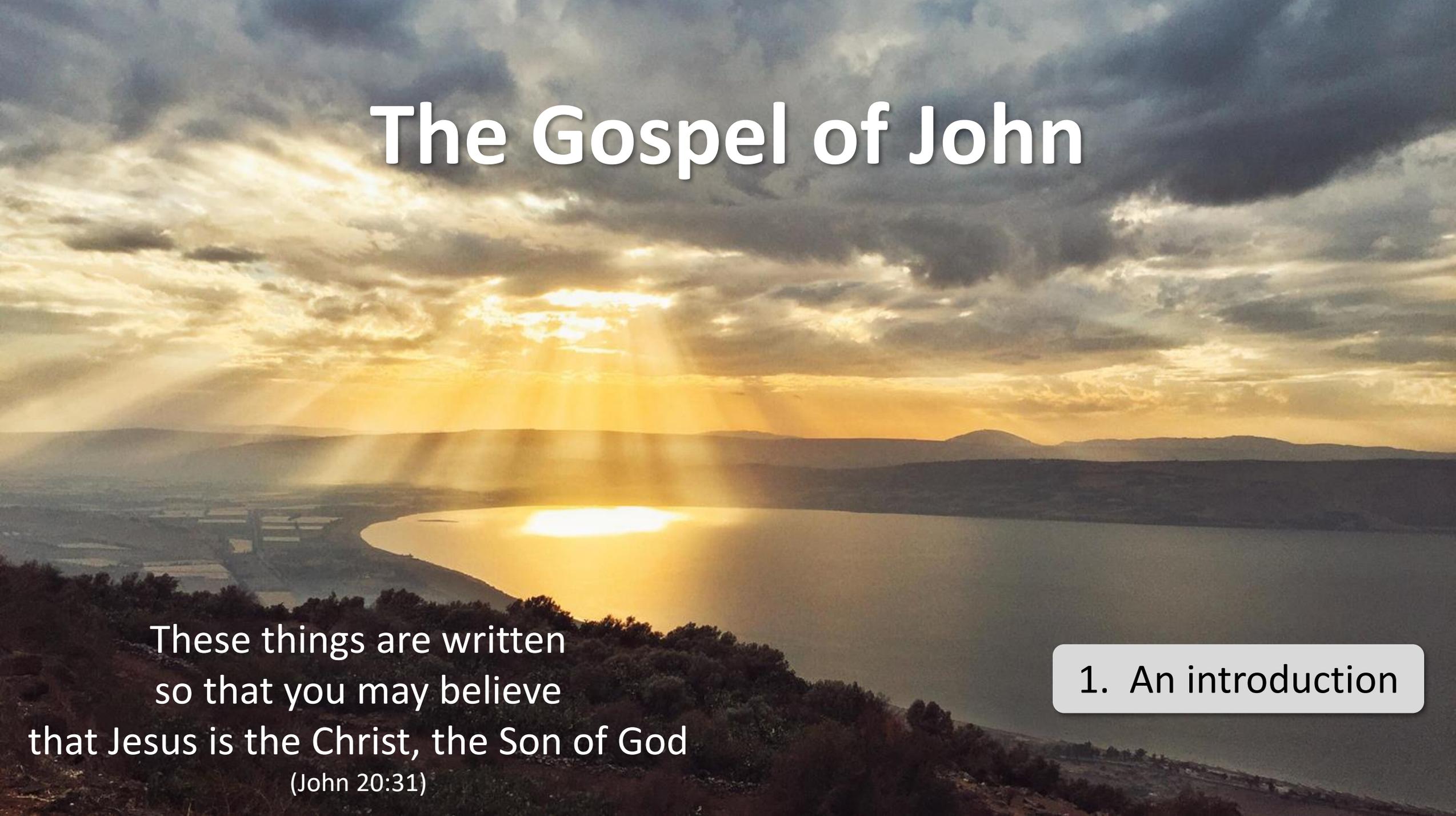


# The Gospel of John

A dramatic landscape at sunset or sunrise over a large body of water, with sunbeams breaking through a cloudy sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the water and sky. The clouds are dark and heavy, with bright rays of light breaking through. The foreground shows a dark, silhouetted hillside with some trees.

