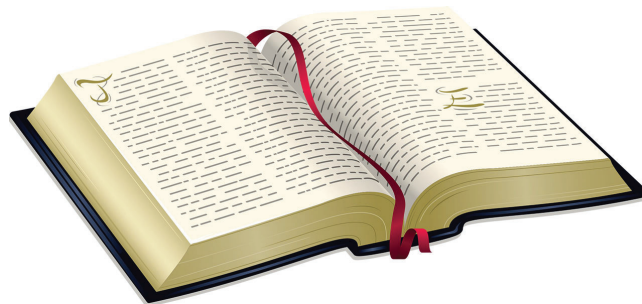


toServe Bible Study - WHS-04



Gospel According to John 3 of 5

Chapters 9 - 12

Answer Sheet for New Living Translation (NLT)

John Chapter 9

Please read all of John Chapter 9 ☐ Check

Notes: In John 9, Jesus and His disciples encounter a man born blind. Turning to Jesus, the disciples ask in verse 2, *“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”*. The disciples’ question reflects the belief that suffering is always linked to personal sin (or the sin of one’s parents). Jesus challenges this belief, saying in verse 3, *“It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him”*.

Jesus’ statement in John 9:3, *“That the works of God might be displayed in him,”* reveals the purpose for the man’s blindness. God has a purpose for every kind of suffering. In God’s hands, suffering is not meant to break us but to build us up: *“We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope” Romans 5:3–4, ESV.*

1. (vs. 9:1-2) When Jesus and His disciples passed by the blind man, what question did they ask Jesus?

“why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents’ sins?”

2. (v. 9:3) Why did Jesus say this man was blind?

This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.

3. (v. 9:6) What did Jesus do to prepare for the miracle of getting the blind man to see?
He spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes.

4. (v. 9:7) After preparing the mans eyes to see, what did Jesus tell the blind man to go do?
"Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam"

5. (v.9:14) **In your own words**, why does this verse mention that it was on the Sabbath that Jesus cured the blind man?

6. (v. 9:16) Why did some of the Pharisees say, "This Man is not from God"?
for he is working on the Sabbath.

7. (v.9:17) When the Pharisees and others ask the man again. "What do you have to say about Him who has opened your eyes?"
"I think he must be a prophet."

8. (v. 9:21) The Jewish leaders still did not believe that he was blind and had received his sight. They sent for the man's parents to ask them if he had his sight restored. How did his parents respond?
Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself.

9. (v. 9:25) When the man was called / summoned for the second time, the Jewish leaders asked him to give God the glory. They said they knew the man that he said gave him his sight, was a sinner. How did he respond to them?
"I don't know whether he is a sinner," the man replied.
"But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!"

10.(vs. 9:33-34) After going back and forth between the Jewish leaders who were saying Jesus was just a sinner, and the man, he made what statement that caused the leaders to cast / threw him out?

If this man were not from God, he couldn't have done it.

11. (vs. 9:35-38) When Jesus heard that they had cast / thrown the man out, He found him and asked him what question? Do you believe in the Son of Man?

How did the man answer Jesus? Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him.

How did Jesus answer back? "You have seen Him, and He is speaking to you!"

What was the man's response after that? Yes, Lord, I believe!

Understanding John 9:39-41

The verses can be confusing when compared to statements such as John 3:17 and John 12:47. In those verses, Jesus states He did not come "to condemn" or "to judge." Here, Jesus states He came "for judgment." The reason for Jesus' earthly ministry was to secure our salvation; this required judgment on and against sin. The result of this ministry, however, is the eventual condemnation of those who reject Him.

*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life,
but whoever rejects the Son will not see life,
for God's wrath remains on them*

John 3:36.

The reference to those who see versus those who are blind, summarizes the entire incident with the blind beggar and the religious critics. Those who admit their need and trust in God are those who will be granted sight. The blind man was given both sight and knowledge by Jesus in response to sincere faith. Those who are arrogant and presume they already know, will be hardened by the presence of Jesus. Despite their knowledge (John 5:39–40), they'll allow their own prejudice to blind them (2 Corinthians 4:4), making them incapable of understanding what they don't want to understand anyway (John 7:17).

John Chapter 10

Please read all of John Chapter 10 ☐ Check

Notes: This chapter gives us a beautiful portrayal of Jesus Christ as the Good Shepherd. He is the “gate” and “gatekeeper” to the sheep pen, meaning that only through Jesus can anyone be made right with God and thereby enter the sheepfold (verses 1–3). The sheepfold is comprised of members of God’s kingdom. Jesus is the true Shepherd who leads, cares for, and protects His sheep, even to death (verses 3–15). As the Good Shepherd, Jesus explains, *“I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd”* **John 10:16**.

Who are these “other sheep that are not of this sheep pen”?

Most scholars understand that the sheep pen introduced at the beginning of the chapter represents first-century Jewish believers. Initially, Jesus focused His ministry on “the people of Israel—God’s lost sheep” (see Matthew 10:5–6). At Pentecost, *“God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven”* were converted to Christianity (Acts 2:5). But, eventually, Peter and Paul would take the message of Christ’s salvation to the Gentiles and to the farthest reaches of the Roman world (Acts 10:1—11:30; 13). The true mission of God’s heart has always been to have one flock comprised of disciples from “every tribe and language and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9; see also Matthew 28:18–19; Isaiah 49:6).

