

John's Creation



Days 1 and 2





Let there be Light

Day 1: John 1-3:21

DAY 1

Basic Idea

We expect to find Jesus described in terms of “Light”

That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. Jn 1:9

Also:	Light	=	Understanding
	Darkness	=	Not Understanding

The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. Jn 1:5

Light & Darkness

DAY 1

Natural Creation: Light stays, but Word disappears
And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. Gen 1:3

Spiritual Creation: Light and Word remain

**Natural light follows
natural laws (physics)**



Spiritual light follows God's Will (= God's Word)

...he abode two days in the same place where he was. Then after that [Jesus] said to his disciples: “Let us go into Judea again.” Jn 11:7

Light & Darkness

DAY 1

The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. Jn 1:5

Darkness

Introduction to Israel: 12 questions

“Who are you?... What then? Are you Elijah?... Are you the Prophet?... Who are you?... What do you say about yourself?... Why then do you baptize...?” Jn 1:21-25

“What sign?... In three days?... Can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into the womb and be born?” Jn 2:18-3:4

“How can these things be?” Jn 3:9

Light

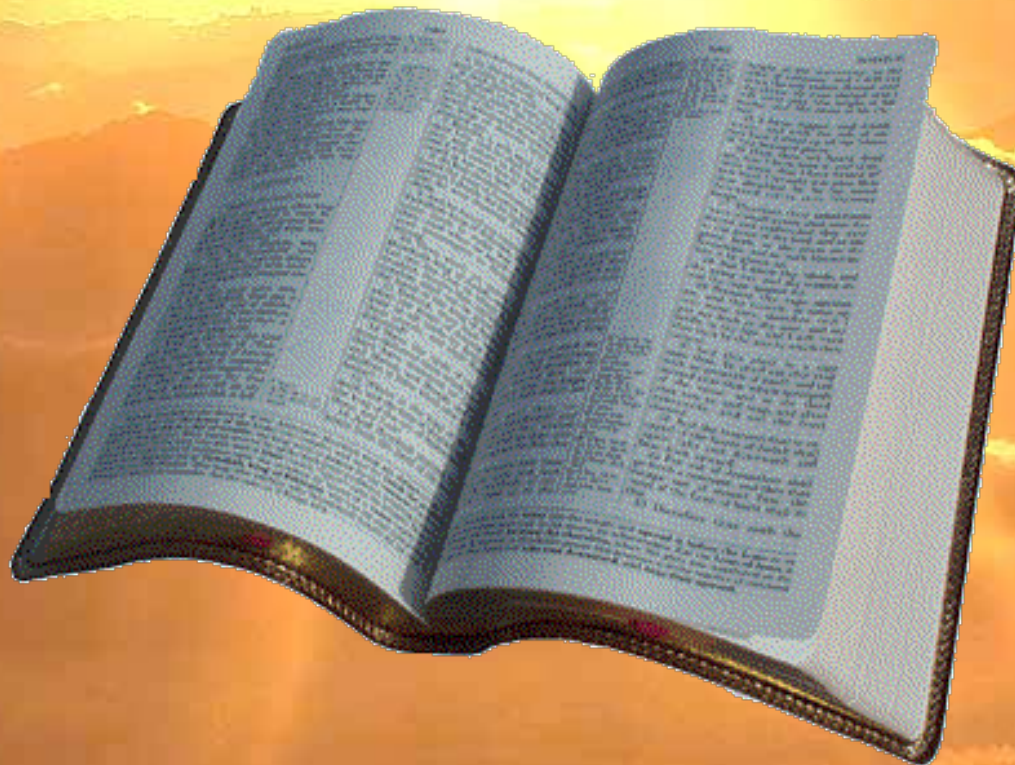
Introduction to Jesus: His First Declaration

“Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” Jn 1:39

Let there be Light

DAY 1

John 2:1-11



Cana: The 'Arche' Sign

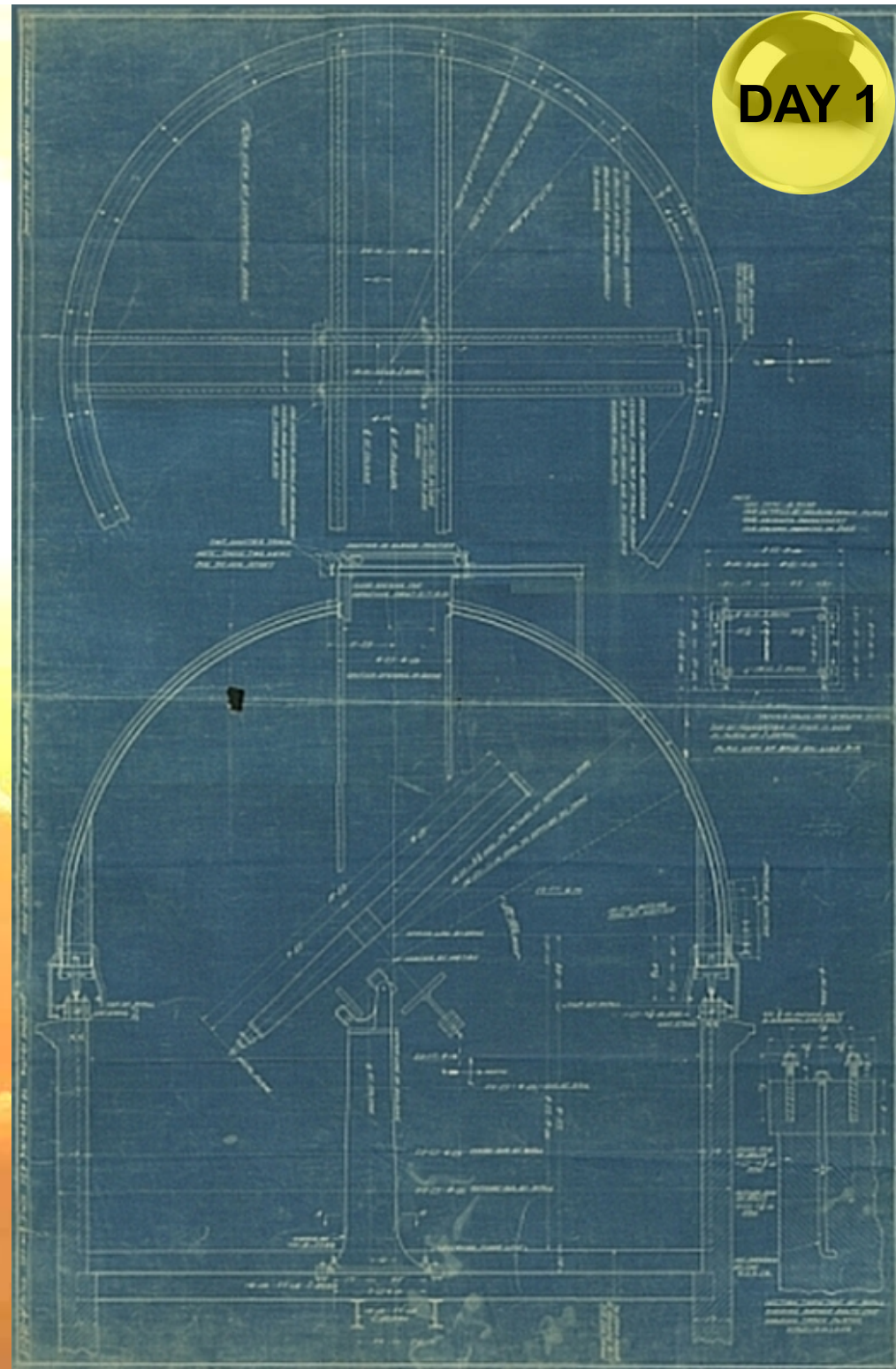
This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him. Jn 2:11

Greek: “αρχην” = prime, first

Arch-enemy
Archbishop
Archetypal
Monarch

Cana was the Prime Miracle

DAY 1



Sign of the Woman

DAY 1

*"I will put
enmity between you
and the **Woman**...
he shall bruise your
head, and you shall
bruise his heel"*

Gen 3:15

***"Remember the
covenant with Eve?
Yes I will supply the
wine (blood) of that
covenant..."***

***...But that will only be
fulfilled through my
crucifixion, not now."***

*"O **Woman**,
what have you to do
with me? My hour
has not yet come."*

Jn 2:4

*"**Woman**, Behold
your son!"*

Jn 19:26

Symbol of the Stone Waterpots

DAY 1



The Stone Tablets

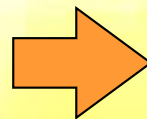
And he gave to Moses, the two tables of stone. Ex 31:18

Role of the Law

...in the purifying of all holy things... 1 Chron 23:28

Life of Christ

"I have not come to abolish [the law] but to fulfil..." Mt 5:17



The Stone Waterpots

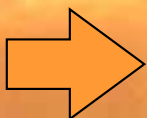
And there were set there six waterpots of stone. Jn 2:6

