

Book Review - 2022 SITS

Signs of the Messiah: An Introduction to John's Gospel
Andreas J. Köstenberger

This book was extremely helpful and insightful at points in the writing of some material for the gospel of John. Köstenberger presents the apostle John as the author of the gospel. His arguments along the lines of John's authorship were concise and very well written. I enjoyed this part of introducing the gospel the most. His commentary of different sections of the gospel was good, but should not be read for his incredible depth. It was much more practical and surface reading of the gospel.

Köstenberger did have some uniqueness to his division of the text and the specific signs of Jesus in the gospel of John. The seven signs of Jesus in John's gospel from the book -

- 2:1-12 - Turning water into wine at the Cana wedding
- 2:13-22 - Clearing the Temple in Jerusalem
- 4:46-54 - Healing the Gentile Centurion's Son (3 signs in Cana Cycle)
- 5:1-15- Healing the lame man in Jerusalem
- 6:1-15 - Feeding the five thousand in Galilee
- 9 - Healing the man born blind (3 signs in the Festival Cycle)
- 11 - Raising of Lazarus, foreshadowing Jesus' resurrection

I did enjoy the symmetry he had from the Cana cycle and the Festival cycle. His argument for the clearing of the Temple as a sign of Jesus' authority, not necessarily His miraculous power, was interesting. I probably would not agree with all of his end arguments, but it at least a different viewpoint to the signs of Jesus in John's gospel.

Overall - I would recommend this short book as a good starting point for anyone about to take a deeper dive into the gospel of John.

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