1. (v. 10:16) In verse 10:16 Jesus tells about other sheep that He has that are not in this fold / pen. **In your own words**, who do you think Jesus is talking to and who is he talking about?

2. (vs. 10:20-21) Some in the crowd were sticking up for Jesus, that He can’t have a demon because of what miracle that He had just done?

Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?

Verse 22 comes after a leap in time. Everything from chapters 7, 8, 9, and so far in chapter 10 occurred in a single sequence at the **Feast of Booths**. That festival is held in the fall. That narrative ended with the crowd's divided reaction to Jesus' teachings in verses 19-21. Verse 22 moves John's gospel ahead several months, to the **Feast of Dedication**, which occurs in early winter. The Feast of Dedication is not one of Israel's mandatory celebrations, but it has become one of its most symbolic. Today, it is more commonly referred to as the Festival of Lights, or **Hanukkah**.

3. (vs. 10:29-30) As Jesus was talking to the Jewish crowd and leaders about who He was through the parable of the good Shepherd, What statement does He end it with that causes the Jews to want to stone Him?

I and the Father are one.

4. (vs. 10:31-32) How did Jesus ask the Jewish crowd why they wanted to stone Him?

"At my Father's direction I have done many good works.

For which one are you going to stone me?"

5. (v. 10:33) Why did the Jews say they were going to stone Jesus?

for blasphemy! You, a mere man, claim to be God.

6. (vs. 10:37-38) In proving His point to the Jews, **in your own words**, tell how Jesus asked them to examine His works to know who He is.

7. (vs. 10:40-42) After Jesus escaped the stoning He went back across the Jordan river. Many came to Him and made this point about what John (the Baptist) had told them.

"John didn't perform miraculous signs," they remarked to one another,

"but everything he said about this man has come true."

8. (v. 10:42) After Jesus crossed back over the Jordan River, what was the result of all the ordeal that took place after the Jews tried to stone Jesus two different time?

And many who were there believed in Jesus.

John Chapter 11

Please read all of John Chapter 11 ☐ Check

1. (v. 11:1) What town did Mary, Martha, and Lazarus live in? Bethany
2. (v. 11:4) How did Jesus respond when He heard that Lazarus was sick?

Lazarus's sickness will not end in death.

What was the reason for his sickness?

it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this.

Notes: Jesus has been given an urgent message from some close friends, indicating that Lazarus is desperately ill (John 11:1–3). This message is coming from Bethany, two miles from Jerusalem, to Bethabara, about ten times as far away. This is a about two days of regular travel, a little less than one day for a rushed messenger. According to the timeline given in this passage, for Jesus to arrive four days after Lazarus' death (John 11:17), Lazarus is already dead when the news reaches Jesus in Bethabara. And yet, Jesus sends back a reply comforting the sisters (John 11:4), which they would not have gotten until after Lazarus was expired and buried.

Even so, Jesus' decision to wait two more days was probably taken by the disciples to mean He had no plans to return to Bethany. That city was very close to the religious leaders of Jerusalem, making it a dangerous location for Jesus and His followers (John 5:18; 10:39; 11:8). What they don't realize is Jesus is acting out the promise given in His response to Mary and Martha—that this event is meant to showcase the glory of God. By the time Jesus arrives in Bethany, there will be absolutely zero doubt that Lazarus is entirely, completely, and undoubtedly dead. His resurrection will be a spectacular miraculous sign.

3. (vs. 11:14-15) After Jesus' disciples thought Lazarus was just asleep, Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead". Then what did He say to His disciples?

for your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there, for now you will really believe.

4. (v. 11:17) When Jesus arrived in Bethany, He found that Lazarus had been in the tomb how long? four days

5. (v. 11:18) How far was Bethany from Jerusalem? few miles down the road from

6. (v. 11:20) Which of Lazarus' sister went out to greet Jesus, which one stayed home?
Went to greet Jesus. Martha Stayed home Mary

7. (v. 11:21) What did Martha say to Jesus about Lazarus?

if only you had been here, my brother would not have died.

- (v. 11:23) How did Jesus respond to her?

Your brother will rise again.

8. (v. 11:24) What did Martha think Jesus meant when He said, "Your brother will rise again"?

"he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day."

9. (v. 11:25) How did Jesus reply to Martha after she said "I know he will rise again?"

I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

10. (v. 11:26) What question did Jesus ask Martha after He said,

"I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live"?

Do you believe this, Martha?

11. (v. 11:32) When Jesus was at the place where He met Martha, what did Mary say to Him about her brother Lazarus?

"Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

12. (v. 11:37) As the Jews that were with Mary were showing Jesus where Lazarus' body was laid, and He was weeping, some of these Jews were saying what about Jesus?

