

## Why Go That Far?

The idea of going the extra step was seen merely as an experiment performed on a separate page altogether. It was not meant as an attempt to rewrite the Gospels, but to rediscover them, (if possible), with hopes of finding a more fluid understanding of Jesus. If the effort proved out *not to be*, that would be the end of it, no harm done. The thoughts of the scriptures remain as is, nothing gained, learned or attempted.

But not long into the experiment, it was begging for clarification. The John issue kept coming up and three problems came to the surface. The parts in question were areas that displayed a pompous attitude among his teachings, which was portraying him as hypocritical. For example; there were several places where Jesus seemed to be rambling on to how great he is, even though he had just finished presenting his point, two; there are two endings in John's gospel and third; he kept on pointing to himself as the *only* source of reviving their redemption. The other gospels showed Jesus pointing them back to the former writings they should already be aware of. Not wanting to rely on supposition, it became a research effort to confirm or deny the issue. Mind you, there's no denying his powers.

It was discovered that many theologians and historians alike were aware and acknowledged there seems to be two signature writings among John's Gospel, but were reluctant or unable to dig any deeper for fear of damaging the writing's integrity; (look up 'John; gospel according to', either in the NAB or encyclopedias). However, the experiment **was** identifying the realness of two writers. The second, (most experts agree to be a follower of John), attempts to glorify who Jesus was by inserting the significance of him as being 'quoted' by him. Instead, it portrays his preaching as boasting. This attitude is not found among the prophets, wisdom books or the other gospels. He was not teaching for his benefit, he was teaching for theirs.

So, the experiment continued with using all the parts of John that did not have *that* nature among his words and slipped into place with the others. (When you read the portions that were *not* used in this 'Collective Gospel' from among John's work, *you could swear he was talking about someone else*). This was big. It may not be as huge a find as the Dead Sea

Scrolls, but it rose to the surface as a real *find* just the same. So now it was a matter if this investigation made any difference in his delivery.

First, the tone of his teachings gave a more balanced feeling. Secondly, the *despondent conditions* in those times began showing itself. For example, the rulers were not ones to forgive easily, but it was becoming apparent, their list also included the ill and the handicaps. This lead on and up to a *broader and richer significance* to the teachings of Jesus, displaying why there was such need of a Christ to *relieve* many folks of their sins. The frequent referencing to the Old Testament by both the teachings of Christ and gospel writer's dictations, helped connect the comparative values, which demonstrated the *extensive perception* of Jesus, the *power* and *skill* of his tact and diplomacy, graced with his love, healing and sacrifice. Most of us only see the last three.

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