These things are written  
so that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God  
(John 20:31)

1. An introduction

# The Gospel of John

- ✓ The Gospel of John is the fourth gospel in the New Testament and was written last – probably between 90 and 95 AD.
- ✓ Paul had died in about 65 AD, Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD, Jews and Christians are separated, Gentile churches are growing.
- ✓ It contains an account of the ministry of Jesus, structured around seven miracles or “**signs**” and seven wonderful “**I am**” statements.
- ✓ John is not named in the gospel – he simply refers to himself as “*the disciple whom Jesus loved.*” He is the brother of James.
- ✓ The purpose of the gospel is plain: “*...that you may believe that **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.***” (John 20:31)

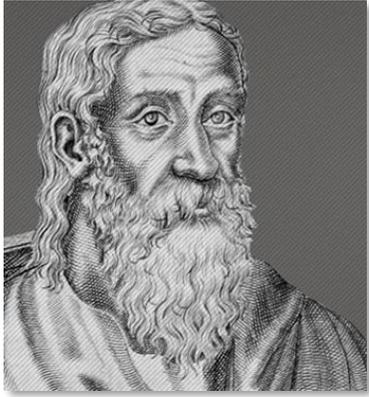
# The Gospel of John

## What do you know from this gospel?

- ✓ John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world...”
- ✓ Jesus turns water into wine – “Whatever He says to you, do it.”
- ✓ Nicodemus – “*You must be born again.*”
- ✓ “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.*”
- ✓ “*He who has seen Me has seen the Father*”.
- ✓ “*My kingdom is not of this world.*”

# **The Gospel of John**

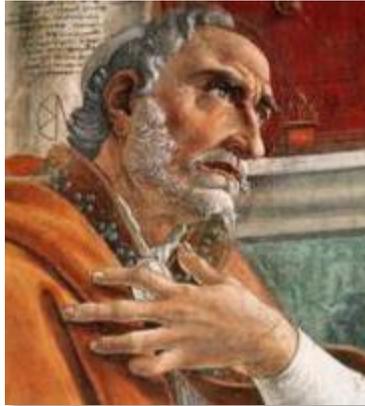
What have people been saying about this book?



### **Clement of Alexandria (150–215)**

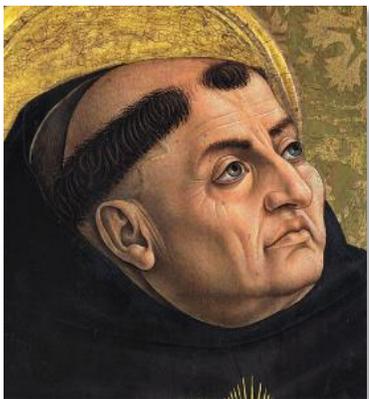
“Last of all, John, perceiving that the outward facts had been made plain in the other Gospels, being urged by his friends and inspired by the Spirit, composed **a spiritual Gospel.**”

# The Gospel of John



### **Augustine of Hippo (354–430)**

“The other three Evangelists seem to have walked with the Lord on earth as man; **but John... soared** not only above the earth but even above the whole host of angels... and fixed the gaze of his heart on the light of unchangeable truth..”



### **Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274)**

“John begins where the others end. The others describe Christ’s birth **in time**; John begins with His generation **from eternity.**”



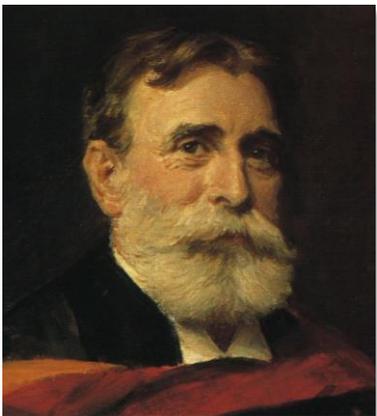
**John Owen (1616–1683)**

“In this Gospel we have the most glorious declaration of **the person of Christ**, and of the mystery of **the love of God in Him**, that is anywhere made in the Scripture.”



**Matthew Henry (1662–1714)**

“This Gospel is the most sublime and spiritual of all the Gospels; **it shows us not so much what Christ did as who He is.**”



**B. B. Warfield (1851–1921)**

“The Gospel of John is the most precious fragment of ancient literature known to man.”

# The Gospel of John

# The Gospel of John



**William Hendriksen (1900–1982)**

**The Gospel according to John  
is the most amazing book that was ever written.**

*“Put off thy shoes from off thy feet,  
for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.”*



**Tim Keller (1950–2023)**

**“The Gospel of John was written so that you may believe.**

Not just understand, not just admire Jesus,  
but believe in Him in such a way that you have life in His name.”

“Christianity doesn’t say, ‘Here is a set of teachings.’

It says, ‘**Here is God Himself, come down.**’

John says the Word became flesh —  
ultimate reality has become personal.”

# The Gospel of John



He had followed Jesus for three years and was a witness of His death and resurrection. He had been proclaiming Him for sixty years and was he was now nearing his end...

The aged apostle took up his pen and slowly began to write...

# The Gospel of John

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things were made through Him,  
and without Him was not any thing made  
that was made.

In Him was life,  
and the life was the light of men.

The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.

(John 1:1-5)



# The Gospel of John

Genesis 1:1

*Logos* - something said  
(including the thought)

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

Distinct

Equal

Jesus is the eternal  
Son of God

He was in the beginning with God.

(John 1:1-2)

*No one has seen God at any time.  
The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father,  
**He has declared Him.***

(John 1:18)

# The Gospel of John

For by Him all things were created,  
in heaven and on earth...

