



# John

New  
Testament

β 43rd book of the Bible (out of 66)

β 2.83% of the verses in the Bible

β Written by John (though not explicitly named)

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You may have read many biographies or obituaries over the years. Perhaps you have read the life story of someone famous but written by different authors? It can be amazing how Churchill for example, has been described in varied ways. Around 90AD John the Apostle was in Ephesus. He set out to write what he remembered of what Jesus said and did nearly sixty years earlier. He had a great deal of material as he had spent an enormous amount of time in close proximity with his Saviour. It would still have been fresh in his mind as he had probably shared it orally with hordes of people over the years. Several people had already penned their Jesus Stories from a mixture of their own recollections and from people they'd interviewed who had experienced Jesus first hand. John's version turned out very different from the others - both in *what* and *how* it is described.

**Facts:** Much of the material is unique to John, with over half of the book being devoted to Jesus' last few weeks of His earthly life. It was the last canonical Gospel to be written.

Six signs (miracles) are unique to John, as are the seven 'I am' statements and a few of the lengthy conversations between the Messiah and people seeking after Him. We are told about the Holy Spirit, Jesus' divinity and 'the Father,' who is mentioned over one hundred times. Various Jewish Festivals are described. The setting for most of this Gospel is Jerusalem, whereas Galilee is the main focus in the Synoptic Gospels. John's stated aim for this biography is found in 20:31.

**Aim to read the whole book over the next two weeks.**