

Book of John

I like to read books. I like to read story books as well as books on famous people. The first page of a book often contains a dedication remark such as this book is dedicated to my dear wife, my children or someone special to the author. The dedication remark to one's children are very common on autobiography. Have you read the autobiography of the most famous person? I think the Bible especially the book of John is very close to an autobiography of God for His beloved children. Therefore, I like to read the Bible, the most famous autobiography.

Book of John is the fourth book in the New Testament. The book was written by John as all scripture is given by inspiration of God (II Tim. 3:16). John was Jesus' disciple. The other 3 gospel books mainly cover the humanity of Jesus whereas this gospel book covers the deity of Christ. The audience for the book is really for all of us. The famous verse John 3:16 is directed to His beloved mankind, created in His image, to come back to Him. Thus, this autobiography is dedicated to His children.

1) I am son of God and I am God

The first chapter of John states the divine Sonship. In chapter 1, it states: All things were made by Him (1:3), In Him was life (1:4), the one and only who came from the Father (1:14), yet "became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (1:14).

The following verses in John reveal Jesus is God. John 1:1-2 & John 1:14 states Jesus was the WORD, and the WORD was God. "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" (John 8:58). "I and Father are one" (John 10:30). These verses also confirm the Father and Son are oneness as God.

It might be difficult for someone to realize how Jesus was son of God and also God. It is true that divine nature might not be easily understood. But that is the fact. Some suggested something similar in the human level as an example is that I am the son in the XYZ family but also a member of the XYZ family.

2) I AM ... for you

I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me (John 14:6). He holds the three most important elements in life.

I AM the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die (John 11:25). He wants us to have eternal life through Him as shown in many of these I AM verses.

I AM the light of the world has been stated in John 8:12 and 9:5. He is holy and righteous, and provides guidance to us. John 12:36a states "Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light."

I AM the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture (John 10:9). He is the only way to have life, and that life is an abundant life (John 10:10).

I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11). He already died for the penalty of our sins.

I AM the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty (John 6:35). He satisfies us spiritually.

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the gardener (John 15:1). You can have a fruitful life only when you remain in Him. (John 15:4)

3) I love you

Jesus loves us in words and actions. Besides all the verses above, he performed many miracles while he was physically on earth. Finally, he died on the cross for all of us.

Jesus also told us a way to respond to His love. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another (John 13:34).

You can call the book of John is a love letter from a father. I think of it as an autobiography dedicated to His children. Regardless, it is a very touching writing. How do you respond - to love Him back and love others?