# Light of the World The Gospel of John

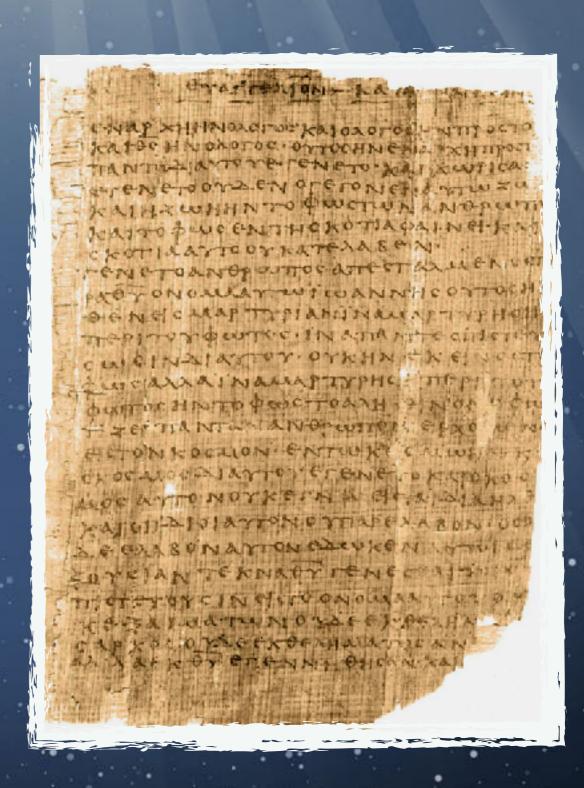
# The Singularity of John

- · The Gospel of "Signs"
- Symbolic language (light, darkness, water, life, bread)
- Full of Jewish cultic language (Temple, feasts, sabbath)



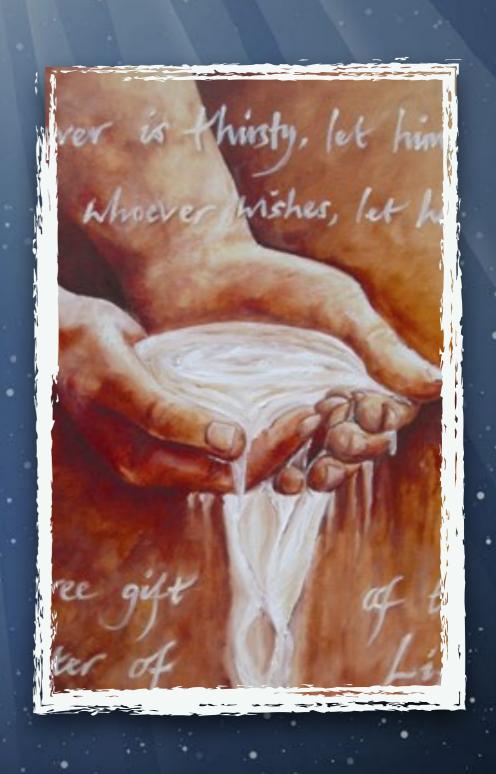
## The Prologue: John 1:1-18

 Introduces the crucial theological themes and symbols used in the Gospel (Light, Darkness, Life, Glory, Truth, etc)



# Symbolism in John's Gospel

"a symbol is an image, an action, or a person that is understood to have transcendent significance... In Johannine terms, symbols serve as a breach for the separation between what is 'from above' and what is 'from below' without collapsing the distinction." (Craig Koester)

