

Class 2 – John 1:1-14

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John Highlights

- Book written in 80-95AD
- This is an evangelistic book that wants you to Believe in Jesus & the Gospel truth of Salvation in order to become children of God, receive Eternal Life, escape divine judgement, possess the Holy Spirit, and escape spiritual darkness.
- John's message is the eternal God, the Creator has become human, fully God and fully man, in order that He might save sinners from their sin, death, judgement and eternal hell.
- 90% of John's content is not in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark & Luke)

Distinctive Aspects of John

- **Omitted Material (from Synoptics)**

- No Transfiguration
- No Lord's Supper (actual communion)
- No Casting out of Demons
- No Temptations of Jesus
- No Description of Jesus' baptism or calling of the Twelve
- Little mention of the Kingdom of God/Heaven

- **Unique Material**

- Water into Wine
- Nicodemus dialogue
- Ministry in Judea and Samaria more extensive
- Resurrection of Lazarus
- Multiple visits to the Temple
- Jesus is identified with God in a series of "I AM" statements (the light of the world; resurrection & life; good shepherd; vine; living water; way, truth & life.
- Opposites/dualisms: Life & Death; from above and below; light & dark; ₃ truth & lie; sight & blindness

7 Signs (Miracles)

(Chapters 2-11)

1. Changing Water into Wine (in Cana)
2. Healing an official's son (in Capernaum)
3. Healing an invalid (Pool of Bethesda)
4. Feeding the 5,000 (Sea of Galilee)
5. Walking on the Water (Sea of Galilee)
6. Healing a Blind Man (in Jerusalem)
7. Raising Lazarus from the dead (in Bethany)

7 “I AM” Statements *

1. I AM the Bread of Life (6:48)
2. I AM the Light of the world (8:12)
3. I AM the Door (10:9)
4. I AM the Good Shepherd (10:11)
5. I AM the Resurrection and the Life (11:35)
6. I AM the Way, the Truth and the Life (14:6)
7. I AM the True Vine (15:1)

*** These are claims to be God. This is the same translation as Exodus 3:14 & Rev. 1:8.
“I AM” translated means YHWH or Yahweh, the name for God Himself.**

The Apostle John

- John and his brother James were referred to as the **sons of Zebedee**, and Jesus named them “sons of thunder” (Mark 3:17)
- Member of the inner three (Peter, John & James – **all were formerly fisherman**)
- Jesus while on the Cross, assigns the custodianship of His mother Mary to John
- John was the only Apostle who died a natural death (all the others were martyred)
- John was very active in establishing the church in Jerusalem along with Peter and James (Acts 3:1; 4:3-21; 8:14-24; 15:7-11; Gal. 2:9)
- Also wrote 1,2 & 3rd John and Revelation

History of the Manuscripts

- John was not a scroll, but a “codex”, a book with separate leaves like ours and sewn or glued on one side.
- There are 5,686 Greek manuscripts in existence today for the New Testament. <https://carm.org/christianity/bible/manuscript-evidence-superior-new-testament-reliability>
- Earliest New Testament fragment of John is dated 130 AD.
- Several 1st century gnostic writers and early church Fathers quoted John in their writings (Justin Martyr).
- There has been virtual unanimous agreement from 200 AD as to the authority, canonicity and authorship of the Gospel of John.
- Early church Fathers noticed the differences between John and other Synoptics, with Clement of Alexandria writing that John composed a “**spiritual Gospel**” as opposed to a historical one.
- All 4 Gospels were formally **anonymous** and titles were given by early church fathers and universally accepted. John is mentioned 20 times in other Gospels, but never mentioned by name in the Gospel of John (but refers to himself as “the disciple Jesus Loved”)

Theological Emphasis

1. **Who Jesus Is** - Son of God; Messiah; Lamb of God; King of Israel
2. **Salvation** - Sin, slavery, atonement, the Cross and Resurrection
3. **Eschatology**
 - “the hour” – tension between: the kingdom of God has come, yet we must wait for it to come. (John 4:23; 5:25; 16:33)
 - Eternal Life is now and in the future in John.
4. **Holy Spirit** – John goes beyond the baptism to the promises under the new covenant and ties the gift of the Spirit to the death and resurrection of the Son. Doctrine of the Trinity
5. **Old Testament** – Jesus replaces OT figures and institutions and reveals that the OT is about Himself (He is the new temple; the one whom Moses wrote about; the true bread from Heaven; the true Son; the genuine vine; the tabernacle; the serpent in the wilderness; the Passover).

