

## The Gospel of John

*"I am the good shepherd; I know My sheep and My sheep know Me—just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to My voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason My Father loves Me is that I lay down My life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from My Father."*

*John 10:14-18 NIV*

*Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written 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 20:30-31*

John states the purpose of his gospel with these words, "These are written 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, more than any of the Gospel writers, speaks in figurative terms. He paints pictures with words speaking more of the theology of Christ's ministry instead of merely recording the events.

It is interesting that John refers to himself as the "disciple that Jesus loved." He does not mention his own name in the book, but proves that he was an eyewitness to the ministry of Christ through his detailed descriptions of the events. When Mary wiped the feet of Jesus with her tears and her hair, John described the house in Bethany as filled with the fragrance of the perfume. (John 12:2-4)

Do you know that Jesus loves you? He gave His life so that you can live with him forever.

Jesus told His disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God trust also in me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." John 14:1-4 NIV As a writer John captured these words showing that Jesus knows our fears and doubts and wants us to trust in Him.

*"The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, 'Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!'"* John 12:12-13 NIV While some people greeted Jesus with palm branches and praises others were jealous believing that Jesus was leading the whole world astray. If you had been there what would you have been doing?

Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. While His disciples were broken hearted when Jesus was crucified, He knew from the beginning that He had come into the world to give His life as the perfect sacrifice. When Jesus died and rose again He opened the doors to heaven for all who would believe on His name.

Do you believe in Jesus?

Sin entered the world during the time of Adam and Eve and with it came the curse of death. At that time God promised to send a Savior. When Jesus died and rose again He broke the power of sin and death. The Bible tells us that "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Acts 2:21 When we turn to God and confess our sins, He will welcome us into His family. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him." John 3:17 NIV

*Dear Lord, we thank You for the goodness of Your love for us. Even before we knew that we needed You, You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Release us from the power of sin and death. Set us free to love You and serve You all of the days of our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.*