

John 5–10 review

The aim of John 5–10

John 5–10 has two aims:

- to expose the Jews' true motive for rejecting Jesus.
- to show that Jesus' work continues in spite of their rejection.

The structure of John 5–10

- Five feasts to look back to Exodus and forward to a new exodus:

5:1–47 The Sabbath (1)

6:1–71 The Passover

7:1–8:59 The Feast of Booths

9:1–10:21 The Sabbath (2)

10:22–42 The Feast of Dedication

The theme of John 5–10

- A section which explodes with new exodus life:
 - God's exodus name (eg 6:20, 8:24, 8:58).
 - Jesus' new exodus signs (eg 6:1–21).
 - Jesus' new exodus rescue (6:35, 8:12, 10:7, 10:11).

5:1–47 Jesus on trial

- **The charges** Sabbath breaking (5:16) and blasphemy (5:18).
- **The defence** The Father has told Jesus to give life and judge (5:19-29).
- **The witnesses** John the Baptist (5:33), Jesus' works (5:36), the Father (5:37), the Scriptures (5:38).
- **The warning** God's judge is ready to sue his accusers (5:39–47).

6:1–71 The rejected life-giver

- Jesus is the Exodus rescuer (6:1-21).
- The Jews don't want his rescue (6:41, 52, 60-61, 66).
- The Jews can't stop his rescue (6:35-40, 6:66-71).

7:1–8:59 The Jews on trial

7:1–13 Jesus will testify against the world's hatred.

7:14–36 He exposes the Jews' hatred as their case collapses.

7:37–8:20 His final new exodus offer is rejected, and replaced with his judgement.

8:21–30 He judges the Jews' hatred by announcing his departure.

8:31–59 His words are hated even by those who believed in him.

Question: How can Jesus' work go on if he is going away?

9:1–10:21 The absent life-giver

9:1–41

- The blind man's spiritual sight gets clearer (9:17, 25, 27, 30-32, 36, 38).
- The Jews lose their spiritual sight completely (9:16, 19, 22, 24, 26, 28-29, 34, 40).
- Jesus is at work even though he's absent (9:39).

10:1–21

- Jesus is the door to life, even in his absence. All who take us from him are thieves (10:1–10).
- Jesus is the good shepherd, even in his absence. We know because he gave his life (10:11–21).

10:22–42 Conclusion

- **10:22–39** Join those who rejected Jesus wrongly and get left behind.
- **10:40–42** Follow Jesus, the good shepherd, whose new creation work rolls on.

Discuss: How does the world's rejection of Jesus discourage you? How does it help you to see that the world's reaction to Jesus is motivated by hatred? How does it encourage you to see that Jesus' new creation work cannot be stopped by his rejection or his absence?