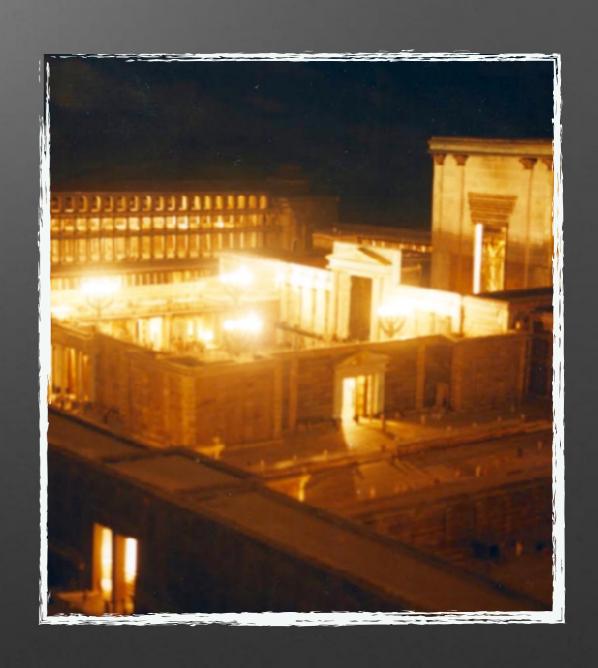


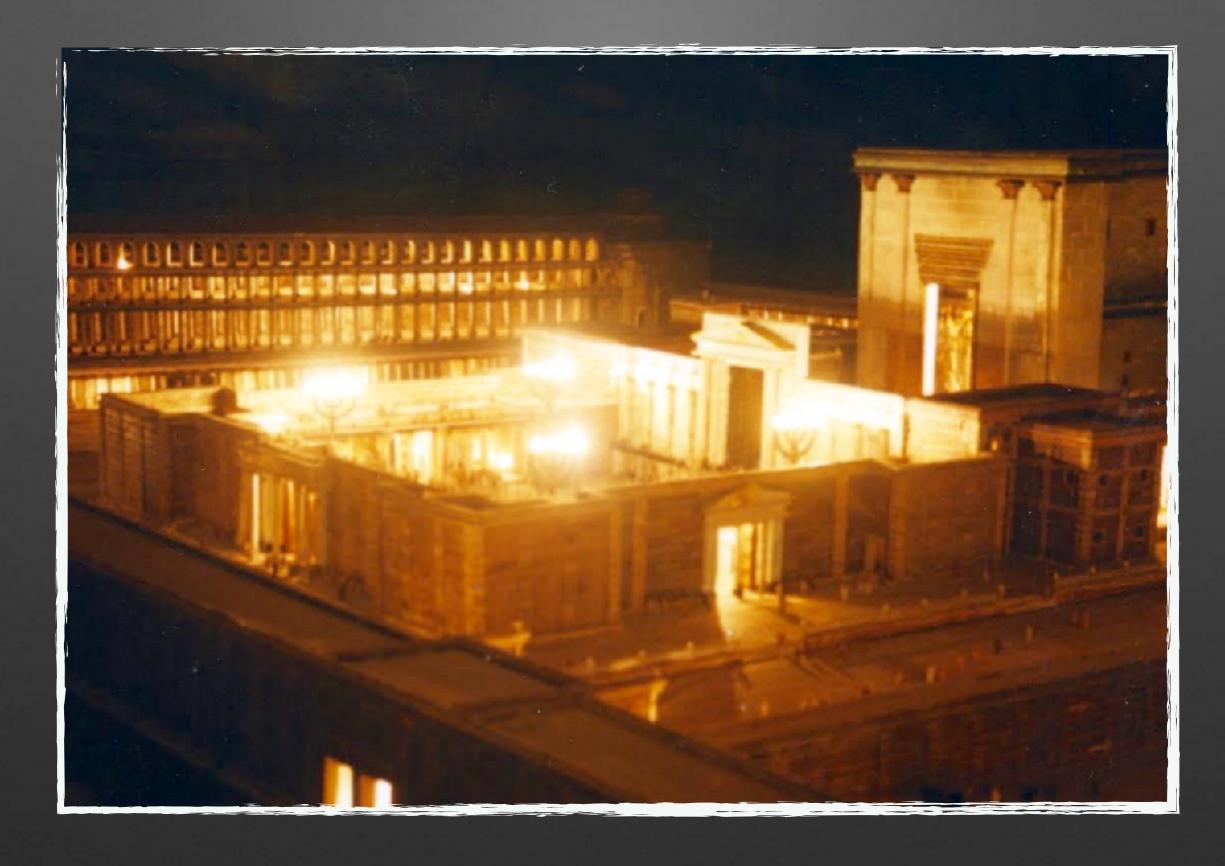
# Jesus and the Israel's Cultic Symbols

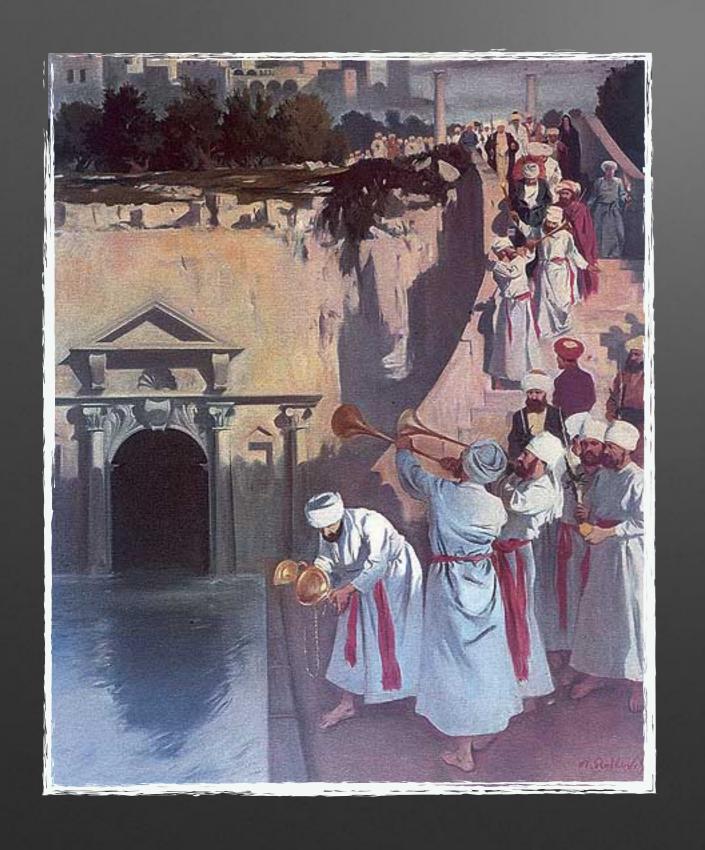
In chapters 5–10 John presents a series of Jewish feasts:

