

Jesus Is the Christ, God's Son: John 20:30-31

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Message will be posted at www.TheMessageofLife.com

The Living Water (Logos 21 Translation) unless otherwise noted

INTRODUCTION TO THE MESSAGE

Everyone is talking

Jesus and the Eleven

*Consider the church at Rome and Rome burning (AD 64)
(Paul wrote Romans in the winter of AD 56-57)*

JOHN'S MESSAGE FOR UNBELIEVERS

John 20:30-31a: John selected eight signs:

Jesus actually performed many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book. But these [eight signs] are written...

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Water to wine (2:1-11) | 5 Walk on water (6:15-21) |
| 2 Heal from afar (4:46-54) | 6 Heal man born-blind (9:1-12) |
| 3 Heal lame man (5:1-15) | 7 Raise Lazarus (11:38-44) |
| 4 Feed 5000 (6:1-14) | 8 Cross & Resurr. (18-19; 2:18-21) |

Eighth Sign = Cross + Resurrection (John 2:18-21; John 18-19)

18 "What miraculous sign do You show us, since You do these things?"

19 "Destroy this sanctuary and I will raise it up in three days!"

21 But He was talking about the sanctuary of His body.

John 20:31 says that the Original Readers Were Unbelievers 2

[8 signs] are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, & that by believing you may have life in His name.

The readers are unbelievers & do not have everlasting life.

John's Gospel is the only NT book written to unbelievers

John 3:16 says that only believers have everlasting life

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Only believers have eternal life

Unbelievers keep perishing and keep perishing forever

Their conscious eternal downward-spiral is called *death*

Rev 20:14 calls their eternal state "the second death"

Everlasting existence is not the same as everlasting life

John 20:31: What is John's Purpose for Signs?

(a) These [eight signs] are written

(b) so that **YOU** may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,

(c) and that by believing **YOU** may have life in His name.

He (a) wrote signs, so they (b) would believe, so believers (c) would have life. The ultimate purpose for signs (a + c) underlined: these signs are written so that those who believe would have life.

John 20:31b Is Paralleled by John 11:27

that you may believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (20:31)

I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God... (11:27)

John 11:25-27: Defining believing Jesus is Christ, God's Son

I am the Resurrection

and [I am] the Life

He who believes in Me,
even if he dies [physically],
will live [physically].

and everyone who lives [eternally]
and believes in Me
will never die [eternally].

"Do you believe [all of] this?"

"Yes, Lord, "I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God."

Jesus is both the Resurrector and the Life-giver.

The chart's left side explains Resurrection; the right is Life.

Left: Giving physical life after physical death is resurrection.

Right: Never dying eternally because living eternally is life.

Jesus asked Martha if she believed all of this.

She said "Yes," because as Messiah and God's Son, no one would be in His kingdom w/o resurrection & eternal life.

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Church emphasized spreading Word at great expense

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Papyrus for one scroll of John would cost the equivalent of \$300, plus \$300 for scribe = \$600

Scrolls normally only used one side of pages

Two-sided scrolls (Rev 5:1) were rare and hard to use

The codex halved papyrus cost (using both sides of page)

Papyrus would be \$150, \$300 for scribe = \$450

Christians adopted codex before AD 100 to save \$

5000 Greek and 8000 handwritten NT mss survive

John's Gospel was almost too big for an early codex

Christians used parchment AD 350 (allowing larger books)

Christians adopted multi-quire (allowing whole Bibles)

Christians were the first to use printing press (1400s)

Spread Living Waters widely in a lost and dying world

CONCLUSION: As the Christ, God's Son; Jesus gives everlasting life to everyone who believes Him for His promise of life