

Why John Recorded Jesus' Miracles

John 20.30-31

In these two verses, John expresses his purpose for writing his account of Jesus' life, especially the miracles Jesus performed: He recorded them for all of us who weren't alive to see them. Of course, John wanted everyone to believe in Jesus...but he also wants Christians to *keep on believing!*

John 20.30


Now Jesus performed many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book.

- Jesus performed an incredible number of miracles!
- Why does John say, “in the presence of His disciples”?
- The Pharisee problem: We don't need to know *everything!*

John 20.31

But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

- Jesus is the promised Messiah of Israel, the Son of God
- To believe means to be ‘persuaded’ something is true
- Have you believed? Are you *keeping on believing?*



that you may believe

John records seven miracles in his Gospel: Turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana (2:1-12), healing the nobleman's son (4:46-54), healing the man at the Pool of Bethesda (5:1-11), feeding the 5,000 (6:1-15), walking on water (6:16-21), healing the man born blind (9:1-12), and raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11). John writes that he wrote down these ‘signs’ so that his readers would believe that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, and have life in His name. While it is true that believing in Jesus is the way a person *receives* eternal life, it is also true that believing in Jesus is the way we *experience* ‘eternal life’ in this life right now!

Jesus didn't die and rise again *only* so that we could live forever with Him in heaven. In His own words, He came that we might have life, and have it *more abundantly* (Jn. 10.10)! In Christ, *all things have become new* (2 Cor. 5.17). In this life, *we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us* (Rom. 8.37)! In the here-and-now, *we walk by faith, not by sight* (2 Cor. 5.7)! The heroes of faith in the Old Testament were heroes because they lived *by faith* (Heb. 11)! Every person becomes a member of God's forever family by believing in Jesus at a point in time, but that is not the end of faith – it's the beginning!

John wrote his Gospel to believers decades after Jesus ascended back to heaven. They had never seen the risen Christ. They had never witnessed one of His miracles on earth. John wrote them (and us) so that we would believe – and keep on believing – that Jesus is who He said He was, the promised Messiah (Christ), the Son of God (God)!

Think over the seven miracles John records. What different contexts do they occur in? Who were the recipients of His miracles? What do they reveal about Jesus as God? How do they refresh and strengthen your faith? How can they help you to ‘keep on believing’ each day in Jesus?