

That You May Believe

John 20:30-31

*"...Because you have seen Me, have you believed?
Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."
John 20:29*

Main Idea: God's Holy Scriptures are the basis for our belief.

1.) The Manner of the Gospel of John

A.) John was very selective in choosing the signs he included

*"And there are also many other things which Jesus did,
which if they *were written in detail,
I suppose that even the world itself *would not contain
the books that *would be written"
John 21:25*

Read John 20:30

B.) John's informing us there is no lack of information from which to choose.

2.) The Purpose of the Gospel of John

Two Fold Purpose:

- 1.) His readers would learn that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God
- 2.) Those who believe would believe to the ends that they would have eternal life

"He omits, as if of set purpose, those places of the history in which he would have shone. He and James and Peter were frequently selected by the Master to be with Him when others were

excluded. But of these occasions John says nothing...What uninspired man could have left out such a vision from his page? Even more striking is the fact that the Master, when He took with Him the 11 to the garden, left the major part of them at the gate, but He led the three further into the garden and bade them wait at about a stone's-cast distance, where some of them heard His prayers and observed His bloody sweat. John, who was one of them, says nothing about it! Had he forgotten it? That were impossible! Did He doubt it? Certainly not! But the omission shows you that these incidents were not written with the view of honoring John, but that the reader may be led to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God! He leaves out that which would have brought John into the front, in order that he may fill up the whole foreground of his canvas with the portrait of his Lord. Everything is subordinated to the one grand end—"that you should believe that Jesus is the Christ."

—Charles Spurgeon

"The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth"

2 Timothy 2:24-25

"It's as though John is saying, 'look, you have been reading and studying my gospel for some time now and you have come to the end. Have you grasped my purpose? Can it be that you have missed it after all this time? In case you have missed it, let me spell it out. Jesus did many many things, but I have not recorded all of them. I have recorded only a part, but I have recorded that part so that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you might have life through his name.'"

—James Montgomery Boice