

"The Deity of Jesus Christ"

John 1:1-5

Part 2

Introduction: Last week we stepped into John chapter 1, and we looked at the first three verses. I want to begin tonight by looking at these verses again to gather even more information. Before we get back to the verses let us again be reminded of the purpose of John's Gospel.

John 20:30-31

³⁰ *And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:*

³¹ *But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*

As we enter John's letter, we see that he takes his readers back to eternity past. John gives no genealogy because God has no beginning.

➤ **Jesus is Eternal**

Notice John 1:1

John calls Jesus here by the title "Word" or the Greek is "Logos." Why does he use this title? Why does he not just call Him Jesus as we know him. There is a very good reason why the Holy Spirit inspired John to use the word "Logos" in his writing. John is writing to the world to help them to see that Jesus is the Savior of the World. The Greeks had a belief as they watched the order of the world. They were able to see that everything was sustained, and it all functioned in an intelligent order. To the Greek philosophers they could see that this world was designed. This then made them ask a question, "What brings about this design and order?" They reached the conclusion that there had to be a first principle that was given. They called this first principal "Logos" believing that everything had come into being and is kept in order by a Word. They did not know the Word, but they believed that it all started with the "Word."

Therefore, John writes this letter to say, "Let me tell you about the Logos, let me tell you who the Logos is." John also refers to Jesus as the Word because Jesus is the revelation

of God in the flesh. It is through the life of Jesus that the world can know the personality and the heart of God. Let us notice an example of how Jesus revealed the heart of God.

Luke 9:52-56

⁵² *And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.*

⁵³ *And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.*

⁵⁴ *And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?*

⁵⁵ *But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.*

⁵⁶ *For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.*

When Jesus came to the earth He made known the personality of God that He was loving and offered grace and forgiveness to a lost and dying world. He was called the Word because words reveal who and what a person is and Jesus as the Word and as God, He revealed the True nature of God to all the world.

He was in the beginning which means He is eternal. He has always existed. He was with God and He was God. This verse makes it very clear that while Jesus was God, He was also a separate Person.

Notice John 1:2

This statement made by John was to reinforce the Truth that Jesus was fully God and He was also distinct from God. Why does John repeat this Truth here? It was because of a teaching that existed known as "Modalism." Modalism is a teaching that says God was only ONE Person, but He could present Himself as the Son or the Spirit. Modalists believe God is one entity who changes modes as He sees fit. Therefore, He was God the Father in the Old Testament, shifted into God the Son (Jesus Christ) in the New Testament, and now operates as the Holy Spirit. This teaching denies the Trinity which we believe. We believe that God exists is three distinct Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each one is fully God and all three exist as separate Persons. Modalism basically teaches that God just changes hats with each situation. Does this matter to us today? Yes, because Modalism exists today. One of the popular ministers who is a Modalist is T. D. Jakes.

John also draws our attention to the fellowship which the Father and Son enjoyed in eternity past.

Notice John 1:18

Jesus is in the bosom of the Father. This speaks of the intimacy between the Father and the Son. Jesus had this close relationship with the Father from all of eternity past. We need to know that there was a time when this did not exist. It was when our Lord had the sin of the world placed upon Him and He was separated from the Father as He died for our sins. How difficult was this for our Lord?

Matthew 26:38-44

³⁸ *Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.*

³⁹ *And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*

⁴⁰ *And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?*

⁴¹ *Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

⁴² *He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.*

⁴³ *And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.*

⁴⁴ *And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.*

Three times He prayed for the cup to pass from Him but there was no other way of salvation. What I want you to see is how difficult it was for Jesus to think about being separated from the Father and yet He was willing to endure the pain of separation so that we could enjoy the fellowship that He now has again with the Father.

1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

² *(For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)*

³ *That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

⁴ *And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.*

Let us notice the High Priestly prayer of our Lord before the cross.

John 17:1-5

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

² *As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*

³ *And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

⁴ *I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.*

⁵ *And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with **the glory which I had with thee before the world was.***

Notice John 1:3

Jesus is the Creator of the world, and He has created everything that was made.

Colossians 1:15-17

¹⁵ *Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:*

¹⁶ *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:*

¹⁷ And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Notice John 1:4

Here in this verse, we see why Jesus came into the world. In Him was the answer to man's greatest need. Every single person who is born is born spiritually dead and is born in spiritual darkness. In Jesus Christ there is LIFE and LIGHT. When we come to Jesus Christ and we trust in Him as Savior we are born again therefore we are now alive and the darkness that existed in our lives is dispelled as the True Light replaces the darkness. Now there is something here that is interesting to see. There are many parallels between these verses in John 1 and Genesis 1 and 2.

Genesis 1:1-5, 2:7

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

² And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

³ And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

⁴ And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

⁵ And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

⁷ And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

From these verses we can see the parallels with the use of the Words CREATED, LIGHT, LIFE, and DARKNESS. Why does John do this? Because he wants us to understand that just as the miracle of creation took place in Genesis 1, so the miracle of creation continues today but not in the same way. It continues today in the lives of sinners who will turn to Jesus Christ and trust in Him for salvation. When this happens the miracle of new birth takes place which is a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Conclusion:

Notice John 1:5

Here is the response to the Light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by sinners. People do not comprehend the Light. In other words, they do not understand that the Light of the Gospel is to expose their sinfulness with the purpose of saving them. The word "comprehend" means "to take hold of" which is telling us that those in sin do not grasp onto the importance of the Gospel.

John 3:19-21

¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

²¹ But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.