- The Sabbath (Jn. 5)
- The Passover (Jn. 6)
- The Tabernacles (Jn. 7–10)
- The Dedication (Jn. 10)

All of them are reinterpreted in light of Jesus.



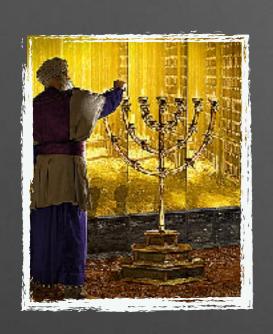




On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them."

John 7:37, 38



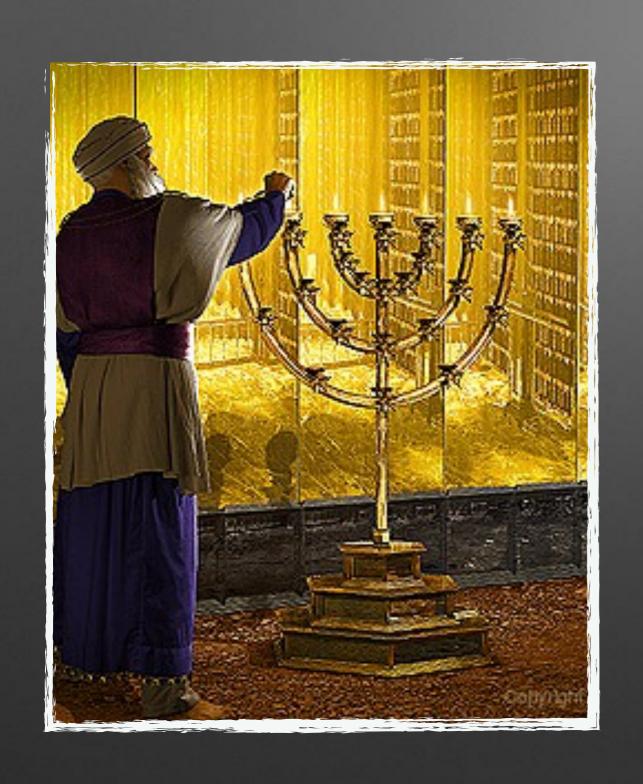


The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? (Ps 27:1)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. (Isa 60:1-2)



The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. (Isa 60:19)



