

JESUS, THE DIVINE WORD JOHN 1:1-5

I AM ABSOLUTELY BLESSED AND EXCITED TO DIG IN TO THIS MIND BLOWING, HEAVENLY, AND COSMIC GOSPEL. THE APOSTLE JOHN FOCUSSES SPECIFICALLY ON THE DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST. MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE (THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS) TELL THE EARTHLY STORY OF JESUS' LIFE. THEY FOCUS MORE ON WHAT JESUS TAUGHT AND DID OUTWARDLY. JOHN'S FOCUS IS ON WHO JESUS IS INWARDLY. THE MESSAGE: THE ETERNAL GOD HAS BECOME HUMAN. FULLY GOD AND FULLY HUMAN. JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS AND GIVE US ETERNAL LIFE WITH GOD. JOHN'S GOSPEL FALLS NATURALLY INTO THREE LARGE SECTIONS: JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY, WHICH PRESENTS JESUS' SIGNS AND SERMONS (1-12); JESUS' PRIVATE MINISTRY TO THE DISCIPLES IN THE UPPER ROOM, WHERE HE WASHED THEIR FEET AND GAVE THEM IMPORTANT INSTRUCTION (13-17); AND JESUS' PASSION, WHICH RECOUNTS JESUS' TRIALS, CRUCIFIXION, AND RESURRECTION APPEARANCES (18-21). JOHN WROTE 3 OTHER EPISTLES DURING HIS MINISTRY AND REVELATION AT THE END OF HIS LIFE WHILE ON THE PRISON ISLAND OF PATMOS. THERE IS A CONSENSUS IN EVANGELICAL SCHOLARSHIP THAT JOHN WROTE HIS GOSPEL IN THE MID-80'S OF THE FIRST CENTURY. THERE IS ALSO A CONSENSUS BASED ON ANCIENT CHURCH TRADITION THAT HE WROTE HIS GOSPEL IN ASIA MINOR, LIKELY IN OR NEAR EPHESUS. JOHN'S PURPOSE, TO CONVINCED THE SINNER THE TRUE PERSON OF CHRIST. WHO HE REALLY IS, THE DIVINE SON OF GOD. YOU WILL NOT FIND A GENEALOGY

RECORDED-NEITHER HIS LEGAL LINEAGE THROUGH JOSEPH (AS GIVEN BY MATTHEW) NOR HIS PERSONAL DESCENT THROUGH MARY (AS GIVEN BY LUKE). WHY? BECAUSE JOHN WRITES OF THE ETERNAL HISTORY OF CHRIST. JOHN HAD AN OLDER BROTHER NAMED JAMES. FOR A WHILE, THEY WERE CALLED THE SON'S OF THUNDER. THEY WERE AGGRESSIVE, WANTING TO CALL DOWN FIRE FROM HEAVEN AND WIPE OUT A SAMARITAN CITY. NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE OUR LORD TEMPERED THEIR EMOTIONS. SO MUCH SO, THAT JOHN REFERS TO HIMSELF AND WAS KNOWN AS THE DISCIPLE WHOM JESUS LOVED. JOHN, JAMES, AND PETER FORMED JESUS' INNER CIRCLE. THEY WERE THERE WHEN JESUS TRANSFIGURED ON THE MOUNTAIN. THEY WERE ALL FISHERMAN BY TRADE. ORDINARY PEOPLE LIVING EXTRAORDINARY LIVES WITH JESUS. IN JOHN'S GOSPEL, HE USES THE WORD LOVE 47 TIMES, BELIEVE 100 TIMES, AND KNOW 131 TIMES. THIS IS AN EVANGELIZING LETTER FOR SURE. THIS GOSPEL IS RECOMMENDED AS A FIRST READ FOR THE UNCONVERTED AND NEWLY CONVERTED MORE THAN ANY OTHER BOOK IN THE BIBLE. 90% OF WHAT JOHN WROTE IS NOT FOUND IN ANY OTHER GOSPEL. MY PRAYER IS THAT WE WILL ALL GROW DEEPER IN FAITH AND LOVE WITH OUR LORD BY THE TIME WE ARE FINISHED WITH THIS BEAUTIFUL HEAVENLY GOSPEL.

John 1:1 NIV

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

IN THE BEGINNING, WHAT BEGINNING?

