John 3-4

Ch 3

Theme – Nicodemus comes to see the Lord at night; must be born again; Nicodemus can only think of physical birth, but Lord teaches that the Spirit of God will accomplish what we cannot comprehend; when Nicodemus still cant understand, Lord expresses that He & the Father reveal what only they understand (Jn 1:18), but we reject their testimony (Jn 3:32); Lord takes Nicodemus back to Scripture- Num 21:8-9; For God so loved the world… that whosoever believes ("whoever believes" mentioned in v15 & 16); promise of eternal life (v15 is the first of 16 mentions of eternal life in Gospel of John, only ch 6 has more mentions of eternal life than ch 3); Father does not want to condemn the world, but to save it (1Tim 2:3-4); the condemning charge (men loved darkness rather than The Light); when JTB hears that the Lord is gaining more disciples than him, he rejoices- v29; "He must INCREASE & I must DECREASE"- v30; JTB testifies that the Son is higher than the forerunner; Our God gives the Spirit of God WITHOUT MEASURE- v34 (echoed in Lk 11:13); the Father loves the Son; whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son receives the wrath of God

Ch 4

Theme – The Lord leaves Judean area & returns to Galilean area; “He HAD TO pass through Samaria (Jn 4:4); Woman at the well; woman points out their differences; superiority of the water that Jesus offers; Jesus knows her past & present; woman deflects by pointing at religious tradition; salvation is from the Jews; Jesus came to bring a relationship superior to the traditions of men; “God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit & truth”- Jn 4:24 (true inward worship); “I AM speaks to you” (literal Greek of v26); woman runs and tells the people in city to “Come, see” (3rd- Come/ see Jesus in John); the Lord is sustained by doing the will of the Father; Lord explains the future work He has for them (will reap harvest from seeds sown by JTB & prophets); Samaritans receive Jesus and ask Him to stay; many believe because they heard the Lord’s words for themselves (we don’t take someone else’s word for it); Lord goes to Galilee rather than Capernaum; healing of the Nobleman’s son (2nd miracle in John); is the word of the Lord good enough for us to believe (v48); Nobleman believes the words of Jesus; Nobleman’s son is healed and whole house believes