

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Spring 2005

REQUIRED PURCHASE:

George Mlakuzhyil, *Christocentric Literary Structure of the Fourth Gospel* (Read pages 87-351)
Raymond Brown, *The Gospel According to John* (2 vols.—Anchor Bible Commentary). Must read the section of this commentary treating
The passage/pericope on which you choose to write, plus Vol. 1:cxv-cxxi.
Mark Stibbe, *John* (ISBN: 1-85075-433-0)
Alan Culpepper, *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel*

SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS:

Charles Talbert, *Reading John*
Paul Duke, *Irony in the Fourth Gospel*
Rudolf Schnackenburg, *The Gospel According to John* (3 vols.)

NOTE: all the above are CRITICAL tools to be used critically. Seminarians should be able to handle these matters adequately and with proper discernment. Laypersons may find them too threatening, academic and liberal. In the latter case, commentaries more helpful may include those by William Hendriksen, Leon Morris or Colin Kruse.

PAPER:

Thoroughly researched 20-page biblical-theological paper on any pericope of your choice from the gospel. Please clear your choice with Mr. Dennison before beginning.

The completed paper MUST include a journal of ALL/EVERY source consulted in the course of your paper research. The paper is a test of your research skills as much as a test of your exegetical and biblical-theological insights. Journal does NOT count in 20-page paper total.

DUE DATE FOR PAPER: APRIL 20, 2005 BY 5:00 PM.

There will be no final exam. Grade will be based on class attendance, participation, completion of assigned readings and (most of all) the paper.

RESOURCES ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

by

JAMES T. DENNISON, JR.

(Available free downloads at Kerux.com)

- “Life, Light, Lamb . . . and the Logos.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 1/1 (May 1986): 30-36.
- Review: *The Christocentric Literary Structure of the Fourth Gospel* (George Mlakuzhyil). *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 5/1 (May 1990): 47-50.
- “Witnesses to the King (19:17-42).” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 5/2 (September 1990): 21-31.
- “The Structure of John's Gospel—The Present State of the Question.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 7/1 (May 1992): 37-42.
- “Nicodemus.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 7/2 (September 1992): 26-29.
- “The Prologue of John's Gospel.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 8/2 (September 1993): 3-9.
- “Come and See (1:19-51).” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 9/2 (September 1994): 23-29.
- “John 2: Structure and Biblical Theology.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 11/1 (May 1996): 3-13.
- “Jesus and Lazarus.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 11/2 (September 1996): 3-6.
- Review: *The Theology of the Gospel of John* (D. Moody Smith). *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 12/3 (December 1997): 49-50.
- “He Must Increase, But I Must Decrease.” *Kerux: A Journal of Biblical-Theological Preaching* 14/2 (September 1999): 11-17.
- Review: Robert Kysar, *Preaching John*. *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 17/2 (September 2002): 73-75.
- “Symmetries of Equivalence: Logos and Theos in John 1:1-2.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 18/1 (May 2003): 29-36.
- Review: Craig Koester, *Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel*. *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 18/1 (May 2003): 47-49.

GOSPEL OF JOHN

Terms, as well as Literary and Theological Characteristics

History of Interpretation

Historical-critical Method = Higher Critical or Liberal Method

Literary Criticism

Religionsgeschichte (“History of Religions” method; also labeled R.G.)

Religionsgeschichtliche Schule (“History of Religions School”)

Form Criticism

Redaction Criticism

Diachronic (δια χρονου/**dia chronou**) approaches

Synchronic (συν χρονω/**syn chronō**) approaches

Narrative Criticism

Docetism

ipsissima verba (“the very words”)

iconography

ontic/ontological (having to do with absolute Being, i.e., God in his absolute Essence)

Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke)

Rudolf Bultmann

Das

Pericope (section of a literary work). Example: John 2:1-11 (wedding at Cana)

General

Common

Unique

Structure

Prologue (1)
 Book of Jesus' Signs (2-11)
 Book of Jesus' Hour (12-20)
Epilogue (21)

Protological (“first things”)/Eschatological (“last things”); cf. 1 Cor. 15:45 (“protological Adam and eschatological Adam”[Greek]; or “first Adam and last Adam”[English])

Theological (= Biblical-theological = Redemptive Historical)

Christological

Soteriological

Eschatological

Geerhardus Vos (1862-1949) ‘Father of Reformed Biblical Theology’

Creation
 Redemption
Consummation

Literary Art

Dualism
Irony
Misunderstanding
Metaphor
Leitwörter
Leitmotif/Leitmotiv
Chiasm
 A. Sabbath made B. For man
 B'. Not man A'. For the Sabbath

OR

A. Sabbath made
 B. For man
 B'. Not man
A'. For the Sabbath

Narrative Art/Poetics

Scene/Setting

Plot

Sequence

Causality

Unity

Affective power

Characterization

Bodmer Papyri

M.-E. Boismard/Parabola

Peder Borgen/Chiasm

Roland Meynet/Concentric Parallelism

Gunnar Ostenstad

Anarthrous state (without the definite article)

Robert Countess, *The Jehovah's Witnesses' New Testament*

Stair-step or staircase parallelism

In beginning was Word

Word was God

God was Word

This One/Word was in beginning with God

In him life

life was light of men

light shines in darkness

darkness does not overcome it

All things through him came into being

And apart from him came into being

Not one thing that has come into being



ϕ52 (P. Rylands 457) showing John 18:31-33 (enlarged). Reproduced by courtesy of the Director and University Librarian, the John Rylands University Library, Manchester, England.

