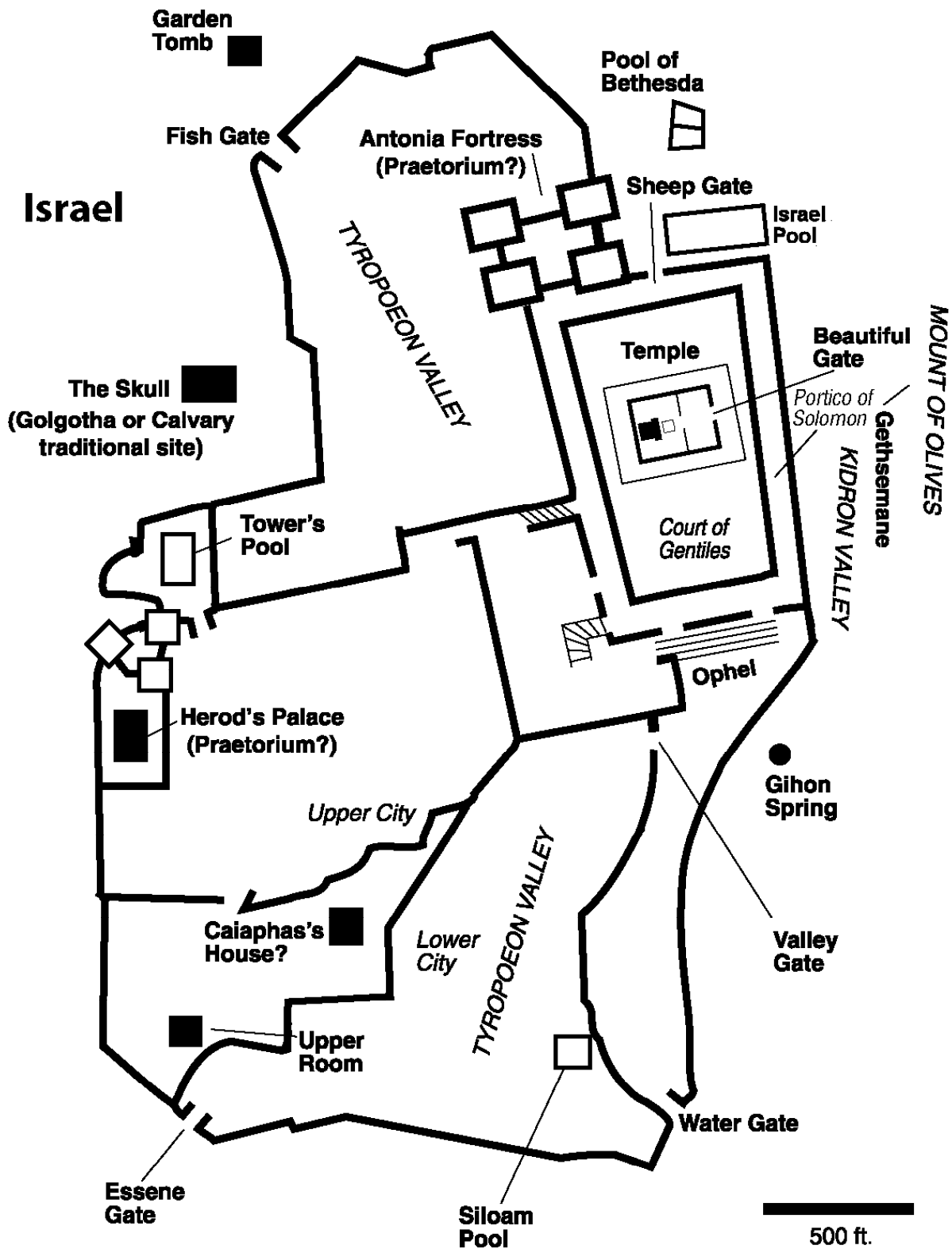
**Book Theme:**



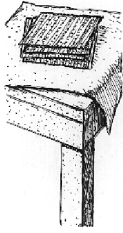






		Segment Divisions		
		Signs	"I am"	Ministry to
<b>Author</b>	<b>Chapter Themes</b>			
	<b>1:1-18</b>			
<b>When written</b>	<b>1:19-51</b>			
	<b>2</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>3</b>			
	<b>4</b>			
<b>Key Words</b>	<b>5</b>			
	<b>6</b>			
	<b>7</b>			
	<b>8</b>			
	<b>9</b>			
	<b>10</b>			
	<b>11</b>			

JESUS



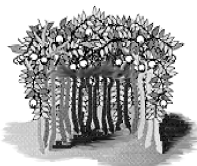



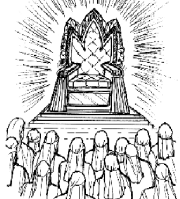
JESUS





<b>THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL</b>					
1st Month (Nisan) Festival of Passover ( <i>Pesach</i> )				3rd Month (Sivan) Festival of Pentecost ( <i>Shavuot</i> )	
Slaves in Egypt  	Passover  	Unleavened Bread  	First fruits  	Pentecost or Feast of Weeks  	
Everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin	<i>Kill lamb &amp; put blood on doorpost</i> Exodus 12:6, 7	<i>Purging of all leaven</i> (symbol of sin)	<i>Wave offering of sheaf</i> (promise of harvest to come)	<i>Wave offering of two loaves of leavened bread</i>	
	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 first fruits Leviticus 23:15-21	
	Christ our Passover has been sacrificed  	Clean out old leaven... just as you are in fact unleavened	Christ has been raised...the first fruits  	Going away so Helper can come   Mount of Olives	Promise of the Spirit, mystery of church: Jews-Gentiles in one body  
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	New heaven and new earth  God dwells with men Revelation 21:1-3
 			
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 *N*.

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*  
*about the Light*     *believe through him.*  
                              **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](http://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:

PRECEPT MINISTRIES  
Standard Bank, Rondebosch  
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Reference: ATC and your name.

Please pray about how the Lord might lead you to answer the call.

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- Translate more studies into other languages
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