

JESUS-THE DIVINE LIGHT
JOHN 1:6-13

LAST WEEK WE STARTED OUR STUDY OF THE APOSTLE JOHN'S GOSPEL. JOHN PURPOSELY LAYS OUT THE PRE-EXISTENT, CO-EXISTENT, AND SELF-EXISTENT PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST, RIGHT IN THE FIRST FIVE VERSES. THE SON OF GOD IS REFERRED TO AS "THE WORD". WHY? BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD IS THE VERY NATURE, CHARACTER, AND POWER OF THE ALMIGHTY. NO ONE ON EARTH HAS EVER PERFECTLY REFLECTED THE HOLINESS, RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND AUTHORITY OF GOD LIKE JESUS CHRIST. MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE (THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS) REVEAL THE EARTHLY ACCOUNT OF JESUS' LIFE. FOCUSSED ON WHAT JESUS TAUGHT AND DID OUTWARDLY. JOHN FOCUSSES ON WHO JESUS IS INWARDLY. THE WORD OF GOD HAS STEPPED OUT OF GLORY AND BECAME A HUMAN. EVEN AS THE APOSTLE JOHN ACCOUNTS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MINISTRY OF JESUS, HE WRITES WITH A HEAVENLY PERSPECTIVE. AFTER ALL, JOHN WAS ONE OF THE THREE DISCIPLES CLOSEST TO JESUS. HE DOES NOT EVEN MENTION HIS OWN NAME IN THIS GOSPEL. HE REFERS TO HIMSELF AS THE DISCIPLE IN WHOM JESUS LOVED. THIS LETTER WAS MEANT TO ILLUMINATE THE SINNER'S MIND AND HEART TO THE TRUTH OF A SAVIOR. I SAY THIS WITH CONFIDENCE AND EXCITEMENT WHEN I SAY, "SALVATION IS LAID BEFORE US TODAY IN THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST. TO THOSE THAT ALREADY KNOW JESUS, THIS GOSPEL WILL STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH IN GOD AND OUR LOVE FOR HIM. FOR THOSE THAT DON'T, THIS GOSPEL WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE. TO KNOW

JESUS IS TO KNOW GOD.” MAY WE ALL BE BLESSED BY THE HOLY SCRIPTURES AND ILLUMINATED IN THE TRUTH.

John 1:1-13 NIV

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. **8** He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. **11** He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. **12** Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— **13** children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

JOHN DESCRIBES THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD, HOW HE WAS THE AGENT THROUGH WHICH THE FATHER CREATED EVERYTHING

ONLY IN CHRIST CAN WE FIND LIFE ETERNAL, AND THAT LIFE IS THE LIGHT OF ALL MANKIND. THE LIGHT IS THE TRUTH OF GOD

LIGHT MAKES THINGS VISIBLE. WHEN JESUS HITS THE SPIRITUALLY DEAD SOUL, THE HEART IS REGENERATED AND THE MIND IS ILLUMINATED TO SEE THE SPIRITUAL REALM APART FROM JESUS CHRIST EVERYTHING IS SPIRITUALLY DARK

John 1:6-7 NIV

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.

THIS IS JOHN THE BAPTIST – JOHN WAS SENT FROM GOD HE BAPTIZED PEOPLE FOR REPENTANCE OF SINS IN THE RIVER JORDAN. CRYING “REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NEAR”

Matthew 11:11 NIV

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

THE NAME JOHN MEANS “YAHWEH IS GRACIOUS”

HE WAS PROPHESED ABOUT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 40:3-5 NIV

³A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall

become level, the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

Malachi 3:1 NIV

3 “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

JOHN’S CONCEPTION WAS MIRACULOUS, HIS FATHER ZECHARIAH (A PRIEST) WAS TOLD OF THIS WHILE HE WAS WORKING IN THE TEMPLE BY THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL

Luke 1:11-17 NIV

¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³ But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. ¹⁴ He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. ¹⁶ He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

THEN, WHILE MARY WAS PREGNANT WITH JESUS, ELIZABETH WAS PREGNANT WITH JOHN

Luke 1:39-45 NIV

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

SO, WE CAN SEE THAT GOD IS METHODICAL AND CALCULATED

John 1:6-7 NIV

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.

JOHN THE BAPTIST WAS SENT BY GOD FOR A MESSAGE TO GIVE A MESSAGE-FOR A TESTIMONY TO GIVE A TESTIMONY IN THE COURTROOM OF THE WORLD- SO THAT ALL MIGHT BELIEVE

THIS IS THE MODEL FOR GOSPEL MINISTRY, WE ARE WITNESSES THAT TESTIFY THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAVIOR FOR SINNERS

Romans 10:14-15 NIV

¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

YOUR PULPIT IS WHEREVER YOUR AT

John 1:8-9 NIV

⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

THE APOSTLE JOHN MAKES CLEAR WHAT JOHN THE BAPTIST ALREADY KNEW-HE WAS NOT THE MESSIAH, HE WAS THE HERALDER “REPENT! AND PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD!”

John 3:26-30 NIV

²⁶ They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.”

²⁷ To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ ²⁹ The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the

bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. ³⁰ He must become greater; I must become less."

THIS IS A MAN WHO IS DEAD TO EGO AND MISSION FOCUSSED

John 1:10-11 NIV

¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

THE RELIGIOUS JEWS HAD THE TORAH, THE PROMISES, AND THE PROPHETS. GOD CALLED THEM "MY PEOPLE" AND THEY STILL REJECTED THE SON OF GOD

DON'T EVER MISTAKE RELIGION WITH RELATIONSHIP

John 1:12-13 NIV

¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

ALL WHO RECEIVE JESUS BECOME GOD'S CHILDREN
NO MATTER YOUR PAST, EHNICITY, SOCIAL STATUS, OR
ECONOMIC POSITION. ALL WHO CALL ON THE NAME OF THE
LORD SHALL BE SAVED

IT'S A SUPERNATURAL EXPERIENCE THAT HAPPENS BY GOD'S DOING. BORN AGAIN, BLESSED BY GOD ALMIGHTY, ETERNAL SECURITY, AND INTAMACY WITH A HOLY GOD

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