John & Mark - Relationship

- John is very close to Mark in some places (i.e. ordering of events in John 6 & Mark 6), validating that the events actually occurred in that order.
- The parallel to the “**Messianic Secret**” of Mark is the “**misunderstanding**” theme of John, however, in Synoptics the writers are reluctant to show Jesus as Son of God until after the Cross – but in John 1:1, the pre-existent deity of Christ is clearly established.
- John’s extensive Judean ministry gives answers to many unexplained verses in Mark
 - Mark 14:49 says Jesus taught in the temple courts “every day”; hints that He spent earlier periods in the temple than just in the final Passion week. John details many temple scenes prior to Passion week.
 - Mark 14:58 – Jesus threatened destruction of temple was a charge, but only John 2:19 details this;
 - Mark 16:64 – gives no reason the Jewish authorities reached their decision to send Him to Pilate, but John 18:31 says that they had no power to execute a prisoner.
 - Mark 6:45-46 – Jesus speedily leaves after the feeding of the 5,000 to pray – John explains that the people were on the verge of proclaiming Jesus King based on false expectations.
 - **Exorcisms** of the Synoptics are omitted in John, but a **theology of the devil is provided in John** – 3 times the devil is referred to as “the prince of this world”, “your father” and the “father of lies”.
 - **Prayer** – the massive promises of blessings and benefits of prayer in the Synoptics are more integrally tied to the “name” of Jesus, & the ultimate goal of prayer is that the Father might be glorified in the Son.

John 1:1-18

Overview of The Prologue

1. V. 1-5 – **Eternal, Divine, Creating, Redeeming Christ**
 - Jesus as **WORD**
 2. V. 6-9 – **The Prophetic Witness of Christ** (John the Baptist was the last of the OT prophets sent from God)
 - Jesus as **LIGHT**
 3. V.10-18 – **Incarnate Christ reveals God to us** (“the Word became flesh”)
 - Jesus as **SON**
- **The main theme of the book is how the Son of God was sent into the world (in terms of Redemptive history) so that the Glory & Grace of God might be uniquely & perfectly disclosed.**

John 1:1-18

Parallels of The Prologue

Theme	Prologue	Gospel
Pre-existence of Logos (Son)	1:1-2	17:5
In Him was Life	1:4	5:26
Life is Light	1:4	8:12
Light rejected by Darkness	1:5	3:19
Yet not quenched by it	1:5	3:19
Light coming into the world	1:9	3:19, 12:46
Christ not received by His own	1:11	4:44
Born to God and not of Flesh	1:13	3:6, 8:41-42
Seeing His Glory	1:14	12:41
The "One and Only Son"	1:14, 18	3:16
Truth in Jesus Christ	1:17	14:6
No one has seen God, except Jesus	1:18	6:46

1:12 is the Pivot verse where attentions turns (...”He gave them the right to become children of God”). This is the result of this critical revelation: **certain people and not others become children of God**, who receive the Spirit and are born again. (**those who believe**).

John 1:1-18

MOVIE – 3.5 minutes

https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLcJVluhI8isK1RYcLxY0L929cnN3vALi8&v=G2qjPDtQnk4&feature=emb_title

Pre-Existence (Jesus)

Genesis 1:1; John 17:24; Heb. 1:10;
Matt 19:4;

Refers to the origin of the
universe (time, matter, space)

LOGOS*
in Greek

A title for
Jesus

John 1:1-3

¹In the beginning was the Word, and
the Word was with God, and the Word
was God.