Role of the Waterpots

...after the manner of the purifying of the Jews... Jn 2:6

Life of Christ

"Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. Jn 2:7

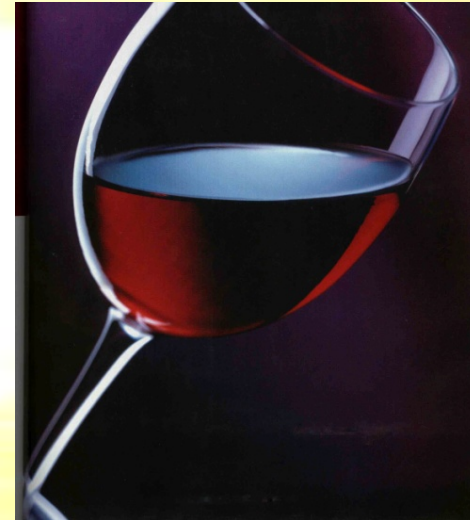


The Better Covenant

DAY 1



First(born) covenant
Death sentence in sin



Second(born) covenant
Life in Resurrection

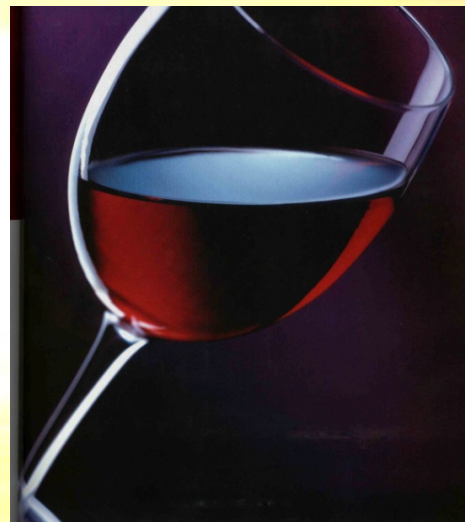
[God] has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant--not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Cor 3

Washing water changes a man from the outside (Mosaic Law)
Wine changes a man from within (Christ)

Life of Jesus must change us within: intention, not ritual

Understanding Cana

DAY 1



Rulers of the Feast

When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from... Jn 2:9

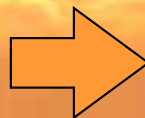


The Pharisees

"We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, [Christ] we do not know where he comes from." Jn 9:29

The Servants

(though the servants who had drawn the water knew) Jn 2:9



The People

And the common people heard him gladly. Mark 12:37

In the Dark

Rulers of the feast are clueless; the servants knew

Jesus meets Nicodemus:
a 'ruler of the feast' *Jn 3*

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night Jn 3:1-2

Nicodemus comes at night

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things?" Jn 3:9-10

Nicodemus is in the dark; he has no idea who Jesus is

In the Light

DAY 1

Jesus meets a Samaritan woman: a 'servant' *Jn 4*

It was about the sixth hour [noon]. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water... Jn 4:6-7

The woman comes at noon

"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet." Jn 4:19

The Samaritan woman is illuminated: she knows who Jesus is

What do I learn?

DAY 1

Jesus Christ is the Spiritual Light (of life)

Spiritual Light (in John) > Natural Light (in Genesis) because the Creating Word remains; it can think for itself

Seeing must come first for me

↳ **(i.e. not baptism)**

↳ **& seeing implies understanding**

I must understand what God is doing in this world

↳ **Specifically: Can I see Jesus?
Otherwise I understand nothing**





Waters Above (Life)

Day 2: John 3:22-5

DAY 2

Basic Idea

We expect to find Jesus described in terms of
“Water Raised / Raising Above”

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” Jn 4:13-14

Return of John the Baptist

DAY 2

Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were constantly coming to be baptized. Jn 3:23

**Makes sense in the theme of “Raising Up with Water”
- but not otherwise**

The Metaphor of Baptism mirrors Creation’s Day 2

“The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth.” Jn 3:31

Two Miracles Raising Up to Life

DAY 2

“The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth.” Jn 3:31

Two Miracles of ‘Raising Up’

The Nobleman’s Son

Jesus replied, “You may go. Your son will live.” The man took Jesus at his word and departed. Jn 4:50

Man at Pool of Bethesda

Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. Jn 5:8-9

The Undeserving Recipient

DAY 2

One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

Jn 5:5-6

What did Jesus mean?

Suggest Jesus is angry with the man:

He has been seeking alms more than healing

Evidence:

Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you." Jn 5:14

Answer only fits an accusatory question:

"Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." Jn 5:7

Miracles are Introduction to Resurrection

DAY 2

Focus in this part of the gospel is raising the living from the dead

“For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.” Jn 5:21

“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out--those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.” Jn 5:28-29

Why Two Similar Miracles?

