

John Chapter 1

Book of signs and wonders. Other Gospels, synoptic, had not completely explained the complete majesty of Christ. Goes to the eternal ages. Starts by proclaiming that Jesus is God. Was with God and was God. Plurality of God. Consubstantial. Shows that Jesus is distinct in Person but the same in substance.

Doesn't try to explain it; just proclaims the Truth.

Refers to Word (Logos), John is the only one. Living Word; God speaking to us now. (Heb 1:2)

"In the beginning" Greek does not have "the." Parallel to Genesis. John focuses on the fact that He did NOT have a beginning. Genesis DOES have a beginning. 2 words "was" are 2 different words in Greek; 1 means to exist (4 times in the first 2 verses) and the other means come into being.

All things were made through Him. Spoke into creation; Word. He is Light and Life; darkness cannot comprehend that. Has Life within Him; Self-Existent.

John the Baptist – bears witness to the Light. Plan of Salvation after Law and prophets; now comes to reveal what was prefigured in the OT. Points out that John is a man and he is sent from God.

Messenger, he was not the Light. Same applies to us.

V10-11: He was in the world that He had made but the world did not know Him. Came to save the world that he had made. The Covenant people did not know Him despite all the advantages they had.

V12: but a remnant did believe. If you believe then you are a child. Applies to the remnant that believe in any other time also. Become adopted children.

Then they are born supernaturally; different than natural generation and birth. Jesus talks to Nicodemus about this in Chapter 3. True believers are born of God.

V14: Eternal Word became Flesh. In the fullness of time. Incarnation-takes on our same flesh. Complete human nature. Had to have both natures to be Messiah. Was put to death in His flesh. Sin is condemned in His Flesh; Romans 8:3. Creator becomes the sin-bearer.

Dwelt among us- tabernacled. Tents were temporary dwellings. Also had a military implication; war against sin and Satan. Had real flesh and dwelled with real people. From Glory of Heaven and the Trinity to the dirt, filth, and normal human conditions. Lived among sinners. Zechariah 2:10.

He had stayed with the people as the Shekinah; now here in a physical form. We approach God through Him. Address prayers through Him. Mediator of the New Covenant.

We beheld His Glory. The fullness of the Godhead dwelled in Him (Col 1: 19-20). Apostles were witnesses of this. (1 John 1:1). There is no other glory like this. John had also been at the Transfiguration.

V15: John the Baptist bears witness to His eternal being. John indicates that he is not worthy. He was the final prophet. Bridge between OT and NT. Malachi 3:1. John *cries* out in public. Fulfills the prophecies in Malachi and Isaiah. Malachi 4:5.

V16-17: We have received grace. It is a gift. Greek calls it *charis*, a gift. We receive it through His fullness. Unlimited grace; infinite supply. This is much better than Law. Has forgiveness and remedy. It is the Substance; the Law had types and shadows.

V18: Jesus is the clear revelation of God. He declares God to us. We need God to reveal Himself since we cannot experience Him with our senses. He is consubstantial; relationship within the Trinity. Only One is Scripture describes as being in the bosom of the Father.

Leaders ask John the Baptist who he is. They send Levites because John the Baptist was a Levite. Admits he is not the Christ. They ask if he is Elijah. The Prophet, Deut 18 :15-19. He didn't fit any of their systems – he was not like the Mosaic Law and also Pharisees felt they had nothing to repent from.

Identifies himself by quoting from Isaiah 40:3. Does not talk about himself, talks about Christ. Cries out the proclamation. Calls himself a *voice*. We are all a voice for Christ.

Old and New Covenants both begin in a wilderness. Not about us. Crying aloud; not quiet or hesitant or ashamed. Old Covenant Law came with shofar blasts, lightning, Shelinah. New Covenant begins with one man crying out.

V 24-25 They ask why he baptizes if he is not the Christ, Elijah, or the Prophet. Couldn't figure out what his authority was. They knew about baptism/mikveh. They assumed that Messiah would use it also. John showed the outward sign of what was to come.

Directs them to One greater than himself. He stands among them. John the Baptist is a prophet who actually points out the Messiah. They do not know Him. Not what they expected.