The
Trinity

Co-
Existence

Comprehend this – Jesus is both with God as a
separate person, yet He is God in His nature!
God, left His throne in Heaven to die for us.
This is the ultimate act of Love in the universe.

²He was in the beginning with God.

John 8:58
Jesus says
“Before
Abraham
was born, I
AM”

Means that before the world was created,
the Eternal Word already existed.

³All things were made through Him, and
without Him nothing was made that was
made.

Same Words
as Genesis 1
(Creator
Spoke-Words)

- Psalm 138:2
- Col. 1:15-17

John 1:14

Jesus is fully man and fully God. The human incarnation of God!

LOGOS in
Greek

Incarnation*
of God

14 And the **Word** became **flesh** and **dwelt** among us, and we beheld His **glory**, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

“**Dwelt**” = **Tabernacle** or the “tent of meeting” of Ex.33:11 (Ex. 33:7-34:35) where God dwelt (**Ex. 25:8**). Also in the Temple. This is where God met Moses to speak to him as a friend, followed by God’s Word written in stone. Everything in the temple identifies with Christ: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zy2AQIK6C5k>

* **Incarnation** – means **deity becoming flesh**. The expression of God’s nature, will, wisdom and **truth is embodied** (**Heb. 1:1-2**).

The Supreme Revelation

- John 1:1-3 – States that Jesus is **fully God**
- John 1:14 – States that Jesus was **fully Man**
- Jesus is the human incarnation of God, the **“Godman”**

Why Does John use the term Word to describe Jesus Christ?

- Why didn't John just say Jesus Christ, or why didn't he explain what the term "Word" meant?
- Because the term "**Word**" meant "**Logos**" in Greek and **EVERYONE** understood that this term meant **GOD**, but they didn't fully understand who God was.
- John is saying the Logos is a person, and that Person is Jesus Christ. This is Profound!

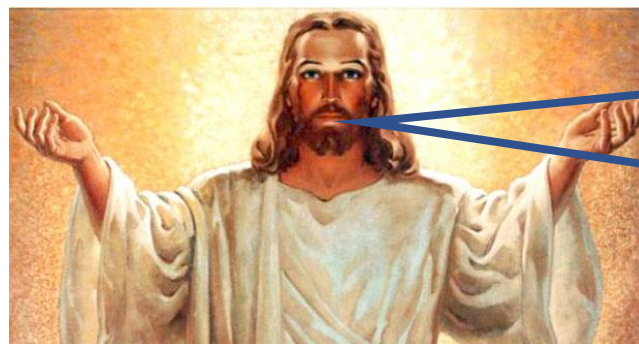
“Word” (Logos) = Title for Jesus

The “Word” Pre-existed, Coexisted, Self-existed with God as God

1. God is Spirit (LOGOS)

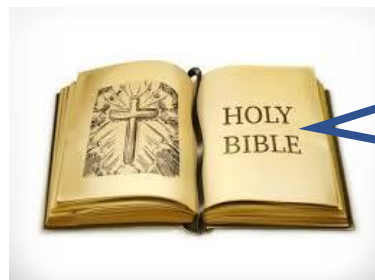
LOGOS (“Word”) is a Title for Jesus Christ

2. God came to earth as Jesus, a Man in the Flesh (LOGOS)



3. God expressed His thoughts & will as Words (LOGOS)

4.



God recorded His Thoughts as Words in the Bible (LOGOS)

ETERNAL

CREATOR

The “WORD” = “Logos” in Greek

- The Bible uses 2 Greek words to refer to the Word of God: **Logos & Rhema**

- **Logos** - in Greek it means a **thought or concept** as well as the **expression or utterance of that thought**. The term Logos, while applicable to an individual word, is more accurately a meaningful expression (**message, revelation**).
- **Jesus is the living Logos who embodied all the collective thoughts of God.**
- **Logos is the highest form of deity.** The creator who speaks things into existence.
- **Greek Philosophy** – The “logos” is an **impersonal force**, a lifeless and abstract philosophical concept that is necessary truth for the cause of order & purpose in the universe. The rational principle that governs the universe (English word “logic” is derived from).
- **Hebrew Thought** – the “Logos” is **personal** (God of the Bible). He indeed has the power to cause order and purpose in the universe, but the distinctive difference is that the biblical “Logos” is a HE, not an it. John is saying that the explanation of the universe is not a theory, but a PERSON, Jesus Christ. **Word of the Lord is the Revelation of God.**

