

Symbolism in John's Gospel

I. Metaphorical teachings of Jesus

6:35-58 The Bread of Life speech

10:1-16 The Good Shepherd

15:1-10 The Vine and the Branches

The 7 metaphorical "I am" statements:

I am the bread of life—6:35

I am the light of the world—8:12; 9:5

I am the door—10:7, 9

I am the good shepherd—10:11

I am the resurrection and the life—11:25

I am the way, the truth, and the life—14:6

I am the true vine—15:1, 5

II. Jesus' symbolic actions:

Feeding the 5000—ch 6

Healing the Blind—ch 9

Raising the Dead—ch 11

III. Dualistic contrasts:

Life/Death—3:36

Light/Darkness—1:5

Truth/Falsehood—8:44-45

Heaven/Earth—3:31

Spirit/Flesh—3:5-6

God/Devil—8:42-44

Where does the symbolism end?

Does it include all of Jesus' signs?

How about the stone jars at Cana or the 153 fish in chapter 21?