

On The Way to Easter...



with John's Gospel

On the Way to Easter...

with John's Gospel



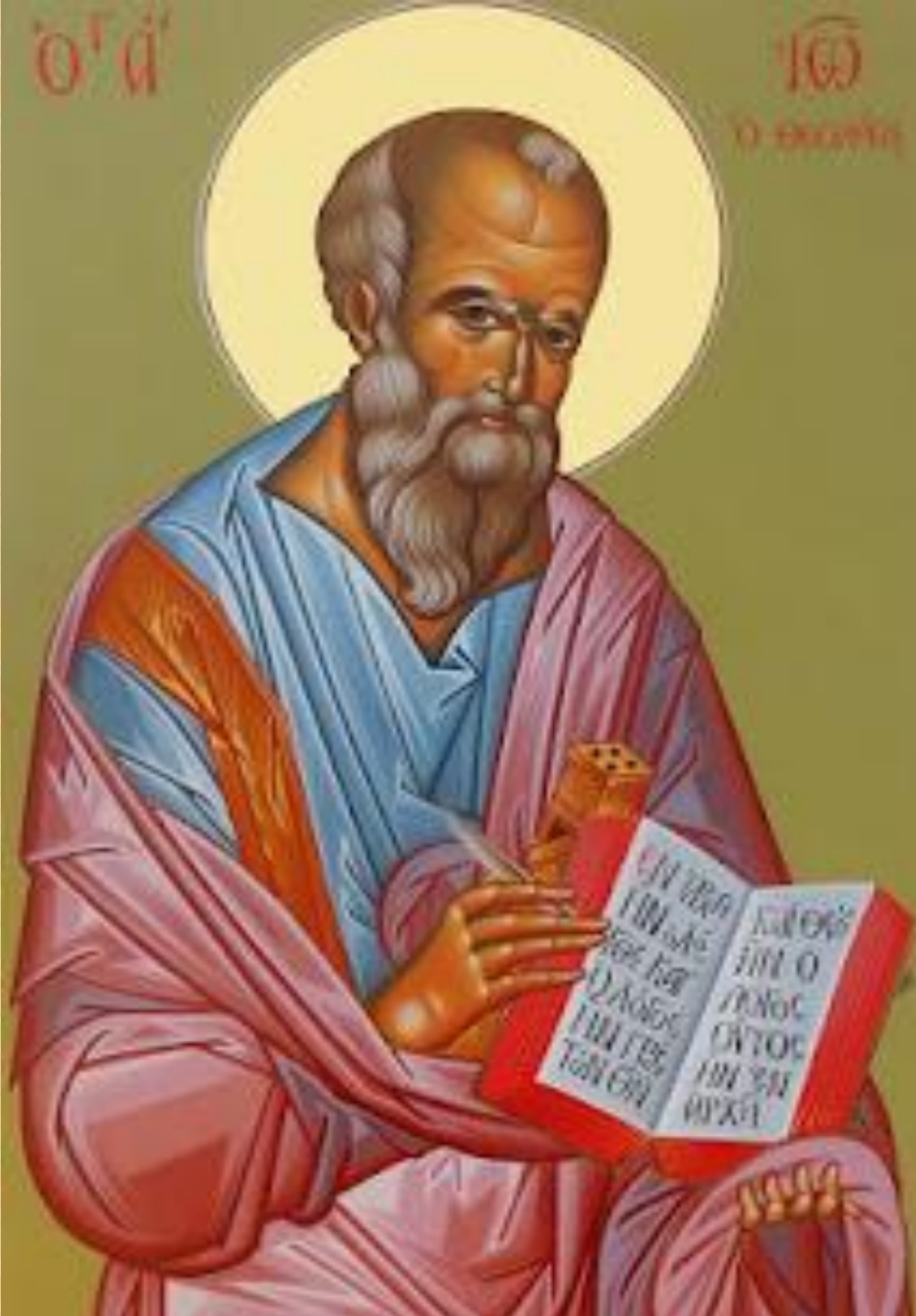
Mark: “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”

Matthew: “An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.”

