

# The Eagle's Eye

A full-page background image featuring a silhouette of an eagle in flight on the right side, soaring over a vast sea of white clouds. In the distance, a range of mountains is visible under a sky transitioning from deep blue to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon where the sun is rising or setting. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

## John's Gospel: Class 1

THAMES VALLEY CHURCHES OF CHRIST

2019

“John, oh John,  
Thou honourable bird,  
Sun-peering eagle.  
Taking a bird’s-eye view,  
Even of Calvary and Resurrection.”

D H Laurance - “St John”



Imago aequilae

✠

✠

✠



"In the other gospels, Jesus' story takes place in the horizontal dimensions of the geography and history of Israel; John brings in the vertical – Jesus is above and beyond all that.....John's Jesus is nothing less than God himself, coming down like an eagle from the heights of the world above to save the reader from darkness and evil, if only we allow ourselves in faith to be found by him."

"Four Gospels, One Jesus? A symbolic reading"

Richard Burridge

| What's distinctive?

01

| Biographic

“In each of my friends there is something that only some other friend can fully bring out. By myself I am not large enough to call the whole man into activity; I want other lights than my own to show all his facets...”

C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*



To Granny Jay  
Love from  
Lisa & ...

02

| Spiritual

“...John, last of all, conscious that the outward facts had been set forth in the Gospels, was urged on by his disciples, and, divinely moved by the Spirit, composed a spiritual Gospel.”

Clement of Alexandria (ca. 155-220 CE)

03

| Focus

## Synoptics

## John

Story parables

Stories using symbolism

Teaching on the Kingdom

Teaching on eternal life

Short, catchy sayings

Long teaching sections

Teaching on the last days still to come

Teaching on the last days that are already here.

Sermon on the Mount & Lord's Prayer

Farewell address (chapters 13-17)

Jesus' own baptism by John

Jesus' interactions with John Baptist

Jesus' temptation by Satan and demon exorcisms.

Satan as Jesus' main enemy working through Judas.

04

| Jesus

# 04a

| His Identity

# Jesus' Identity



Word



God



Creator



Life



Light



Son of God

04b

| His Capacity

# Jesus' Capacities



**Gives life**



**Inextinguishable  
light**



**Gives new life**



**Gives right of  
adoption**



**Revealed his  
glory**



**Revealed grace  
and truth**

# | Summary

# John's Distinctives

**1 Biography** Thinking, feeling, living

**2 Spiritual** Theology, Holy Spirit

**3 Focus** Jesus' identity, eternal life, teaching

**4 Jesus** Identity, ability, discipleship



**Read/Skim**



**Discuss**



**Focus**

# The Eagle's Eye

A full-page background image featuring a silhouette of an eagle in flight on the right side, soaring over a range of mountains. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The foreground is filled with a thick layer of white mist or clouds.

Next week: John's Gospel: Class 2

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