Logos = Greek vs Hebrew

- In John 1:1-3, “Word” is translated as LOGOS, brilliantly uniting Greek and Hebrew readers to a concept they both understood, to explain who Jesus Christ is!
- The difference between **Greek and Hebrew** interpretations, is primarily that **the Greek do not believe in a personal “logos”** (New Age beliefs are like the old Greek ones, “the universe”)
- **“Word” or Logos is a title for Jesus Christ!!**

Rhema

- While both rhema and logos are translated into the English "word", in the original Greek there was a substantial distinction.
- **Rhema** literally means an "utterance" or "thing said" in Greek and is used in the Bible as a reference to Jesus Christ's sayings.
- Some think that rhema is a portion of Scripture that the Holy Spirit brings to our attention with application to a current situation or need for direction.
- Rhema is the main use of "word" and is closest to the English use of the word "word", (i.e. John 3:34 "word" is Rhema), but this is not the Greek word used in John 1, it's Logos. This is of the utmost importance since Logos means **Word = God = Jesus = Living Word of God = A Person**
- **Eph. 6:17: "The sword of the Spirit which is the Word (Rhema) of God"** – This reference is not to the Scriptures as a whole, but to that portion which the believer wields as a sword in the time of need.

Logos & Rhema

(Word of God uses)

Logos

- **Expression of Thought**
 - Acts 11:1; 1 Thess. 2:13
- **Written Message of God**
 - John 17:17; 1 Tim. 4:5; Rev. 1:2;
 - Col. 1:25; Heb. 4:12; John 5:39
- More than a metaphor, it's the **highest title of Deity**.
- Science cannot explain the source of information.

Rhema

- **Actual spoken or written words of God**
 - **Mat. 4:4** When Jesus was being tempted by Satan, He answered, "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word [*rhema*] that proceeds from the mouth of God"
 - **Eph. 6:17** "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word [*rhema*] of God." Jesus demonstrated we need the actual recorded words of God to overcome Satan's attacks.

The phrase "**word of God**" means more than the printed words on a page. God speaks through His creation ([Psalm 19:1](#)), through ancient prophets ([Hosea 12:10](#); [Hebrews 1:1](#)), through the Holy Spirit ([John 16:13](#); [Acts 16:6](#)), through Scripture ([Hebrews 4:12](#)), and through the Person of His Son, Jesus Christ ([John 14:9](#)).

“Logos” – Greek Interpretations

1. **Plato** – the logos kept the planets on course & determined the seasons
2. **Stoics** – The rational principal by which everything exists, that gives order to the universe. Logos basically meant the God of the universe.
3. **Philo** – 1st century Jew influenced by Plato, distinguishes between the ideal world (logos of God) and the real world, and refers to the “ideal man” from which all other humans derive. (semi-personal God)
 - a) The ruler of the universe
 - b) Bridge between God & Man
 - c) High Priest of Universe
4. **Inner Thought** – reason, science – another general interpretation
5. **Outward Expression** – speech or message, which is why “Word” is still thought by many to be the most appropriate term to translate logos, provided it does not narrowly refer to only linguistics, but it understood to mean something larger like “message”.

