

RESUME

I'm glad I'm a Physicist! Accepting two incompatible truths is just normal!

But how SUM UP?

Maybe 'Christ in you, the Hope of Glory'

...God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, **which is Christ in you, the hope of Glory.** (Col. 1:27)

Mystery was a Greek concept = hidden truth revealed

4. LESSON FOR US.

God is concerned with our MUNDANE life.

e.g. messing up the shopping list before a party!

He wants to be incarnate in ME! Can others see Him in me?

Part of the reason I'm here today is because I could see Jesus in the boys at an S.U. camp in 1940 and I wanted to be like them.

Do others see Jesus at work in me? How real is Jesus in my daily life?

PRAY for Mundane Reality!

?For later Inclusion?

Hard evidence for unlikely explanations! (Many ex's, e.g. Einstein)

AND Bragg on the unanswerable question? **Find a better question!**

NOTES for MARCH 10th. John Chs. 1 & 2

MHCC 10.3.19

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Clare's excellent overview, of problems with this fourth gospel. Traditionally author was John –but which John etc? Not reworking! Not a theologian! Basically a physicist, turned schoolmaster; who has picked up a bit of theology along the road! Physicists deal with facts! which poses me a bit of a problem! This gospel about more than facts; also theological & philosophical reflection on those facts.

1.2. My Standpoint on this gospel.

Author– John, the younger of Zebedee's two recorded sons.

c.f. bald 'John' for the Baptist (1:19 - 35) (1:42 oblique exception)

1.3. Dating & Connection to Synoptics.

Accept the tradition that a very old John wrote some 20-30 years after the synoptics wrote in the 60s. He seems to be aware of their content.

Sidetrack? on Gutenberg's Printing Revolution – c 1450 onwards. Rarity & cost of m/s copies. Unlikely John ever handled one of the synoptics.

Effective education in non-literate societies c.f. Elkin last week.

BUT oral learning most effective with repetition e.g. via the synagogue.

c.f. my I.J. experience.

1.4. Structure: Various proposed but... Another Physicist's guideline; 'Simplest and most elegant explanation probably correct one'.

SO JOHN'S SEVEN SIGNS

slide

1. Water to Wine	2:1-11	Unique to John
2. Healing Roman Official's son;	4:43-54	Unique to John
3. Healing at Bethesda	5:1-15	Unique to John
4. Feeding of 5,000	6:1-15	All 4 gospels)
5. Walking on Water	6:16-24	All except Luke
6. Healing Man Born Blind	9:1-34	Unique to John
7. Raising of Lazarus	11:1-44	Unique to John

2.. JOHN'S PURPOSE.

2.1 Stated clearly in 20:20,21. Jesus performed many other signs....**but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.**

2.2. John's own Mystical Introduction' – '1:1-18

READ 1:1-5, and 1:14. What is John driving at?

The same thing! INCARNATION

c.f Andrew to Peter in 1:40; 'We have found the Messiah'.

fascinating slant on prelude to synoptic accounts of apostles' calling.

2.3. Time of mass expectation of the Messiah. hence 1:19-28.

John Baptist himself is not the Messiah.

But knows who is! c.f. v.36 Pregnant wording.

3. So to the TEXT of our Reading in 2:1-12.

3.1 Water into Wine: John's first 'Sign'

Picture what is going on here. Describe scene in detail.

Cana; a small village possibly 9 miles from Nazareth, so close to home for the family.

Why were Jesus and mother there together? Did that often happen? We don't know!

Was it a family occasion? We don't know!

But **Mary** was at home enough part to know the wine had run out. (2:2)

Does she ask Jesus what to do? NO! She just tells Him a fact!.

Lesson for us?

Jesus reply is not rough! 'Woman!' = our 'Lady!'

Mary instructs the servants, so she was known!

I wonder what the servants thought as they served!

Elaborate to v.10.

3.3. Why this story first up? John tells us in 2:11.

c.f. Mk.3;31, Mk.6:3. Only stories between birth and public ministry.

..... but no! see John 7:5, (Even is brothers did not believe in him!)

Aga in John's inside glimpse of very normal family life. So normal!

How hard it would have been for younger siblings to recognise Messiah!

I think these glimpses show us Jesus experiencing humanity to the full;

John is pointing to INCARNATION. such a difficult doctrine!!! c.f....

'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life and that life was the light of all mankind. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (1:1-5).

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, which came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (1:14)'

That Jesus. is one person who is both fully HUMAN and yet fully DIVINE at the same time?

Two quite incompatible truths!

Worse brain stretch than waves and corpuscles for light.

Does this Cana story help you with the significance of Jesus' **Incarnation**

Make it real? or harder to grasp? Make it meaningful? Or improbable?

How does this story help you? and enable you to help the rest of us?

Or any other comment or question?

PAUSE FOR DISCUSSION?? (I like the last word!)

_____x_____

Jesus without sin references:

John 8:46

2 Cor. 5:21

Heb. 4:15, 7:25, 9:14.

1Peter 1:19, 2:22 (Quoting Is.53:9)

References to Kindred.

Mathew 12;46,13:55

Mark 3:31, 6:2-5,

John 2:12,7:3-5

1 Cor. 9:5

Gal. 1:19. c.f. Acts 1:9,
15:15 (N.B.12:2)