

We are beginning a study into what many consider one of the most beloved and profound books in all of Scripture.

Now, if you know a bit about my background, you know I've always had a soft spot for math and science. And sometimes, when we read the grand, cosmic descriptions of creation and end-time events in Scripture, trying to process them solely through the lens of modern physics can leave us scratching our heads! Yet, when we consider modern concepts like a hologram—where complex, three-dimensional light structures are encoded onto a flat surface—the literal reality of these deep, spiritual truths suddenly becomes far easier to grasp.

In mathematics and physics, there are fundamental values known as dimensionless constants. These are pure ratios, meaning they carry no units of measurement—they are woven into the very fabric of reality.

You are likely familiar with the first one, which we all encountered back in geometry class: “Pi”, roughly equal to “3.14159”. Pi represents the absolute relationship between the circumference and the diameter of any circle. It is an irrational number, meaning its decimal places extend infinitely without ever repeating or falling into a fixed pattern.

There is a second dimensionless constant that you may not have encountered unless you've studied advanced mathematics or engineering: the number “e”, which forms the base of natural logarithms. Discovered mathematically by John Napier during the Reformation era, “e” carries a unique, non-repeating value of approximately “2.71828”. In calculus, “e” possesses the remarkable property where its rate of growth is equal to its own size. Because of this, it appears everywhere across creation—in wave mechanics, electrical theory, quantum physics, and even the distribution of prime numbers.

Now, consider the two foundational creation passages in all of Holy Scripture. First, let us look at the opening line of the Old Testament, Genesis chapter 1, verse 1. In the original Hebrew language, every letter doubles as a numerical value. If you take the total number of letters in Genesis chapter 1, verse 1, multiplied by the mathematical product of those individual letter values, and divide that by the number of words multiplied by the product of the word values, the mathematical result yields the precise value of “pi” accurate to four decimal places!

When we turn to the New Testament and examine John chapter 1, verse 1—“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”—we see the exact same phenomenon. If you take the original Greek text of John chapter 1, verse 1, where Greek letters also carry numerical values, and apply that exact same mathematical formula, the result yields the value of “e” accurate to four decimal places!

To see these two universal constants embedded within the very linguistic and mathematical architecture of Genesis chapter 1, verse 1 and John chapter 1, verse 1—written thousands of years before modern mathematical formalization—completely shatters the idea of mere human chance or coincidence. It points directly to a divine, supreme Author who designed both the cosmic laws of nature and the very words written on the page. As the Lord declares in Isaiah chapter 46, verses 9

through 10: "For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done."

What does this mean for you and me on a daily basis? It means that the God who calculated the precise mathematical ratios that hold quantum physics and planetary orbits together is the very same God who numbers the hairs on your head. His word is not a collection of random ancient myths; it is the inspired, infallible truth of the Living God. When your life feels chaotic, unstable, or out of control, you can rest in the unshakeable certainty that God is a God of absolute order and infinite precision. He holds the universe together, and He is more than capable of holding your life together.

My challenge for us as believers this week is simple: Stop reading the Bible as if it were just another ordinary book. Approach your daily time in the Word with a sense of reverent awe and expectation! When you open your Bible, ask the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of your understanding. Let the divine precision of God's Word drive out your doubts, strengthen your faith, and give you boldness to stand firm on God's promises no matter what trials come your way.

This reality reminds us that our physical universe is not the ultimate reality, but a shadow of a far greater, divine reality. God's written Word reflects the exact same signature as His physical creation. As Hebrews 11:3 reminds us, "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."

This truth ought to settle our hearts. The same sovereign God who calculated the fundamental constants of the cosmos and inspired the exact structure of Holy Scripture is the One holding your life together today. When the world feels uncertain, you can anchor your mind on the unshakeable truth of God's Word. Spend time this week sitting with the Scriptures, trusting that the God of details has every detail of your life fully in His hands.

My challenge for us as followers of Christ is simple: Stop living as though God is distant or His Word is ordinary. Let this divine precision stir a renewed hunger in your heart for personal Bible study. For our next gathering, read through the remainder of John chapter 1. To prepare your heart further, take time to read the account of the Transfiguration in Matthew chapter 17, as well as the ministry of the two witnesses in Revelation chapter 11. Let us approach the Scriptures with awe, ready to obey whatever the Lord reveals to us.