"This man healed a blind man. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

13. (vs. 11:39-40) When Jesus and Mary came to the tomb of Lazarus, what did Martha say when Jesus said, "Take away this stone"?

"Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible."

What did Jesus say to Martha after she said this?

"Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?"

14. (v. 11:42) What did Jesus say to His Father that He wanted people to believe before He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth / out"?

that they will believe you (the Father) sent me.

15. (vs. 11:45-46) What happened to many of the Jews that were with Mary and saw Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead? believed in Jesus

What did some of the others do? some went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.

16. (vs. 11:47-48) What was the concern of the chief / leading priests and Pharisees once they had heard that Jesus had raised Lazarus from the grave?

If we allow him to go on like this, soon everyone will believe in him.

Then the Roman army will come and destroy both our Temple and our nation.

17. (v. 11: 57) The Passover feast was near, the chief priests and Pharisees knew Jesus would be coming to Jerusalem. What command did they give about Jesus?

that anyone seeing Jesus must report it immediately so they could arrest him.

John Chapter 12

Please read all of John Chapter 12 ☐ Check

1. (v. 12:1) When did Jesus go to Bethany, the home of Lazarus?

six days before the Passover

2. (vs. 12:2-3) When Jesus came to Lazarus', Martha's, and Mary's home they made him supper / dinner. What did Marth do? Martha served

What did Mary do?

Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard,
and she anointed Jesus' feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair.

3. (vs. 12:4-5) When Judas Iscariot saw what Mary did, what did he say should have happened?

"That perfume was worth a year's wages.

It should have been sold and the money given to the poor."

4. (v. 12:6) Here in chapter 12, the author (John) reveals who Judas Iscariot really is. What does John write about him?

Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief,

and since he was in charge of the disciples' money, he often stole some for himself.

5. (v. 12:7) What must have sounded strange to everyone at the dinner table, Jesus tells Judas Iscariot to leave Mary alone. For what reason?

Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial.

6. (v. 12:9) What were the two reasons many Jews came to Lazarus' house in Bethany?

1st reason: they flocked to see Him (Jesus)

2nd reason: also to see Lazarus, the man Jesus had raised from the dead.

7. (vs. 12:10-11) What were the chief priests planning to do with Lazarus?

the leading priests decided to kill Lazarus, too.

For what reason were they going to do this?

for it was because of him that many of the people had deserted them and believed in Jesus.

Notes: *The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, **John 12:12:***

This was the large crowd that came for the greatest holiday of Judaism – **Passover**.

Many of them came from Galilee. When they came, they came with lambs. Jewish law required that the Passover lamb live with the family for at least three days before sacrifice (Exodus 12:3-6). When Jesus came and went into Jerusalem, lambs for sacrifice would surround him and everyone else.

8. (v. 12:13) When the large crowd had heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet Him, crying out / shouting what?

~~"Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"~~

9. (vs. 12:14) The way Jesus rode into town would fulfill the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9. What was that prophecy?

Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it

10.(v. 12:19) At this point the Pharisees are realizing that the crowds are starting to believe that Jesus is the Christ and said what among themselves / to one another?

"There's nothing we can do. Look, everyone has gone after him!"

11. (v. 12:23) **In your own words**, what does Jesus mean when He makes the statement "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified"?

Understanding John 12:24-25

As He often does when making a bold point, Jesus starts by saying “most assuredly / verily verily / I tell you the truth / truly truly” phrase. This comes from a repetition of the word amen, which invokes agreement. Used at the end of a statement—as many do with prayer—it implies agreeing with something already said or believed. Used at the beginning of a remark, as here, implies it's the first-hand original knowledge of the one speaking.

Paul expands on this metaphor of planted seeds in 1 Corinthians 15:36–42. The seed which is planted seems to “die.” It sacrifices everything and is lost, so far as it appears. In truth, the seed must be planted in order to become what it was always meant to be. Just as the seed must “lose its life” to fulfill its ultimate purpose, so too does each person need to “lose” their worldly life in order to gain eternity (John 12:25). That doesn't literally mean physical death or martyrdom, but rather the willingness to sacrifice everything in order to follow Christ (Mark 8:35–36).

Understanding John 12:27

This verse provides a fascinating glimpse into the humanity of Jesus Christ. Here He describes Himself the same way He did when approaching Lazarus' grave (John 11:33). It's the same term John chose to depict the turbulence of a pool of water (John 5:7). All of these passages use the Greek root word tarassō, often translated as “troubled,” implying an agitation or disturbance. As one fully human, Jesus experienced the same emotions as anyone else (Hebrews 4:15), and in this case that means the anxiety one would expect, given all He knows of what's to come (John 19:1; 19:16).

11. (vs. 12:42-43) Many, even among the leaders, believed in Jesus. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith because of what fear?

for fear that the Pharisees would expel them from the synagogue.

Why did they fear this?

For they loved human praise more than the praise of God.

12. (vs. 12:44-50) In verses 44 thru 50 Jesus makes the statement, “*He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me.*” Jesus is talking about God the Father. At the end of these verses, what is God the Father’s command?

His commands lead to eternal life; so I say whatever the Father tells me to say.

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