


Lessons from the Apostle John

❁ Who was he:


- ❁ One of the sons of Zebedee, along with James
- It is speculation, but there is some evidence to suggest that his mother was also the sister of Mary, the mother of Jesus (John 19:25).



Lessons from the Apostle John

❁ Who was he:


- ❁ He was called to follow Jesus (Matt 4:21-22) along with his brother James while they were fishing with their dad on the Sea of Galilee. (Also Mark 1:17 & John 1:35)



Lessons from the Apostle John

❁ Who was he:


- ❁ He was apparently often close with Jesus.
 - It was Peter, James & John that were present for the healing of the daughter of Jairus.
 - These same 3 were present at the transfiguration.
 - They also went apart with Jesus in Gethsemane.



Lessons from the Apostle John

❁ What was he like?


- ❁ John was quietly present at all of these intimate settings.
- ❁ Peter, James, Andrew and John asked Jesus about the prophecies he had made, and when they would be fulfilled. (Mark 13:4).



Lessons from the Apostle John


❁ What was he like?

- ❁ James and John were described by Jesus as “Sons of thunder” (Mark 3:17).
- ❁ In Luke 9:54 we see that James and John are asking Jesus to call down fire on a Samaritan village because they refused them hospitality.




Lessons from the Apostle John

- ⚙ What was he like?
 - * There were numerous times when John was rebuked for untamed outbursts.
 - * Yet, Peter and John were entrusted with the responsibility of preparing the Passover (Luke 22:8).




Lessons from the Apostle John

- ⚙ What was he like?
 - * It appeared that John could be very zealous and aggressive, yet his quiet and thoughtful temperament generally held his emotions in check.




Lessons from the Apostle John

- ⚙ What was he like?
 - * Drummond in the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia speculates that as John saw the agony of his Master's crucifixion, that allowed the transformation of the youthful "son of thunder" into the aged apostle of love.




Lessons from the Apostle John



- ⚙ One of the major transformations in John's life began at the cross.


Jesus – Care for His Family

- ⚙ John 19:25-27
 - * ... but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.




Lesson 1 – Care for Your Family

- ⚙ John could have used his youthful enthusiasm and tried to disrupt the proceedings at the cross, but he quietly took it all in, and we see he responded by taking Mary into his home.



Lesson 1 – Care for Your Family


- ✿ Jennifer mentioned yesterday the journey that we have been on since July 15th last year with our son’s brain cancer.
- ✿ This was also starkly brought home to me recently, through a dear friend.



Early Church is Dispersed


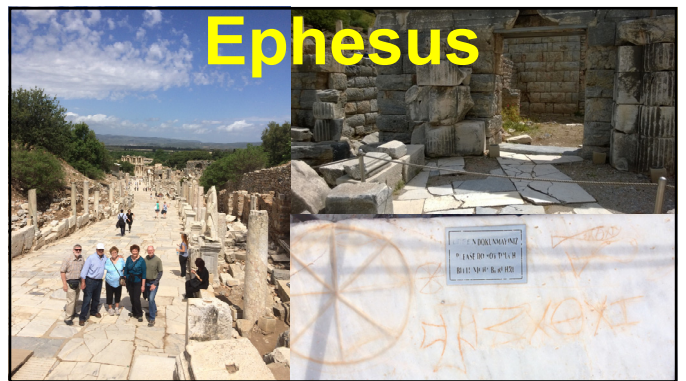
- ✿ Early Christian historians Eusebius and Epiphanius claim that prior to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 67-70 some of the Jerusalem Christians fled to the Decapolis city of Pella

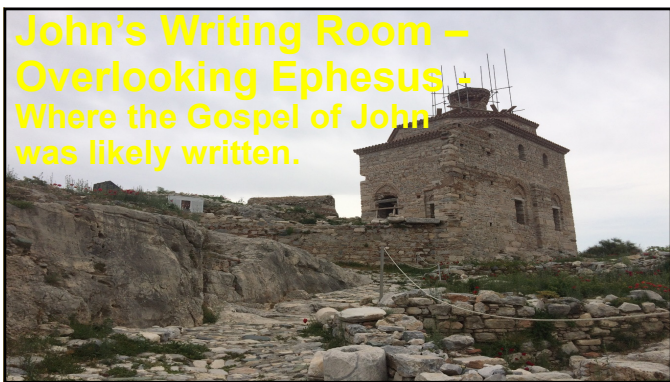
** Mark 13:14; Matt 24:15; Luke 21:20-22; Luke. 19:43-44).*





Early Church is Dispersed


- ✿ From there, some spread further north.
- ✿ Tradition is that the Apostle John traveled and settled in Ephesus



Lesson 2 – Care for the Flock 

⚙ Throughout the Gospel of John, he repeatedly emphasized the need to Shepherd God's people and care for their needs.






Behold, the Lamb of God

- ✦ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." John 1:29-34 (ESV)

The Good Shepherd



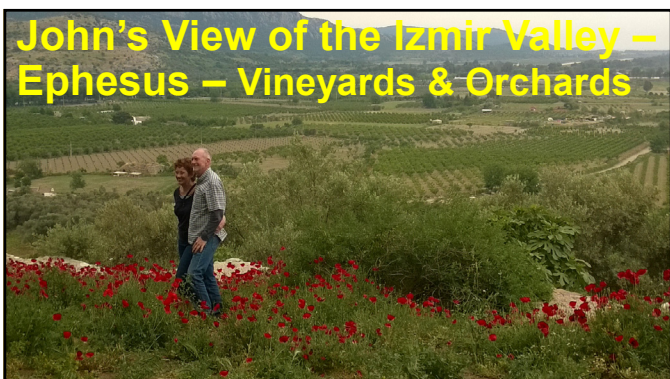
- ✦ John 10:1-18 – Jesus is the Good Shepherd
 - ✦ ... I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ...
- ✦ John 10:26-28 – Following the Shepherd
 - ✦ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

The Good Shepherd

- ✦ John 21:15-17 – John recounts the story of Jesus asking Peter if he loved Him, and then each time charges Peter to feed His lambs and care for the sheep.
 - ✦ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

Lesson 3 – Consequences of Care

- ✦ As we care for our family, and as we care for the flock, the process is not always pleasant, but there is a reward.

True Vine and Branches

✿ John 15:1-11

✿ I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ... These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.



John's Conclusion to the Gospel

✿ John 15:24,25

✿ This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.