An Invitation to the Unbeliever

If you are reading this study and you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, understand that you are not reading this by accident. The God who spoke the universe into existence, who crafted every law of nature, created you with intention and love. But our sin separates us from this holy God.

The good news of the Gospel is that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Logos, to take the punishment for our sins on the cross and rise again so that we might have eternal life. Salvation is not something you earn by your own works, nor is it a complex equation; it is a free gift received by grace through faith. Jesus stands ready to pardon your sin and give you a brand-new life right now.

If you want to receive Him now, simply call out to Him in your heart:

"Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner in need of Your grace. I believe You died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead. Tonight, I repent, turn from my sin, and open the door of my life to You. I ask You to forgive me, save me, and be my Lord and Savior. Help me to follow You all the days of my life. Amen."

The Gospel of John comes to us with a wonderful, straightforward clarity. The apostle John wrote with such beautiful simplicity that the deepest truths of eternity are made accessible to every single reader. That simplicity is vital because this is a saving gospel. It was written so that anyone, anywhere, could encounter the living God. John states his heart and purpose plainly: "And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30–31).

For countless believers throughout church history, John's account is the most precious book in the entire Bible. It is the first place we send someone who is seeking to know who Jesus is or a young believer wanting to grow in their new walk. Of all the New Testament writers, John has a remarkably deep gaze into the eternal mysteries, the heart of God, and the beauty of the Savior.

Understanding John Among the Gospels

When you look at the four Gospels, you notice quickly that John stands apart. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are known as the Synoptics—meaning "to see together"—because they share a similar outline, structure, and perspective on the life and ministry of Jesus.

John, however, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, gives us a distinct view. While all four Gospels mix historical narrative with the teachings of Christ, John focuses heavily on the long, intimate discourses of Jesus. You won't find narrative parables, demon exorcisms, or the healing of lepers in John. Nor does he record the birth, baptism, transfiguration, or the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness.

Instead, over 90 percent of John's Gospel is unique material not found in the Synoptics:

- The Prologue: The breathtaking declaration of Christ's pre-existence and incarnation in John 1:1–18.
- Early Ministry & Conversations: Jesus' early work in Judea and Samaria, His first miracle at Cana in John 2:1–11, His late-night discussion with Nicodemus in John 3:1–21, and His encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4:5–42.
- Miracles & Teachings in Jerusalem: The healing of the lame man at Bethesda in John 5:1–15 and the man born blind in John 9:1–41.
- Great Discourses: The Bread of Life teaching in John 6:22–71, the offer of Living Water in John 7:37–38, and the Good Shepherd passage in John 10:1–39.

- The Raising of Lazarus: The glorious preview of resurrection power in John 11:1–46.
- The Upper Room: The tender moments of foot-washing, the Upper Room Discourse in John 13–16, and Jesus' High Priestly Prayer in John 17.
- Post-Resurrection Appearances: The miraculous catch of fish and the restoration of Peter in John 21:1–19.

It is important to remember that these differences are not contradictions; they are harmonious complementations. The Holy Spirit orchestrated the Gospels to interlock seamlessly. For instance, when Jesus was falsely accused at His trial of saying He would destroy the temple (Mark 14:58), the Synoptics don't record when He said that—but John 2:19 gives us the context. When the Synoptics note that Jesus sent the crowds away immediately after feeding the five thousand (Matthew 14:22), John 6:15 tells us why: the people were about to force Him to be an earthly king.

The early church historian Eusebius noted that John, writing later in his life, acknowledged the truth of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and was led by God to fill in details—particularly Christ's early Judean ministry before the imprisonment of John the Baptist—so the Church would have a complete, rich picture of the Lord.

John wrote with intimate, eye-witness precision. Writing decades after Jerusalem's destruction in A.D. 70, he still remembered the city like the back of his hand—the Sheep Gate pool (John 5:2), the Pool of Siloam (John 9:7), Solomon's Porch (John 10:23), the Brook Kidron (John 18:1), and the Stone Pavement called Gabbatha (John 19:13).