DAY 2

The Nobleman's Son

*Jesus replied, "You may go. Your son will live." The man took Jesus at his word and departed. **Jn 4:50***

Jesus cures the acutely severe
(i.e. currently life-threatening)

Man at Pool of Bethesda

*Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. **Jn 5:8-9***

Jesus cures the chronically severe
(i.e. a long-term problem)

Spiritual parallel: No sin is too bad, or has been going on too long, to be healed by those who trust in Jesus

Jesus cures the
apparently deserving

Jesus cures the
apparently undeserving

Spiritual parallel: Jesus decides who to cure, and raise, not us

*"I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." **Ex 33:19***

Living Water

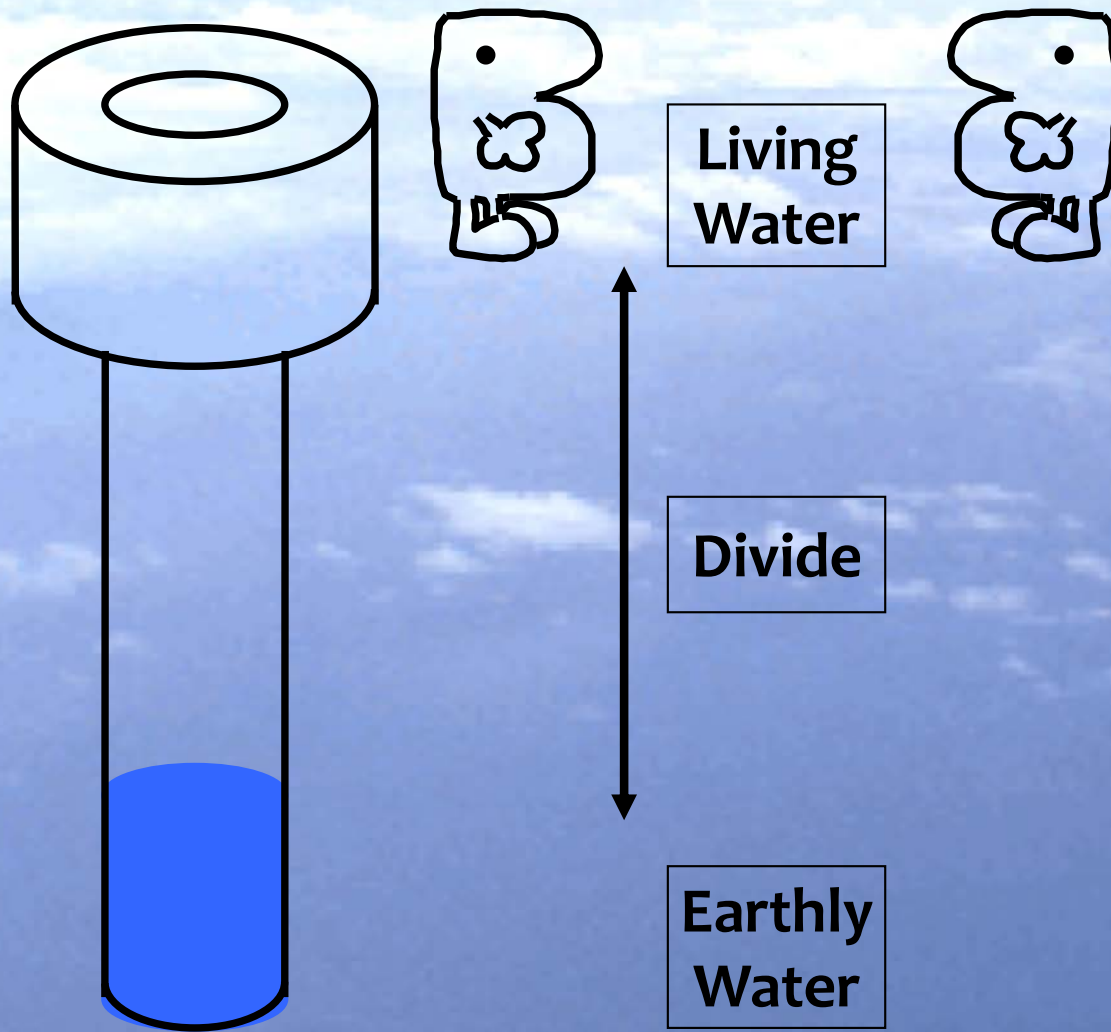
DAY 2

John 4:1-20



Key Story: Woman at Jacob's Well

DAY 2



WATER ABOVE

*He that cometh from
above is above all...*

*...he that is of the earth
is earthly **Jn 3:31***

WATER BELOW

The Sheep and the Stone

DAY 2

Watering the Sheep at Jacob's Well

"Water the sheep..." "We can't," they replied, "until all the flocks are gathered and the stone has been rolled away from the mouth of the well." Gen 29:7-8

Gathering the Flocks

For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. Jn 4:9

"I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." Jn 10:16

Rolling away the Stone

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone Mt 28:2

Jesus Christ is the Living Water

Spiritual Water > Natural Water

**One drink of spiritual water provides eternal life
many drinks of natural water provide temporary life**

**Day 1 = Understanding,
but I still need to act!**

**I need to join Jesus
in the Waters above**

I need to be baptized

**The lack of gathering of the sheep
frustrates the watering from the well**