**—all things were created  
through Him and for Him.**

(Colossians 1:16)

All things were made through Him,  
and without Him was not any thing made  
that was made.

(John 1:3)

...in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son,  
**whom He appointed the heir of all things,  
through whom also He created the world.**

(Hebrews 1:2)

# The Gospel of John

—**the life** was made manifest,  
and we have seen it, and testify to it  
and proclaim to you **the eternal life**,  
which was with the Father  
and was made manifest to us—

(1 John 1:2)

In Him was **life**,  
and **the life** was **the light** of men.

**The light** shines in **the darkness**,  
and **the darkness** has not overcome it.

(John 1:4-5)

Or “but”

The only light

And after 2000 years

# The Gospel of John



In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

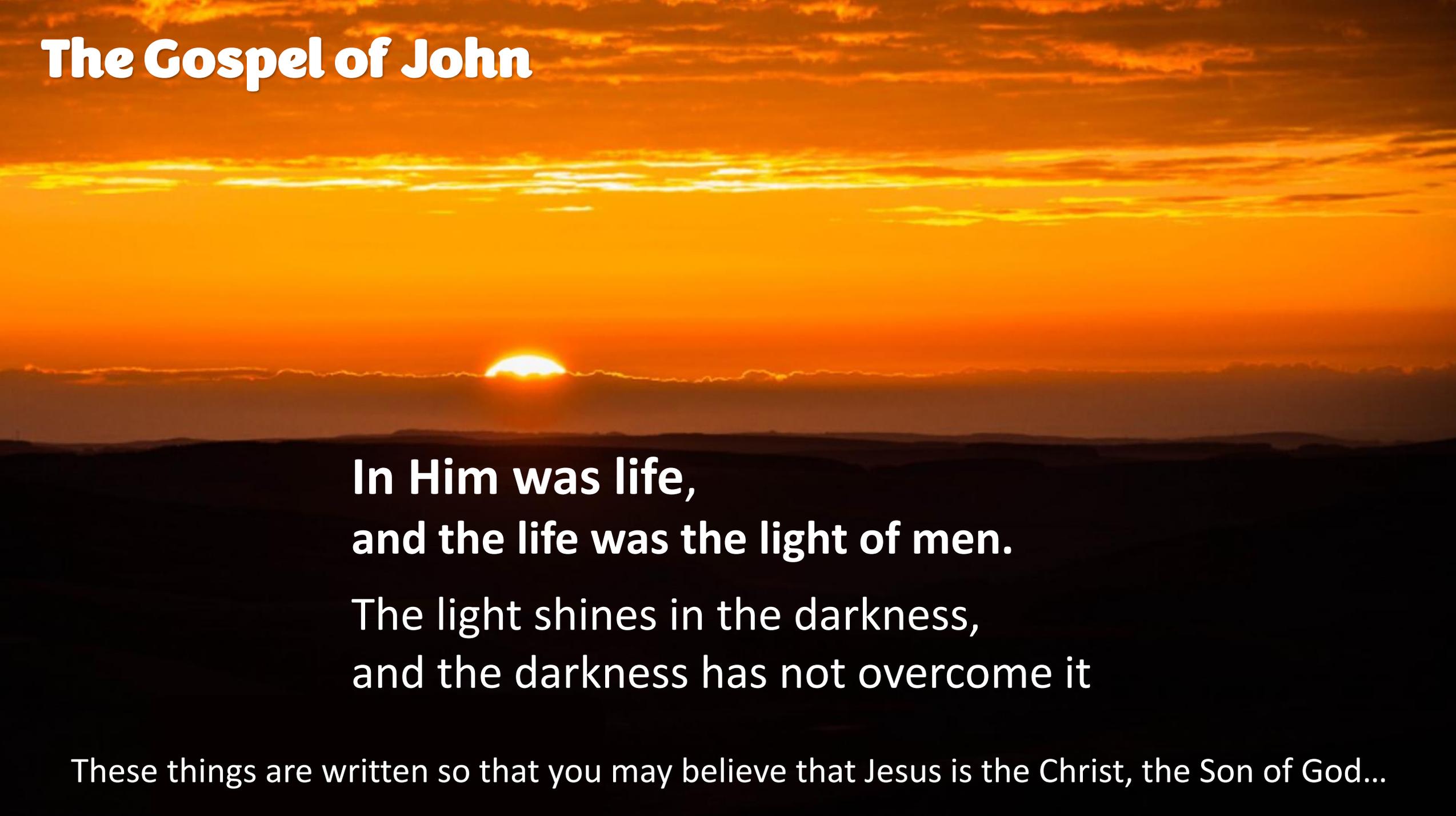
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In Him was life,  
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The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.

(John 1:1-5)

# The Gospel of John

A sunset scene with a bright sun partially obscured by a dark horizon line. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds, and the foreground is dark and silhouetted.

**In Him was life,  
and the life was the light of men.**

The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it

These things are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God...