Genesis 1:1-2 NIV

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

MOSES CONFRONTS US WITH THE MAJESTY OF GOD IN CREATION IN GENESIS 1:1. JOHN CONFRONTS US WITH THE MAJESTY OF THE ETERNAL DIETY OF JESUS CHRIST IN JOHN 1:1

WORD/LOGOS/WORD, SPOKEN OR WRITTEN, IN THIS CASE IT IS A TITLE FOR CHRIST. EMPHASIZING HIS OWN DIETY AND COMMUNICATION OF WHO GOD IS AND WHAT HE IS LIKE

“THE WORD” IS THE TRUE EXPRESSION OF GOD’S NATURE, CHARACTER, AND POWER

PROPHETS AND FATHERS OF THE FAITH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ONLY RECEIVED REVELATION OF THE WORD OF GOD AND THEN SPOKE THEM. JESUS CHRIST IS THE WORD OF GOD FULLY EXPRESSED IN PERFECTION

“WAS” THE WORD....IMPERFECT FORM OF THE WORD EIMI...MEANS: TO BE, A CONTINUAL EXISTENCE, ETERNAL STATE OF BEING

TIME IS A DEVICE TO HELP FINITE BEINGS RELATE TO THEIR MODE OF EXISTENCE. EIMI TAKES US INTO THE SPHERE OF THE TIMELESS

THIS SHOWS JESUS' PRE-EXISTENCE BEFORE CREATION

John 1:1 NIV

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

THE WORD WAS WITH GOD—NOT ONLY IS JESUS PRE-EXISTENT TO CREATION BUT HE IS ALSO CO-EXISTENT WITH GOD

JESUS CHRIST HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE SON IN THE GODHEAD
HE WASN'T BORN INTO THE WORLD THEN BECAME A SON

1 John 4:14-16 NIV

¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

ACKNOWLEDGE/HOMOLOGEO/PROFESSION OF ALLEGIANCE

THE OLD TESTAMENT SPOKE OF WHAT JOHN IS CONFIRMING

Proverbs 8:27-31 NIV

²⁷ I was there when he set the heavens in place,
when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep,
²⁸ when he established the clouds above
and fixed securely the fountains of the deep,
²⁹ when he gave the sea its boundary

so the waters would not overstep his command,
and when he marked out the foundations of the earth.

³⁰ Then I was constantly at his side.

I was filled with delight day after day,
rejoicing always in his presence,

³¹ rejoicing in his whole world
and delighting in mankind.

THE GODHEAD IS THREE DISTINCT PERSONS (FATHER, SON,
HOLY SPIRIT) IN PERFECT UNITY AND INTAMACY

John 1:1 NIV

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

JOHN DRIVES THIS POINT HOME WITH A DEFINITIVE
JESUS IS GOD AND HE IS SELF EXISTENT

AGAIN, JESUS IS THE PUREST EXAMPLE OF GOD'S NATURE AND
CHARACTER IN HUMAN FORM BECAUSE HE IS GOD THE SON

KNOW JESUS, KNOW GOD—NO JESUS, NO GOD

John 14:7 NIV

⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From
now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

John 1:2-3 NIV

² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

THE FATHER IS THE CREATOR, THE SON IS THE AGENT THROUGH WHOM ALL IS CREATED, AND THE SPIRIT IS THE AGENT IN THE CREATING

THERE IS A POSITIVE DECLARATION-THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE...NEGATIVE DECLARATION- NOTHING WAS MADE THAT WASN'T MADE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

DOXOLOGY/A LITURGICAL PRAISE TO GOD

Romans 11:33-36 NIV

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!

³⁴ "Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?"

³⁵ "Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay them?"

³⁶ For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

John 1:4 NIV

⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

LIFE/ZOE/PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

IN HIM NOT THROUGH HIM, EXISTS CONTINUOUS ETERNAL LIFE
JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF LIFE. WE WERE BORN THEN WE WERE
BORN AGAIN. BOTH COME FROM JESUS

LIFE AND LIGHT ARE PARALLEL-GOD'S LIFE IS TRUE AND HOLY

LIGHT IS THAT TRUTH AND HOLINESS MANIFEST AGAINST THE
DARKNESS OF LIES AND SIN

Romans 2:14-15 NIV

¹⁴ (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.)

MANKIND HAS GOD'S MORALITY INGRAINED IN THEM. THE SIN
NATURE OF FALLEN MAN WARS AGAINST THIS

John 1:5 NIV

⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

LIFE AND LIGHT CONTRAST DEATH AND DARKNESS

LITERALLY, THE LIGHT SHINES CONTINUOUSLY IN THIS DARK WORLD AND IN EVERY CORNER OF OUR HEARTS, EXPOSING WHAT IS EVIL AND SINFUL

LIGHT DRIVES OUT DARKNESS, IT ALWAYS WILL

OUR GREATEST JOY WILL ALWAYS BE THE FACT THAT THE FATHER SENT HIS SON TO DIE IN OUR PLACE, ATONING FOR OUR SIN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUARENTEE OUR SECURE RETURN TO GOD

END