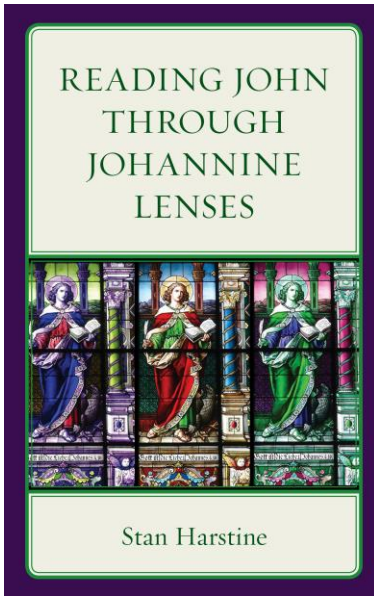


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Reading John through Johannine Lenses



Stan Harstine

“In this wonderful new book, Harstine provides a way through the maze of approaches to the Gospel of John by focusing on the hues the prologue brings to key passages. This book provides an excellent and accessible introduction to the history of interpretation of John while thoughtfully illustrating ways key themes from the prologue shape the narrative, rhetoric, and theology of John. Rather than ending the conversation, Harstine’s analysis invites readers to continue looking back to the story of John, aware of the lenses they bring to the task.” — **Alicia D. Myers, Campbell University Divinity School**

ABOUT THIS BOOK

Reading John through Johannine Lenses demonstrates that the model an interpreter chooses for examining the Gospel of John significantly impacts the resulting interpretation. The Fourth Evangelist uses key words in the prologue in order to guide the reader toward key moments in the gospel. Stan Harstine shows how four words— life, word, receive, and believe— converge at transition points in John 5, 12, and 17. Their close relationship is not random; rather, it guides the reader to recall what the Gospel has presented in the preceding section, providing a road map for understanding the narrative. By using interpretive models from both diachronic and synchronic methodologies, Harstine’s comparison of traditional historical methods with more recent narrative and rhetorical methods demonstrates the wide disparity of results from prior approaches, thus accentuating the importance of reading the Fourth Gospel through the lenses it provides its readers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Stan Harstine is professor of religion at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas.

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