**Notes on the Gospel of attributed to John**

Key Concepts: 1. Word made flesh is sent from “above”;

2. Narrative involving sharp contracts: above and below, light and dark, spirit and flesh, not of this world/of this world, children of God and children of the devil;

3. Witness/testimony, role of John the Baptist;

4. Glory and “my hour” – Jesus is “in control”;

5. Concepts of “signs” rather than miracles (a theory that the author of this Gospel may be from the “signs source”

6. Not one of the synoptic Gospel – but some similar stories – the most theological and metaphorical of the canonical Gospels; includes 3 years of Jesus’s ministry; Jesus attends multiple festivals, including 3 Passover celebrations

7. Opens with a Prologue unique to John;

8. Chs. 1-12 describe Jesus’s time in the world during which he performs signs to disclose the true nature of his identity (Son of God) to those who believe;

9. Chs. 13-17: Farewell discourse

10. Chs. 18-20: the passion and resurrection narrative; Ch. 21 – the epilogue

11. complex notion/complicated term: “the Jews”

12. Only Gospel that addresses the reality of living under Roman occupation

Ch. 1: The Prologue: vs. 1-18 – poetic; metaphors: Jesus as Word, as light, Word/flesh, Lamb of

God; repeated images – word, life, light; vs.19-36: testimony, role of John the Baptist,

baptism by the Holy Spirit; final verses: call of Andrew, Simon (who becomes Peter),

Philip and Nathaniel

Ch. 2: The wedding feast at Cana – the first “sign”; cleansing of the Temple

Ch. 3: theological conversations with Nicodemus; key lines: vs. 14: “And just as Moses lifted up

the serpent…”—reference to Num. 21: 8-9; 3:16: “For God so loved the world…”

Ch. 4: powerful narrative of the “Woman at the Well” – Samaritan, outsider; “second sign”

Ch. 5: the healing of the paralyzed man at the pool of “Beth-zatha”/Bethsaida – done on a

sabbath; beginning of controversies;

Ch. 6: multiplication of the loaves (the “bread” discourse”; 6:35: “I am the bread of life”; 6:41 “I

am the bread that came down from heaven.”; 6:51: “I am the living bread…”

Ch. 7: chapter of confrontations

Ch. 8: Opens with the story of the woman caught in adultery; “I am the light of the world” 8:12;

\*\*\*8:58: “Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am.” (“hear” from Exod. 3:14 “I

am who I am”)

Ch. 9: Another powerful narrative about the man born blind; 9:5 “I am the light of the world…”

Ch. 10: the Good Shepherd: 10:8: “I am the gate for the sheep”; 10:9: “I am the gate”; 10:11: “I

am the Good Shepherd”; 10:14: “I am the Good Shepherd”

Ch. 11: the story of the raising of Lazarus, brother of Mary and Martha of Bethany; 11:25 “I am

the resurrection and the life”; \*\*\* “Jesus wept” 11:35

Ch. 12: Jesus again at dinner with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus – Mary anointing the feet of Jesus;

12:8: “The poor you have always with you…”; 12:12 entrance into Jerusalem, “Hosanna,

Blessed in the one who comes in the name of the Lord…”

Ch. 13: the Last Supper – Jesus eating with his disciples, the Passover; the washing of the feet –

Jesus giving an example of being servant; vs. 21ff – about being betrayed; prediction of

Peter’s denial

Ch. 14: “Do not let your hearts be troubled…”; 14:6 “I am the way, and the truth, and the life”;

“the Advocate” – the Spirit of truth…; “Peace I leave with you…” vs. 27;

Ch. 15: the vine and the branches; 15:1: “I am the true vine…”; 15:5: “I am the true vine, you are

the branches…”; 15: 13: “…no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friend”

Ch. 16: “They will put you out of the synagogues…”; 16: 12 “…when the Spirit of Truth

comes…”; 16:23 “…if you ask anything of the Father in my name…”

Ch. 17: “that they may be one” – Jesus’s prayer for the disciples

Ch. 18—19: The passion account

Ch. 20: resurrection stories

Ch. 21: breakfast with Jesus; the role of Peter; the future of John

**The Genres of the Christian Foundational Writings (New Testament)**

--Tanakh/the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) originated over a period of many centuries

--Christian Foundational Writings--written in a period of above 100 yrs.

**Four major literary forms:**

* Gospels: "Good News" recording the birth, baptism, ministry of healing and teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ
* Church History: represented especially in Acts of the Apostles
* Letters: 21 books of the CFW are in this form
* Apocalypse: a revelation or disclosure of God's will for the future