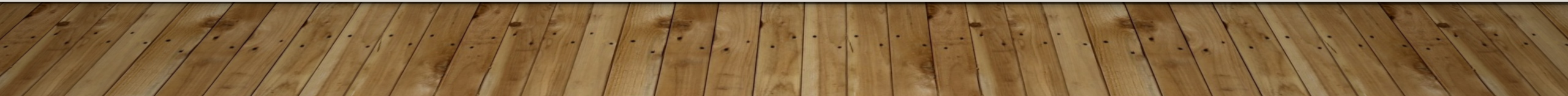


THE WORD THAT IS THE LIGHT

JOHN: OVERVIEW AND CHAPTERS 1-3



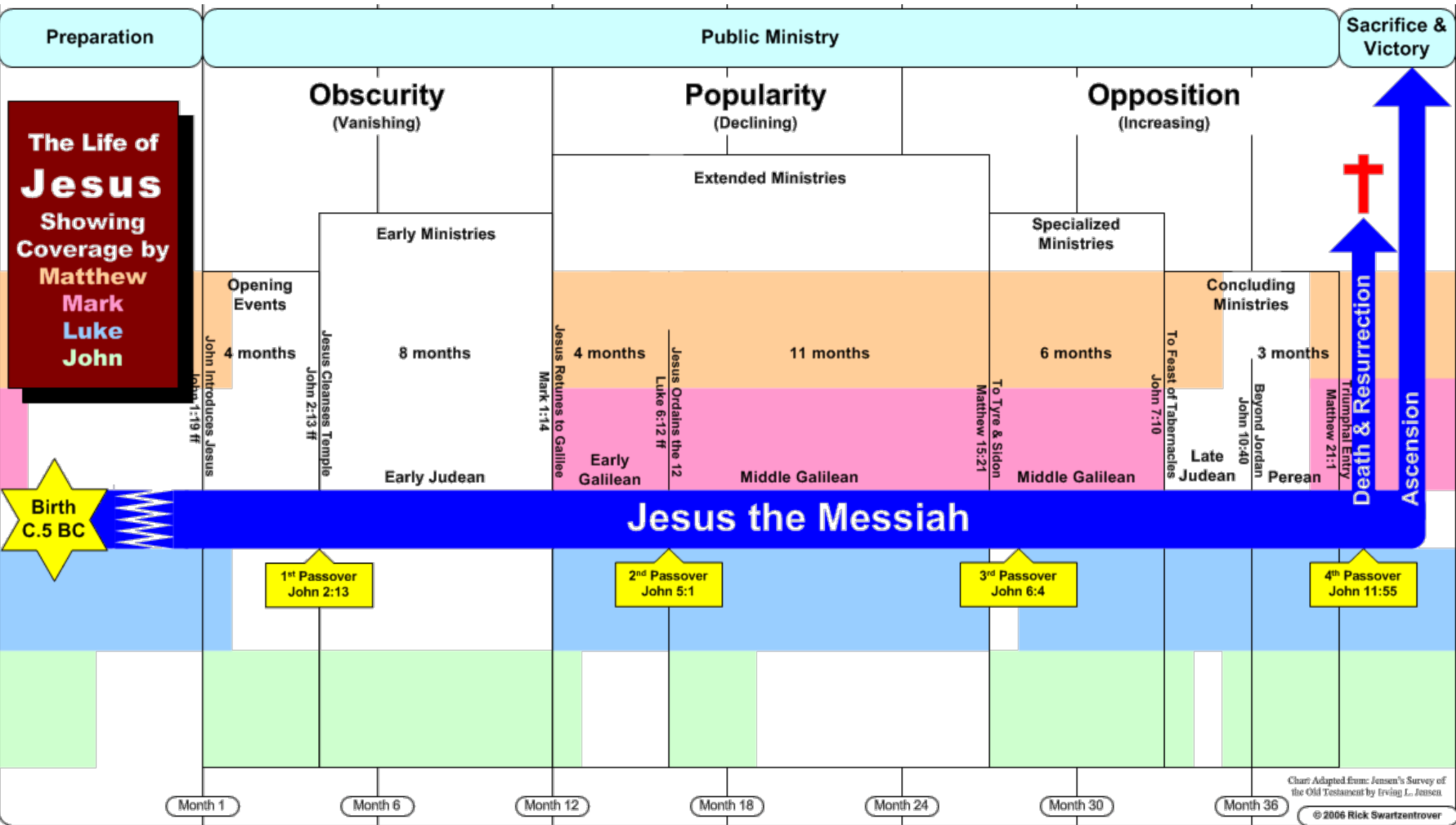
JOHN BOOK OVERVIEW

- History: Jesus' Jerusalem is in ruins; Jew/Gentile tension
- Audience: Jewish and Gentile believers
- Textual: “Pericope Adulterae”
- Unique from other Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke)
- Strongest divinity statements (“High Christology”)
- More emphasis on eternal life now (“Realized Eschatology”)

JOHN BOOK OVERVIEW

SOME DIFFERENCES FROM SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

- Strongest divinity statements (“High Christology”)
 - e.g. in the beginning was the Word [who] was God (1:1)
 - e.g. Jesus and the Father are one (10:30)
- More “Realized Eschatology” than “Future Eschatology”
- Time periods in his life (next slide) and geography
- Focal differences: **Judea** over Galilee, **relationships** over crowd work, **long talks** over pithy sayings, **feasts**



John

Jesus's ministry lasts three years
Jerusalem

Synoptics

Jesus's Birth (Matthew and Luke)

Galilee

Temptation in the Wilderness

Transfiguration

Passion Predictions

Teaching in Parables

Exorcisms

Jesus Predicts the Fall of Jerus

Jesus as Messiah and Son of God
Focus on life and teachings of Jesus
Powerful deeds reveal Jesus's identity
Jesus and John the Baptist
Jesus feeds the 5,000

