

Seven Signs in the Gospel of John

SIGN	REFERENCE
1. Changing water into wine	Jn 2:1–11
2. Healing an official's son	4:46–54
3. Healing a lame man	5:2–9
4. Feeding the multitude	6:1–13
5. Walking on the water	6:17–21
6. Giving sight to a blind man	9:1–8
7. Raising Lazarus from the dead	11:1–45

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Explanation

Scholars suspect that when the apostle John wrote his Gospel, he had in front of him or knew of a record that scholars have called hypothetically the “Book of Signs.” Whether such an independent source existed or not, the Gospel of John features several miracles that validate the teaching of Jesus by showing that he had divine powers. Interestingly, seven miracles are reported in John, a number that occurs prominently in the book of Revelation (see chart 17-1).

Reference

Robert T. Fortna, “Signs/Semeia Source,” *ABD*, 6:18–22.