

Annotated Reading List for John: The Sacramental Gospel

Brown, Raymond E. *The Gospel According to John I-XII and The Gospel According to John XIII-XXI* (Anchor Bible 29 & 29A; New York: Doubleday, 1966 & 1970).

Brown is my favorite general commentary on the Gospel of John. On historical issues I prefer Blomberg (see below), but for theological and literary issues, Brown is the best available. Many other commentators are unable to recognize the sacramental references in the Gospel.

_____. *The Gospel and Epistles of John: A Concise Commentary* (Collegeville: Liturgical, 1988)

This is a short, more affordable one-volume commentary that summarizes Browns approach to the Johannine literature.

_____. *New Testament Essays* (Milwaukee: The Bruce Publishing Co., 1965), pp. 51-76: "The Johannine Sacramentary.

A moderate, reasonable assessment of sacramental references in the Gospel of John.

Blomberg, Craig. *The Historical Reliability of John* (Downers Grove: IVP, 2004)

The best treatment of historical issues in the Gospel of John.

Brodie, T. L. *The Gospel According to John* (Oxford: OUP, 1988)

I may mention this book on the CDs, but no longer use it in class. Brodie's approach is too eccentric.

Mitch, Curtis, and Scott Hahn, *The Ignatius Study Bible: John* (San Francisco: Ignatius, 2003).

An excellent all-around resource, it is almost as thorough as a commentary.

Coloe, Mary L. *God Dwells With Us: Temple Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel* (Liturgical Press, 2001)

An excellent treatment of the Temple-theme in the Gospel.

Correll, Alf. *Consummatum Est: Eschatology and Church in the Gospel of St. John* (New York: Macmillan, 1958).

A classic treatment of the liturgical aspect of the Gospel of John.

Cullmann, Oscar. *Early Christian Worship* (SBT 10; trans. A. S. Todd and J. B. Torrance; London: SCM Press, 1953)

Cullmann strongly defends reading the Gospel of John from a sacramental perspective, and sees numerous references to Baptism and Eucharist.

Duke, Paul D. *Irony in the Fourth Gospel* (Atlanta: John Knox, 1985).

Good treatment of literary devices in the Gospel.

Guilding, Aileen. *The Fourth Gospel and Jewish Worship: A Study in the Relation of St. John's Gospel to the Ancient Jewish Lectionary System* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1960).

Guilding reconstructs the ancient Jewish lectionary and matches it with passages of the Gospel of John. She is ntriguing and insightful, but overly confident about her hypothetical reconstruction.

Kerr, Alan R. *The Temple of Jesus' Body: The Temple Theme in the Gospel of John* (JSNTSup; Sheffield Academic Press, 2002)

Another fine treatment of temple imagery in the Gospel.

Koester, Craig. *Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel: Meaning, Mystery, Community* (Augsburg Fortress, 2003)

This excellent study of imagery in the Gospel is only marred by Koester's inability to recognize any references to the sacraments in John.

Vawter, Bruce. "The Johannine Sacramentary," *Theological Studies* 17 (1956): 151-66.

Vawter sees numerous sacramental references in John, probably a few too many. This journal article is hard to get—ask a reference librarian at a college, seminary, or university library for help.