

Introduction

30,000 Foot-Level View of John (1:1-21:25)

- 1A. Prologue: The Word 1:1-14
- 2A. Body: Sign-Proven Messiah 1:15-21:14
- 3A. Epilogue: "Tend to My Business" 21:15-25

DC3-Level View of the Body of John (1:15-21:14)

- 2A. Body: Signs Proving Jesus Is the Messiah 1:15-21:14
 - 1B Seven Preliminary Signs Proving Jesus is the Messiah 1:15-12:50
 - 2B The Supreme (Eighth) Sign Proving Jesus is the Messiah 13:1-21:14

Excursus: Why do I include John 1:15-51 in the first sign?

Reason 1: The importance of "in the presence of His disciples"

Reason 2: The sequence of days encircles 1:15-2:12

Drone-Level View of the Seven Preliminary Signs of the Messiah (1:15-12:50)

- 1B Seven Preliminary Signs Proving Jesus is the Messiah 1:15-12:50
 - 1C The First Sign: Transforming Water into Wine 1:15-4:42
 - 2C The Second and Third Signs: Healing with His Word 4:43-5:47
 - 3C The Fourth and Fifth Signs: Controlling the Natural World 6:1-71
 - 4C The Sixth Sign: Opening Blind Eyes 7:1-10:30
 - 5C The Seventh Sign: Raising the Dead 10:31-12:50

Hilltop View of the First Preliminary Sign of the Messiah (1:15-4:42)

- 1C The First Messianic Sign: Transforming Water into Wine 1:15-4:42
 - 1D. Preparing Witnesses for the first Messianic Sign 1:15-51
 - 2D Performing the first Messianic Sign 2:1-12
 - 3D Clarifying the first Messianic Sign 2:13-4:42

Street-Level of Preparing Witnesses for the First Messianic Sign (1:15-51)

- 1D. Preparing Witnesses for the first Messianic Sign (1:15-51)
 - 1E Days 1-2: The Baptist Testifies to Crowds, a Delegation, and Disciples (1:15-34)
 - 2E Days 3-5: John's Disciples (Andrew, Philip, Nathanael) testify about Jesus 1:35-51
 - 3E Day 7: The First Sign Testifies about Jesus; His disciples were believers 2:1-12

Across-the-Jordan-River View of the Baptist Preparing Witnesses for the First Sign (1:15-34)

1F Day 1A: The Baptist testifies to the crowds of Jesus' preeminence 1:15-18

2F Day 1B: The Baptist testifies to the delegation of Jesus' preeminence 1:19-28

3F Day 1C: The Baptist testifies to his disciples of Jesus' preeminence 1:29-34

INTERPRETIVE PROBLEMS IN 1:15-18:

Close-up view of the Baptist Preparing Crowds by testifying of Jesus' preeminence (1:15-18)

Problem: How could the Baptist know the truths of 1:15-18? Aren't these the apostle's words?

Answer (Part 1): This is close to two months after John baptized Jesus

John 1-2 has a series of days (1:29, 35, 43; 2:1), but Mark 1:12 says immediately

Answer (Part 2): The Baptist is a prophet—even more than a prophet

Answer (Part 3): John must be knowledgeable, so he can magnify Jesus and minimize himself

Answer (Part 4): This resolves a major bump in most people's interpretation of John 1

EXPOSITION OF 1:15-18

CONCLUSION