Luke: “...I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus...”

John: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

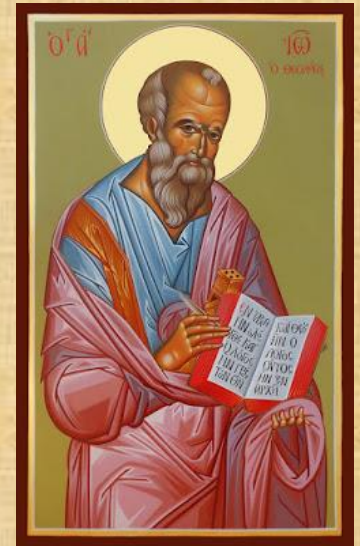
The Holy



John
The Theologian

In the beginning
was the Word...

Differences with the Synoptic Gospels



1. Extended conversations with individuals
2. Teaching methods
3. Double meanings & plays on words

Double Meanings and Plays on Words



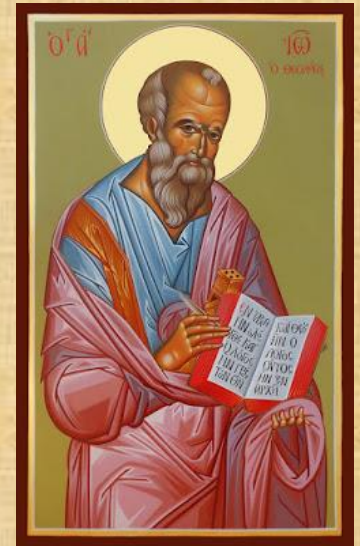
Nathanael said, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” (1:46-49)

Differences with the Synoptic Gospels



1. Extended conversations with individuals
2. Teaching methods
3. Double meanings & plays on words
4. Use of contrasts/opposites
5. Events added, omitted, hinted at, relocated

Examples of Changes regarding Events



1. **Added:** Cana wedding; Lazarus; foot washing
2. **Omitted:** Jesus' baptism; transfiguration; institution of Lord's Supper
3. **Hinted at:** Lord's Supper themes follow on feeding of the 5000 ("bread of life")
4. **Relocated:** Cleansing of Temple

The Meaning of the Cleansing of the Temple



The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. (2:18-21)

The First Disciples Encounter Jesus



When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. (1:38-39)

“The Book of Signs”

1. Water Changed to Wine (ch. 2)
2. Healing of royal official's son (ch. 4)
3. Healing of paralytic at pool of Bethesda (ch. 5)
4. Feeding of the 5000 (ch. 6)
5. Walking on water on Sea of Galilee (ch. 6)
6. Healing a man born blind (ch. 9)
7. Raising Lazarus from the dead (ch. 11)



The “I Am’s”

1. The bread of life (ch. 6)
2. The light of the world (ch. 8)
3. The gate for the sheep (ch. 10)
4. The good shepherd (ch. 10)
5. The resurrection and the life (ch. 11)
6. The way, the truth, and the life (ch. 14)
7. The true vine (ch. 15)



More on the “I Am’s”

6:20: But he said to them, “It is I (*I Am*); do not be afraid.”

13:19: I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe that I am he (*I Am*).

18:5-6: He asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus replied, “I am he.” (*I Am*) When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they stepped back and fell to the ground.

8:57-8: Then the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I Am.”



John's Goal: "That You Believe"



1:12: But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become **children of God.**

6:68-9: Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the **Holy One of God.**"

20:27-8: Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "**My Lord and my God!**"

20:31: But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is **the Messiah, the Son of God,** and that through believing you may have life in his name.

On the Way to Easter...

with John's Gospel



1. John: A “Spiritual Gospel”

2. The Jews: Authorities and Leading Citizens

3. The Romans: Pilate and Soldiers

4. The Disciples: Peter, John, and Mary Magdalene