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# Teacher Training Course

## Presbyterian Church in Canada

Under the Direction of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee

DEPARTMENT OF SCRIPTURE--I. The New Testament--Its Contents and Growth; II. Geography and Institutions.

N.B.—It is recommended that the Revised Version be consulted in these studies.

### LESSON IX.

#### THE CONTENTS OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

I. THE PROLOGUE, ch. 1: 1-18. The Word, an eternal Person dwelling with God in loving fellowship, is the source of creation, and of the life and intelligence of man. Sin, however, has entered the world as darkness struggling with light, and so made redemption necessary, vs. 1-5.

The same Person or Word, the life of the world, owned and dwelt in Israel in an especial way; but, in spite of the witness of John the Baptist, He was rejected by the Jews, also judged not according to the spirit, but by the flesh, vs. 6-13.

But the word did come as Messiah in the person of Jesus, Who was found by the writer of this gospel and the Christian church, to be the very Son of God, full of grace and truth, the Revealer of the Father, vs. 14-18. In this preface to the gospel the author gives a summary of the principles which underlie his account of the life of Jesus Christ.

The gospel divides naturally at the end of chapters 12 and 17, while the last chapter (ch. 21) is an appendix, apparently added some time after the gospel was finished.

#### II. THE PUBLIC MINISTRY OF JESUS, chs. 1: 19 to 12: 50.

##### 1. Early Ministry.

(a) Testimony of John the Baptist to Jesus, and the call of the first disciples, 1: 19-51. (b) Public appearance of Jesus in Galilee, Jerusalem and Judæa, chs. 1, 2, 3. (c) Jesus the Saviour for the Samaritans, 4: 1-42. Up

to this point there is nothing in the synoptic gospels covering the same period. It is now that the public ministry begins in Galilee, according to the gospel of Mark.

##### 2. Public Ministry in Galilee and Jerusalem.

(a) In Galilee, 4: 43-54. (b) Jerusalem. This visit, possibly at the Passover, is not recorded in the synoptics. Discourse—the Son the source of divine life, ch. 5: (c) Galilee again; discourse on bread of life, 6: 1 to 7: 9.

3. Public Ministry in Judæa and Jerusalem, 7: 10 to 12: 50, six months; Feast of Tabernacles, October; Dedication, December; Passover, April. Chs. 7: 53 to 8: 11—see note in margin of Revised Version.

(a) Jesus lays bare the evil hearts of the Jews, 7: 10 to 10: 39. (b) Jesus retires beyond Jordan, 10: 40, 41. (c) The death of Lazarus brings him back to the city, and the miracle causes the rulers to plan for His death, ch. 11. (d) Triumphal entry; visit of Greeks; rejection of the unbelieving Jews, ch. 12.

#### III. DISCOURSES OF JESUS TO HIS OWN. The reward of faith, chs. 13 to 17.

1. Object lesson in true brotherhood, 13: 1-30.

2. Discourses, 13: 30 to 16: 33.

3. Intercessory Prayer, ch. 17.

#### IV. ARREST, TRIAL, DEATH.

The apparent victory of the unbelieving world is the first step to Christ's wider glory, chs. 18-20.

V. APPENDIX. Post-resurrection appearances; postscript attesting authorship, ch. 21.