Bridging the Truth to Every Heart

By the time John wrote from Ephesus late in the first century, the gospel had spread far beyond Judea into the Gentile world. John faced a practical shepherd's challenge: how to communicate the eternal truth of Jesus to people who didn't grow up with Old Testament categories, Hebrew genealogies, or a background in Jewish prophecy.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, John used concepts every Greek thinker cared about:

1. The Logos (The Word): To the Hebrew mind, God's word was His creative power ("God said, 'Let there be light'"). To the Greek mind, the Logos was the divine reason and mind of God that held the vast universe in perfect order. John bridged both worlds with one glorious truth: The divine Mind and Word that created and upholds all things has stepped into human history as a real man—Jesus Christ (John 1:1, 14).
2. True Reality (Alethinos): Greek philosophers like Plato talked constantly about this world being a world of shadowy, temporary copies, while real, eternal truth existed somewhere above. John tells the world that real life and ultimate reality are found in a Person. Jesus is the true Light (John 1:9), the true Bread (John 6:32), and the true Vine (John 15:1).

When Jesus performed miracles, John called them "signs." They were not just isolated acts of power; they were windows into the very character of God. When Jesus fed the five thousand, He was showing that He is the eternal Bread who satisfies the human soul. When He opened blind eyes, He was showing He is the Light of the World. When He raised Lazarus, He revealed that He holds ultimate power over physical and spiritual death.

The Apostle Behind the Pen

Who was this writer? John was the younger son of Zebedee, a fisherman from Galilee who worked alongside his brother James and their partners, Peter and Andrew. In his youth, John was fiery, ambitious, and quick-tempered. Jesus nicknamed James and John the "Sons of Thunder." On one occasion, when a Samaritan village rejected Jesus, John wanted to call down fire from heaven to consume them (Luke 9:54)!

Yet, look at what the grace of God does with a yielded heart. The young man who once wanted to blast his enemies became the seasoned, loving apostle who penned the deepest truths of God's love. In the Book of Acts, we see him standing boldly with Peter before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:13). In Galatians 2:9, Paul refers to him as a pillar of the early church.

Jerome records that in John's final days as an old man in Ephesus, when he was too weak to preach long sermons, his disciples would ask for a final word of wisdom. He would simply repeat: "Little children, love one another." When asked why he said only that, he replied, "It is the Lord's command, and if this only is done, it is enough."

What This Means for Us Today

John's Gospel was written with a single, clear purpose: that you may believe, and that by believing, you may have life.

1. A Challenge for the Believer:

If you already belong to Jesus, John's Gospel is a daily call to move beyond surface-level religion and abide in Him. Jesus doesn't offer us a list of rules; He offers us Himself. Are you walking in the light daily? Are you feeding on Him, the true Bread of Life, through His Word? Don't settle for living in the spiritual shadows of this passing world. The apostle John challenges us to know Christ deeply, to hold fast to the truth without compromise, and to love one another with a self-sacrificing heart.

2. An Invitation to Receive Eternal Life:

If you are reading this today and you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, this Gospel was written specifically for you.

The Bible tells us plainly that every one of us has sinned and fallen short of God's holy standard. We cannot save ourselves, clean ourselves up, or earn our way into heaven. But God loved you so much that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world.

Weekly Bible Studies
The Gospel According to John
Introduction

Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life. Then, out of boundless love for you, He went to the cross at Calvary. On that cross, Jesus shed His precious blood to pay the full price for your sins. He took the punishment you and I deserved, dying in our place. He was buried, but three days later, He rose triumphantly from the dead. His resurrection declares beyond all doubt that He is God, the Savior of the world, and the Lord over life and death.

Salvation is not about joining a religious system or trying harder. It is a gift received through faith. John uses the word "believe" nearly a hundred times because salvation comes when you put your total trust in who Jesus is and what He did for you on the cross.

Right now, right where you are, you can turn from your sin and place your trust in Jesus Christ. If you want to accept Him as your Savior and Lord, you can pray a prayer like this from your heart:

"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and that I cannot save myself. I believe that You are the Son of God, that You died on the cross and shed Your blood to pay for my sins, and that You rose again from the dead. Today, I turn from my sin and I place my trust in You alone. Forgive me, come into my heart, and give me the gift of eternal life. Teach me to follow You as my Savior and my Lord. In Your holy name I pray, Amen."

If you made that decision today, the Bible promises that you have passed from death into eternal life. Begin reading the Gospel of John, talk to God daily in prayer, and find a solid, Bible-teaching study group where you can grow in His grace!