



The Gospel According to John - Video 14

Thoughts from Clark Denton on the Reading for Week of April 13: John 18:1-19:42

view the video at www.vimeo.com/fbcknox/gatjweek14

Video Transcript:



"John, in general, is a little bit more difficult to read than the synoptic Gospels. But what is *great* about the book of John is that it includes I think what is called the "Seventh Miracle"--and that's the resurrection of Lazarus. And Matthew, Mark, and Luke do not *include* that. And so John specifically talks about the resurrection of Lazarus and what that did to Mary and all the people around. That specific part of John is one of my favorite passages.

I think the difference in reading John now versus when I was, say, in high school or college, is that [I] truly understand the sacrifice--[myself] having children--of sending that child down with the sole purpose of *dying*. You *know* that they are going to go through a horrible, horrific, whipping, beating, crown of thorns, carrying the cross, the cheap wine on the hyssop branch that John mentions that He has on the cross... that it is finished. And prior to that, Jesus' *own* commitment to His *mother*--saying to the disciple whom Jesus loved "this is your mother," and to His mother, "Mary, this is your son." To the end --even in His last breaths--[He's] taking care of His family. So there you have the lineage of God taking care of Jesus--doing what has to be done to save the world--and then even in Jesus' most troubling time, [Jesus is] making sure that His own mother is being taken care of by the disciple whom He loved.



One of the verses in the book of John that really spoke to me, in the context of our where our church is *today*, is when they were going through Samaria (Jesus and His disciples) and they had the woman at the well. And Jesus asked her for living water--there again, another metaphor--water that she'll never get thirsty again. And then He obviously new some things *about* her, and that *stunned* her. And then the disciples return and Jesus points at a field and He talks about a *harvest*--that we are reaping a harvest that they did not plant. And the *context* of where we are with our church at First Baptist, you know, Tom has mentioned the importance of our church in the city of Knoxville and how *we need to reap the harvest* that Jesus has planted.

We need to do the appropriate things that are asked of us from generations prior, and then we need to plant the seeds today, that can be reaped by those that come after us."