Logos = Word – in Greek philosophy – 3 fold emphasis

1. **Person** (God/Jesus Christ)
2. **Written Truth** (Bible)
3. **Ethical doctrinal aspect** (Christian Lifestyle)

“Logos” – Hebrew Interpretations

Power of God’s Word in the Bible is Personified

- **CREATION** (by the spoken word out of nothing)
 - Genesis 1:3; Psalm 19:1-4; Psalm 33:6; Isaiah 55:11
- **REVELATION**
 - Jer. 1:4; Is. 9:8; Ezekiel 33:7; Amos 3:1 & 3:8
- **DELIVERANCE/SALVATION & JUDGEMENT**
 - Psalm 29:3; 107:20; Isaiah 55:11; Romans 10: 16-18
- Personified by Wisdom - Prov. 3:19; 8:12-23
- Psalm 138:2 “...For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.”
- John intends that the whole of his Gospel be read in light of v.1. **Therefore the deeds and words of Jesus are the deeds and words of God.**

John 1:1-3

Jesus is Creator

1) Genesis 1:1-3 - The History of Creation

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. **3 Then God said**, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

2) Psalm 19:1

¹The heavens declare the glory of God; And **the firmament shows His handiwork.**

3) Psalm 33:6

⁶ **By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,**
And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

4) Isaiah 55:11

¹¹ **So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;**
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it.

John 1:1-3

Jesus is the Revelation of God

1) Jeremiah 1:4 - The Prophet Is Called

- ⁴ Then the **word** of the LORD came to me, saying:
-

2) Isaiah 9:8 - The Punishment of Samaria

- ⁸ The Lord sent a **word** against Jacob,
And it has fallen on Israel.
-

3) Ezekiel 33:7

⁷ “So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a **word** from My mouth and warn them for Me.

4) Amos 3:1, 8

¹ Hear this **word** that the LORD has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:

⁸ A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord **GOD has spoken!**

John 1:1-3

Jesus Provides Salvation & Judgement

1) Psalm 29:3

- ³The **voice** of the LORD *is* over the waters; The God of glory thunders;
-

2) Psalm 107:20

- ²⁰ He sent His **word** and healed them,
And delivered *them* from their destructions.
-

3) Romans 10:17-18

- ¹⁷ So then **faith comes by** hearing, and hearing by **the Word of God**.
- ¹⁸ But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: “Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their **words** to the ends of the world.”

Summary of Verse 1

Word = Logos = Jesus Christ

- All this up to this point has been to demonstrate the significance of one single verse - John 1:1 – WOW!
 - This is the most profound truth of the universe!
-

John 1:1

- In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God.

John Verse 2 & 3

John 1:1-3

- **1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- **2 He was in the beginning with God.**
- **3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.**

John 1:1-3

Pre-Existence & Incarnation

- **Deity of Jesus:**

- John 1:18; 5:18; 10:30; 14:9; 20:28; Rom. 9:5; 2 Peter 1:1

- **Pre-existence of Jesus: “was”** – “doctrine of pre-existence, goes back to Genesis

- John 1:15; 8:57-58; 16:28; 17:5; Phil. 2:6-7; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; 10:5-7

- **Son as Creator:**

- Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; 1 Cor. 8:6

- The phrase “all things were made by Him” (used twice in v. 3) is the **exact same word used in Genesis 1** (as translated in the Septuagint)

John 1:1-3

Deity of Jesus

1) John 1:18

¹⁸ No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten **Son, who is in the bosom of the Father**, He has declared *Him*.

2) John 5:18

¹⁸ Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, **making Himself equal with God**.

3) John 10:30

³⁰ **I and My Father are one.**”

4) John 14:9

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father...**”

5) John 20:28

²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, “**My Lord and my God!**”

John 1:1-3

Pre-Existence of Jesus

1) John 1:15

¹⁵ John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, **for He was before me.**’”

2) John 8:57-58

⁵⁷ Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **before Abraham was, I AM.**”

3) John 16:28

²⁸ I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.” ³⁰ **I and My Father are one.**”

4) John 17:5

⁵ And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the **glory which I had with You before the world was.**

5) Colossians 1:17

¹⁷ **And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.**

John 1:1-3

Jesus is Creator

1) Colossians 1:16

¹⁶ For **by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth**, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

2) Hebrews 1:2

² has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, **through whom also He made the worlds**;

3) 1 Corinthians 8:6

⁶ yet for us **there is one God**, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we for Him; **and one Lord Jesus Christ**, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*.

JESUS = LIGHT = LIFE =
CREATION = SALVATION

John 1:4

“In Him was **life**, and the life was the **light** of men.”