Death by crucifixion outside Jerusalem

Jesus Dies Around Passover

Cleansing of the Temple

Calling the First Disciples

Baptism and the Beginning of
Jesus's Ministry



JOHN BOOK OVERVIEW

CAUTIONARY HISTORY LESSON

- There have been some *DUMB* debates over the years
- Do the signs in John prove his deity or invite personal faith?
- Does its focus on Jesus' deity disagree with earlier gospels?
- Does realized eschatology mean no future eschatology?

Paul on speculative doctrines:

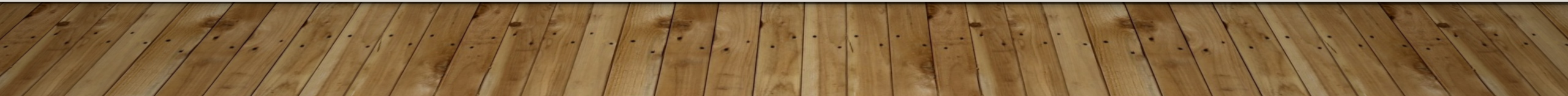
destroy (2Co. 10:5), ***avoid*** (Tit 3:9), ***reject*** (2Ti 2:23), and ***instruct specific people not to teach*** (1Ti 1:3-4)

JOHN BOOK OVERVIEW: ONE COMMON DIVISION

- Prologue (1:1-18) :: Eternality and Incarnation of Jesus
- Book of Signs (1:19-12) :: Seven Miracles Establish Deity
- Book of Glory (13-20) :: Passion, Death, Resurrection
- Epilogue (21) :: Post-Resurrection Appearances

JOHN 1-3

THE WORD-LIGHT, HERALDED, INCARNATE, RECRUITING, AND FIRST SIGNS

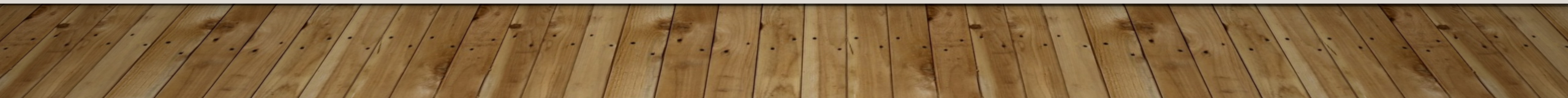


JOHN 1-3

1:1-19 • PROLOGUE: IN THE BEGINNING

- 1:2 - Jesus is referred to as the λογος (or “Λόγος”)
- “was the Word” - **Preexistence**: Jesus already was
- “with God” - **Trinity**: Community/Intimacy
 - ↳ *Wow! Perfect relationship is an inherent aspect of God*
- “was God” - **Deity**: he isn't a different being than God
 - ↳ *Major distinguishing theme of this Gospel*