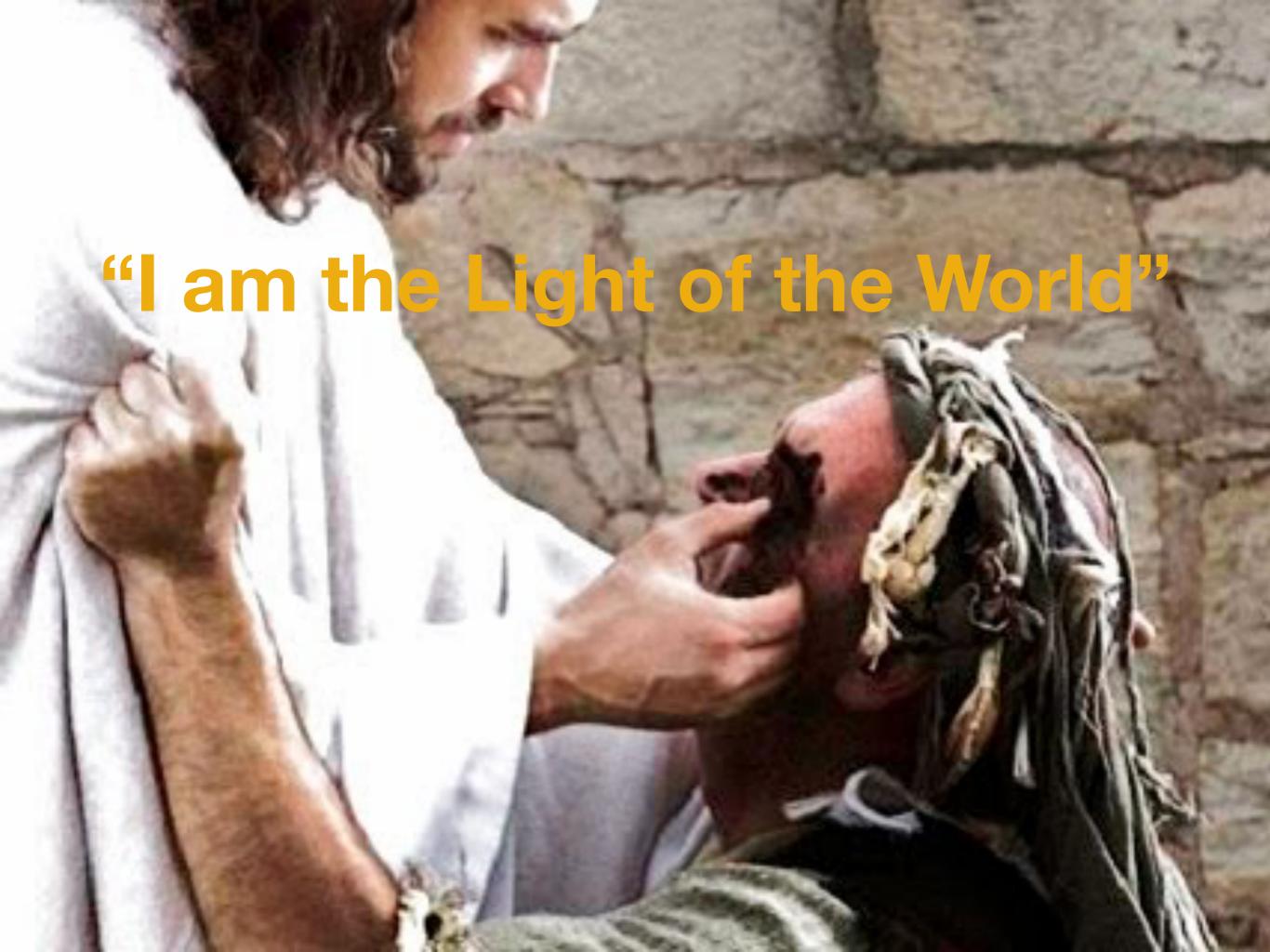
When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:21

"For John's Gospel the great cultic traditions and meaning of Israel's Temple are fulfilled in Jesus"

(M. Coloe)





#### Jesus faces Rejection...



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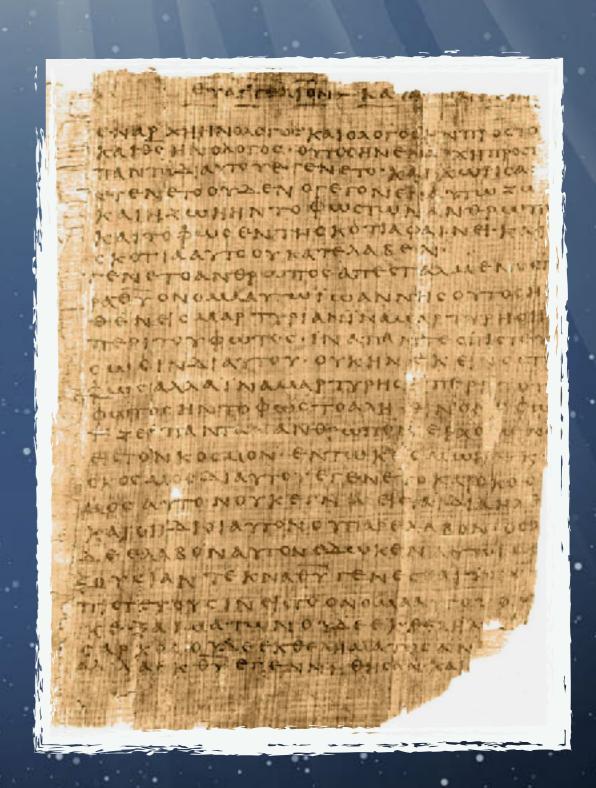


The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." (John 8:13)

... "Who are you?" they asked. (John 8:25)

### The Prologue: John 1:1-18

- John 1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- John 1:9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.
- John 1:10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him but the world did not recognize him.



The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" "Come," he replied, "and you will see."

JOHN 1:35-39