- Parallels John 5:26 “For as the **Father** has **life** in Himself, so He has granted the **Son** to have **life** in Himself”
- Relationship between **GOD & the WORD** in the prologue is identical to the relationship between **FATHER & SON** in the rest of the Gospel.
- In 1:4, Life & Light relate to **Creation**, where by in contrast, in the rest of the book they relate to **Salvation**.
- Jesus later declares that He is both “the light of the world” (8:12; 9:5) and “the life” (11:25; 14:6)

John 1:5

LIGHT/DARKNESS =
REDEMPTION/SIN

“And the **light** shines in the **darkness**, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

- Up to this point, John is talking about creation, so one may incorrectly think this relates to Genesis 1:2-3
- However, this is relating to the light/darkness duality theme that dominates much of the book of John.
- Later in John, the “**darkness**” is not only the absence of light, but is **EVIL**.
- John 3:19 “...**men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil**”.
- Therefore the Word is both the light of **Creation** and the light of **Redemption**.

PROPHECY UPDATE

- **Why are so many politicians and social groups using the phrases “light” and “darkness” these days?**
- **Joe Biden Speech Aug 2020** “I give you my word,” Biden said. “If you entrust me with the presidency, I will draw on the best of us, not the worst. **I will be an ally of the light, not of the darkness.**”
- **Isaiah 14:12 – Lucifer** is called the son of the morning star which literally means “**light bearer**”. This is the False Light worshipped by the occult and false religions.
- **2 Corinthians 11:14-15** ¹⁴ ...**For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.**
- There is only one True Light, and Jesus said “I am the Light of the World”, but Satan is a Chameleon and can disguise himself as “light”, but it’s a false light.

• <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bwb370V2dPQ> – Biden Speech

• <https://www.lifenews.com/2020/03/02/joe-biden-forgets-the-creator-in-the-declaration-of-independence-calls-god-the-thing/> - Biden Speech 2

• <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQhbEh8AeSA> – Bush Speech

PROPHECY UPDATE

How can you the difference between True & False Light?

1 John 4:1-3 – Test the Spirits

- 4 Beloved, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God**; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
 - 2 **By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God,** 3 **and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God.** And this is the **spirit of the Antichrist**, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.
-

Galations 1:6-8 - Only One Gospel

- 6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,... and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.
- 8 But even **if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.**

Witness of John the Baptist

John 1:6-8

- ⁶ There was a **man sent from God**, whose name *was* John.
- ⁷ This man **came for a witness**, to bear witness of the Light, **that all through him might believe**.⁸ He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.”

Witness of John the Baptist

- In this Gospel that there is no additional description such as “the Baptist”, his clothes and diet, etc.
- The Baptist’s significance to the story is massive, since he was “**SENT FROM GOD**”, commissioned like Moses and the Prophets. (Luke 7:28 “...no one among those born of women is greater than John”)
- Courtroom language “**Witness**”; “**Testify**” - God took even this measure of providing a prophesied witness of the Messiah, leaving unbelievers no excuse.
- V.8 insists John was not the light, probably to refute people who thought John was the Messiah (Acts 19:1-7)
- Other mentions of John the Baptist in John: John 1:19-34; 3:37-30; 5:35; 10:40-42

John 1:9

“That was the **true Light** which gives light to every man coming into the world.”

- “**True**” – means “real” or “genuine” and applied to light here.
- The fact the Light comes into the world, implies the world before the Light is comprised of darkness. Those who come to faith are no longer of this world.
- “**gives light to every man**” – could mean that the true light shines on everyone through general revelation (Rom. 1:20), or that the true light of the incarnation shines on everyone whether they see it or not, but not everyone will be illuminated.
- Augustine’s famous illustration is a town has only one teacher, though not all citizens of the town are the teacher’s students, but he is nevertheless the teacher for everyone.