ΕΝ ΑΡΧΗ ΗΝ Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ
ΚΑΙ Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ ΗΝ
ΠΡΟΣ ΤΟΝ ΘΕΟΝ ΚΑΙ
ΘΕΟΣ ΗΝ Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ
ΤΟΣΗΝ ΕΝ ΑΡΧΗ



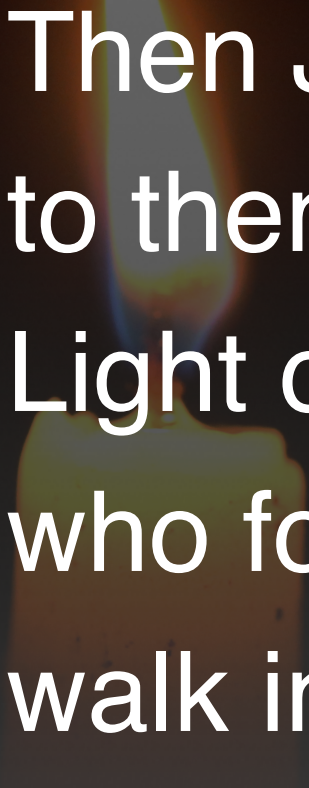
PROLOGUE: IN THE BEGINNING

- 1:3 – Jesus as $\lambda\omicron\gamma\omicron\sigma$ is a *sine qua non* of God's creation
- “through him all things” - **Totality of Creation**
 - ↳ *Jesus was catalytic to all things that were created*
 - ↳ *Did Jesus create evil? Big discussion. (Hint: Light/darkness)*
- “apart from Him nothing” - **Creature Concession**
 - ↳ *(Terminology mine.) Everything owes its existence to Him.*

PROLOGUE: IN THE BEGINNING

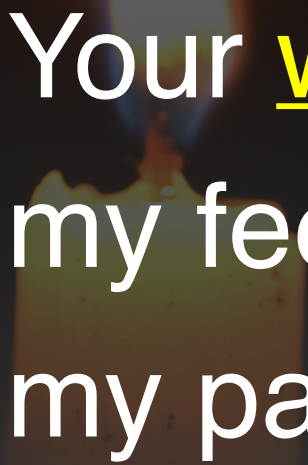
- 1:4 – “life” is ζωή (abundant, spiritual aliveness)
- “Light” (φῶς) is capitalized as a name of Jesus
- John 8:12, 9:5, 9:39
- “the Light of men” implies there isn't another one
- 1:5 – darkness the non-Light, doesn't comprehend
 - ↳ *It cannot be measured by anything else.*

JOHN 8:12




Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”

PSALM 119:105



Your word is a lamp to
my feet and a light to
my path.

THOUGHT
EXERCISE
ABOUT
ABUNDANT
LIFE IN THE
LIGHT THAT IS
THE WORD



What do you “turn on”
to better see a light?

Do you use light to
better see darkness?

PROLOGUE

HERALD (1:6-8)

- 1:6 – John the Baptist sent by God
- 1:7 – ...as a witness so all will believe through the Light
- 1:8 – ...but he isn't the Light

PROLOGUE

INCARNATION PURPOSE: GOSPEL! (1:9-13)

- “the true Light” - lies masquerade as light
- Why come? To enlighten men
- He created the world but it didn't know Him
- His own (the descendants of Israel) didn't receive Him
- Those who do are born of God, not of blood, “the will of the flesh” or “of men”

PROLOGUE

INCARNATION HERALDED! (1:14-18)

- “the Word became flesh” — incarnation
- “dwelt among us, and we saw his glory”
- “the only begotten” (not for long! Rom 8:29)
- Moses: law vs Jesus: grace
- Nobody has seen God, but ...Jesus!

