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- I. (a) 1:1-8. The Word before creation; creation; light of Word in the world.
- II. (b) 1:9-11. Light of the Word coming into the world in Jesus, and unrecognized by the world or by "his own," the Jewish people.
- III. (c) 1:12-13. All who believe in him are enabled to become children of God.
- IV. (b') 1:14. The Word becomes flesh, dwelling among those who believe in him. These see his glory.
- V. (a') 1:15-18. Those who believe in him receive his fullness of grace and truth; they know God by dwelling in God as does he, the Son. This is the new creation.

FIGURE 1.6
JOHN'S PROLOGUE
IN
QUATERNARY FORM

who has made him known.
who is (in the Father's bosom),
It is God the only Son,
18. No one has ever seen God.
grace and truth came through Jesus
Christ.

PART V

17. The law indeed was given through
Moses;
grace upon grace.
16. From his fullness we have all received,
because he was before me."
ranks ahead of me
'He who comes after me
"This was he of whom I said,
15. John testified to him and cried out,

PART IV

14. And the Word became flesh
and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

12. But to all who received him,
who believed in his name,
he gave the power to become
children of God,
13. who were born,
not of blood
or of the will of the flesh
or of the will of man,
but of God.

9. The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the world.
10. He was in the world,
and the world came into being
through him;
yet the world did not know him.
11. He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.

but he came to testify to the light.
8. He himself was not the light,
so that all might believe through him.
7. He came as a witness to testify to the
light

PART II

PART III

whose name was John.
6. There was a man sent from God,
and the darkness did not overcome it.
5. The light shines in the darkness,
and the life was the light of all people.
What has come into being 4. in him was
life,

PART I

and without him not one thing came into
being.
3. All things came into being through him,
2. He was in the beginning with God.
and the Word was God.
and the Word was with God,
1. In the beginning was the Word,

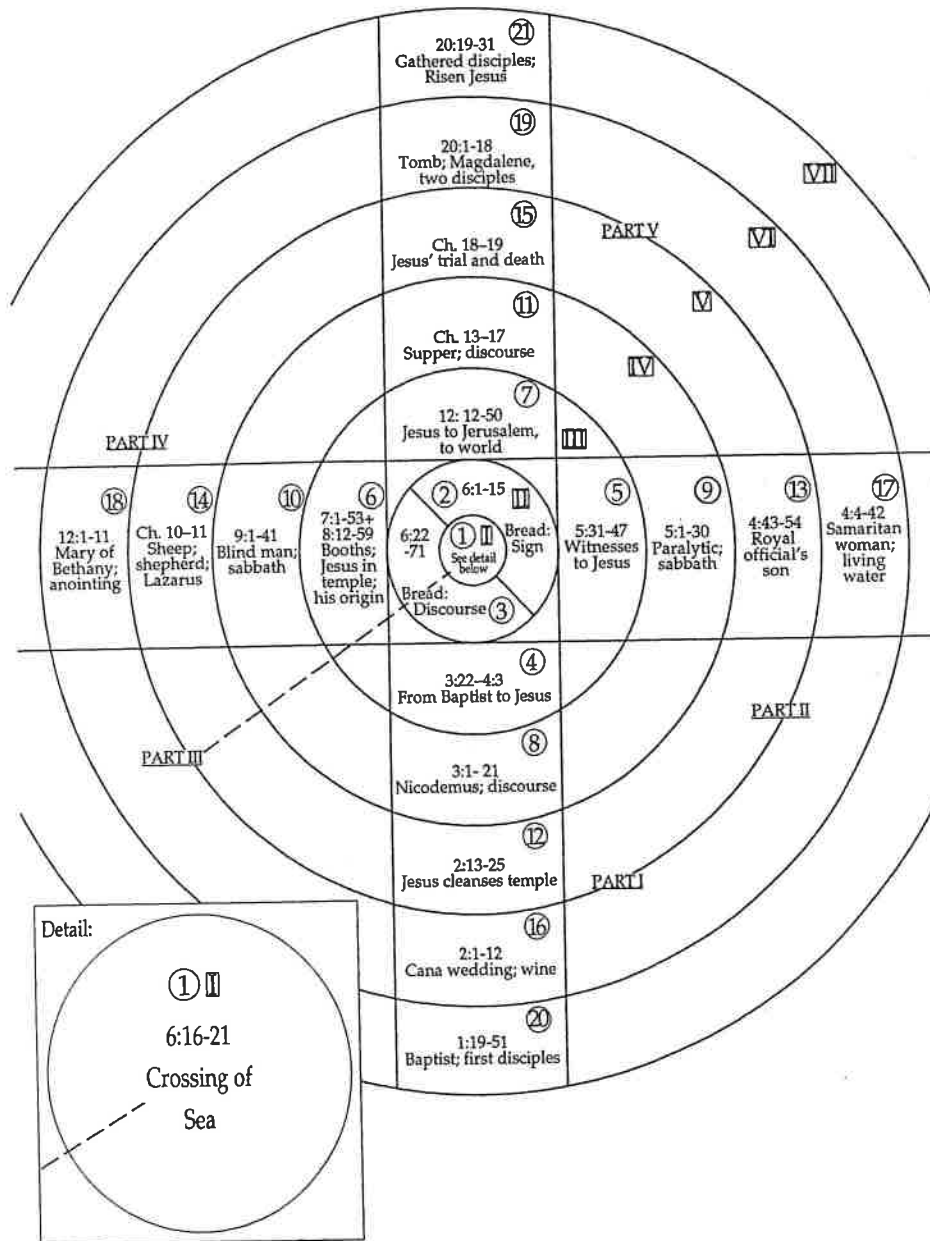


FIGURE 1.5
THE MANDALIC CHIASM OF JOHN'S GOSPEL

Chapter One

The First Day: Light in Darkness

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while the spirit of God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and morning, the first day (Gen 1:1-5).

⊕

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—... (Gen 2:4b-6).

⊕

But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God... (Jn 1:12).

Chapter Two

The Second Day: Bread from Heaven

And God said, "Let there be a dome¹ in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky.² And there was evening and there was morning, the second day (Gen 1:6-8).

⊕

And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen 2:8-9).

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die" (Gen 2:15-17).

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And the Word became flesh... (Jn 1:14a).

Chapter Three

The Third Day: His Glory Fills the Earth

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day (Gen 1:9-13).

⊕

A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and the onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates (Gen 2:10-14).

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...and (he) lived among us (Jn 1:14b).