

A Johannine Epiphany

by

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At the lake

*Take the trailer to the lake and hook it up near the beach but close to the shallow water.

*While camping you can stay out of the heat with the air conditioner on and then watch TV.

*Could sit under the awning in easy chairs and have your coffee while watching the fish jump in the water.

*Maybe move to the edge and look down into the water - to see what you can see.

*Perhaps wade a bit.

*Perhaps float on a tube.

*Maybe cruise on the lake in a house boat, motor boat or a try out some water skies.

*A little deeper and more daring try snorkeling.

*Perhaps, go deep. Really deep. Go to the deep water and swim with the elephants.

*Go deep, really, really deep - and dry out.

Read the Gospel of John

*Get a copy of John

*Leave it on the shelf - maybe flip through it.

*Read a bit. Read a chapter - try reading a chapter a day for three weeks.

*Read different versions:

KJV

RSV

NRSV

New International Version

The Jerusalem Bible

NEB
CEB
J.B Phillips
Douay Version
American Standard
The New Scofield Reference Bible

*Read John from different Scholars like:
Bauman, Brown, Barrett, Barclay, Bultmann,
Dodd, Duke, Anderson, Hoskins, Kysar,
Schneiders, Schweitzer, Sinclair, Strauss,
Culpepper, Clark-Soles, Fortna, von Wahlde,
Don't forget Spong!
You haven't read John until you have been "Sponged"
by "Jack" Shelby Spong!

*Now Greek (well, at least a Linear translation)
Now Hebrew (just kidding)
&
don't forget the movie - yes, and *Big Fish* too.

Chart/Outline

*Prologue (a Hymn)
In the beginning was the Word ()
1-5
9-14
19-34 is not original
(and John the Baptist was edited for good reason)

Riddles
Irony
Dualism
Christology
Aporias
Diaspora
Disparate
Didactic
Dialectic
Diological
Diachonical
But:
No exorcisms
No healing of the deaf and dumb
No temptation
No transfiguration
No Sermon on the Mount

No Eucharist
No agony in Gethsemane
No heaven
No new heaven
No parousia
No spiritual body
No hell in John...

*From Canan to Canan

Water to wine

The Signs

The Revealer

The GLORY ()

I am (Ε ώ μ)

I am (Ε ώ μ)

I am (Ε ώ μ)

I that speak unto thee am He! (ώ ι, ειμ)

Come and See

Follow me

Life is Now

The time is NOW

You have a choice

An Offensive Choice: it is either LIGHT or DARK

IT is NOW or NEVER

*Mary

Mary

Martha

Mary Magdalene

Woman at the well

*Death is not the end

Death is a speed bump

*You have a choice:

"Mary!"

"Rachael!"

"Beth!"

"Spencer"

"Tom"

"Jess!"

"Jen!"

"Ben!"

.

.

"Rabboni!"

*What will it say on your tombstone?

NT7313 Class on The Gospel of John

*Roll call/time hack

*Prayers:

"Who made the grasshopper?

This grasshopper, I mean -

...

Tell me, what is your plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?"

"May we spend generously
the time we are given.
May we enact our responsibilities
as thoroughly as we enjoy
our pleasures."

"So living water flowing through
God, we thirst for more of You
Fill our hearts and flood our souls with one desire"

*Slow down and pay attention
- LIVE a LIFE that is ABUNDANT and ETERNAL.
Transformation is always worked
out in the context of COMMUNITY.
Do not try to "fix" John by imposing
the Synoptics on the narratives.
Commit your life to being addressed by this Gospel.
"Turn it and turn it again, for everything is in it."
Read compliantly - let the Scripture work for you

*realized eschatology
exclusivist or universal?
all geography is theology
diachronic methodology
bestowed realized immortality

*There is no hell in FG but there is a judgment.
"Many dwelling places" does not have anything to do with heaven.
**The Action is "not the believers coming to dwell in
God's heavenly abode" but "The Father, the Paraclete,
and Jesus coming to dwell with the believers."**
The Holy-Spiritual Life "starts now and continues uninterrupted forever."
Believers never die and have *already* passed from death to life.
"The way, the truth, the life" (*h hodos kai h al theia kai h z* (14:6).

So, class, let's read John.
What does the evangelist say?
What did you get out of her/his narrative today?
Who would share a Johannine moment?
Let's reduce and unpack John!
Let us get into the weird Johannine BUBBLE!
John 14:31

Life: An Altar Call

*Birth, struggle, and death.
Sin, Satan, and Death.
Really?
How 'bout Light, Love, and Life?

*I am here, Lord.
Now...()
Somewhere between the
No Longer and the Not Yet

*The hour has come (ἐ ἦ ε ῶ)

I must go
I must go to the water
to the deep water
to swim with the elephants
...I must dry out.

*I must live
I must live fully
abundantly
authentically

*I must hug my children
hug my wife (but not just yet...she is with Jesus)
hug my friends
hug my little boy poodle Biscuit

* I have seen the Lord! (Εὐ ὸ ὅ)
It is written for you and for me.
to live life at its fullest - then
pass thru the death we all must pass, and then
live forever - there...with Jesus
and then I will get to hug my Jeanne again!