John 1:10

“He was in the **world, and the **world** was made through Him, and the **world** did not know Him.”**

- The **world** includes EVERYTHING, including;
 - 1) **Nature**; 2) **Human beings**; 3) **Presence & Light**
- **This verse grounds the entire moral responsibility of the human race in the doctrine of creation (Romans 1:20).**
- This makes clear why one of Satan’s main strategies is to convince humans that they “evolved” (Darwinism) or can control creation themselves (DNA experiments, abortions...etc.)
- V.11 – “His own did not receive Him.” – echoes the OT themes of the prophets – “stiff necked”. Even though the Word came in personal, human form, just as the prophets said He would, they rejected Him and would not believe.

John 1:12-13

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become **children of God**, to those who believe in His name. ¹³ Which were **born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

- **THE WORD IS SPIRITUAL CREATOR** – “Children...Born”
- This verse introduces the “**NEW BIRTH**” theme of chapter 3 (this is a new SPIRITUAL birth and is an act of God).
- A believer becomes a **child of God** (**covenant people**)
- “**received Him**” means a **DECISION** must be made!!!
- Salvation has been provided, but you must accept it.
- A doctor can prescribe you medicine, but you must take it.
- “**received Him**” – means choosing to trust in Jesus completely with a repentant heart, resulting in obedience to the Word. (more than intellectual belief)

Romans 8:14-16 - Adoption

- ¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the **children of God**.¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your **adoption to sonship**. And by him **we cry, “Abba, [g] Father.”** ¹⁶ The Spirit himself **testifies** with our spirit that **we are God’s children.**

God chose us like an adoptive parent, speaks of election

Adoption gives us intimate access to God

Assurance of Salvation

Paul’s favorite metaphor for salvation is “**Adoption**” (Gal. 4:5), John’s is “**Born Again**”

Romans 8:14-16 - Adoption

- The purpose of the Cross was so the Holy Spirit could come and create a redeemed family of God in His image – by adopting a family.
- **In 1st century, Adoption was an honour above blood birth.** In regular birth, as a parent, you get whatever you get. But when they adopted a son, they deliberately chose a child that was the best available. **Adoption is a picture of salvation.**
 - Adopted child lost all rights of former family
 - Adopted child gained all rights of new family
 - Adopted child became heir to his father's estate
 - Adopted child's old life ceased, all debts and records were expunged, it was like a new person
 - Adopted child was permanently and legally the child of the new family forever. (speaks to our security of salvation)

John 1:14 – Incarnation

¹⁴ **And the Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

- **Incarnation** - The one true eternal, creator God became human. The invisible God became visible.
- **The most important foundational doctrine in Christianity.**
- The Theme of the Gospel of John
- The only way to have eternal life and escape hell is to believe who He is, and what He has done!!!
- **Any other view of Christ is a heresy according to the Bible.**
When someone talks to you about Jesus, are they talking about the Jesus of the Bible (above) or another gospel?
- **1 John 2:22; 4:1-3; 4:12-15; 2 John 1:7; Galatians 1:8-9**

GREAT SUMMARY OF v.1-14

JESUS IS GOD!!

- The “Word” pre-existed, coexisted, self-existed with God as God (v.1-2).
- The Evidence that Jesus (the Word) is God is:
 - The “**WORD**” is the **Creator** of the **Material Realm** (v.3)
 - The “**WORD**” is the **Creator** of the **Spiritual Realm** (v.13)
- The Word became fully Man while being fully God (incarnation)

That is the Prologue to Gospel of John... **WOW!!**

Salvation Requires that You Believe Jesus is God!

- This is foundational to the Christian faith. Unless you believe this, you cannot be saved.
- Even if you say you believe in Jesus as a good man, etc. if you don't believe Jesus is the pre-existent, creator God in the flesh, then you do not believe in the Jesus of the Bible.
- **This is the most important truth of the universe.** Are you on the Narrow Way or the Broad Way? Do you believe that the Bible is the Word of God and true?
- **If you reject this truth, you reject God, and as a result, God will reject you** (Mark 16:16; Romans 1:18-32) on judgement day after you die.
- There is much more to the Doctrine of Salvation that will be discussed later (the Cross; Atonement; Repentance, etc.), but it all hangs on this **first Truth that Jesus is God.**