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE WORD'S HERALD

- John the Baptist says he's not Elijah
- They expected a literal return of Elijah
- He came in the *spirit* of Elijah (like Elisha had?)
- But he quotes Isaiah to confirm he's the preparation
- Explains he came to baptize in water (why clarify?)
- Explains there is “One” who baptizes in Holy Spirit

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE WORD RECRUITS

- Individual people's stories told separately
- Chain of events
- Nathaniel
 - Israel was full of deceit, but not him
 - Nathaniel: how do you know?
 - Jesus tells him something between Nathaniel

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE MINISTRY BEGINS

- The first sign (2:1-12) is in Galilee where he's from
- Wedding runs out of wine: an embarrassment
- Somehow Mary knew. Jesus might have been teasing?
- Best wine they had there, saved the host
- This caused belief in his disciples

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE MINISTRY BEGINS

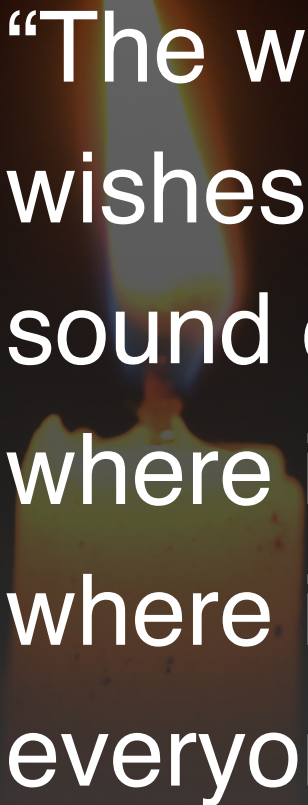
- Jesus clears the temple during Passover (2:13-25)
- Premeditated, not heat of the moment. Prepared.
- “to those who were selling the doves he said”
- Doves were for the poor (Lev 14:22)
- Tear down this temple: the sign of resurrection
- He did not entrust himself to men

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE MINISTRY BEGINS

- Jesus speaks to Nicodemus (3:1-21)
- Nicodemus comes at night, but maybe sincere
- Jesus doesn't scorn him, introduces “born again”
- Explains it's water and spirit, or flesh and spirit
- Those born of the Spirit are like the wind

JOHN 3:8



“The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

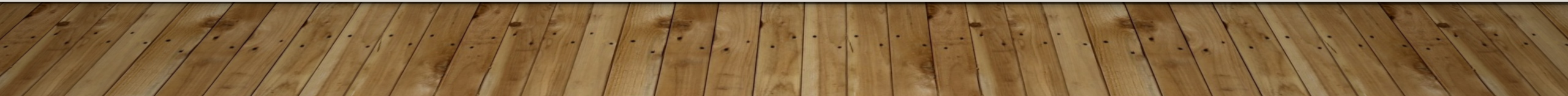
THE MINISTRY BEGINS

- Serpent in the wilderness = Jesus lifted up
- You **have eternal life** by **looking** at Jesus only
- Jesus doesn't scorn him, introduces “born again”
- Explains it's water and spirit, or flesh and spirit
- Those born of the Spirit are like the wind

BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE MINISTRY BEGINS

- Jesus isn't here to judge but to be seen
- You're judged already if you don't look
- Evildoers don't want Light; it exposes them
- People who want good and truth come to the Light
- They want to see Light and be seen by it



BOOK OF SIGNS, PART 1

THE MINISTRY BEGINS

- John the Baptist's last teaching (3:22-36)
- The best man is excited
- Joy made full: He must increase, I must decrease
- Jesus is from God and testifies what He has seen
- “No one receives” — all will reject
- Receiving is agreeing with God, escaping wrath

THE WORD THAT IS THE LIGHT

JESUS IS AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING CREATIVE AND REDEMPTIVE FORCE

JESUS WANTS US TO LOOK AT THE LIGHT AND BELIEVE IN HIS DEITY

HE WANTS US TO BELIEVE SO THAT WE CAN BE RECONCILED TO GOD

