

## John 1:1-18: Jesus the Word!!!

- John is derived from the Hebrew name (Yochanan) meaning “Yahweh (God) is gracious”.  
\*\*Remember words are important to God\*\* He spoke creation into existence.
- Jesus has been here from the beginning (Genesis 1:26: *Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...*).
- Revelation 1:8: (Jesus is speaking) “I am the Alpha and the Omega” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” Alpha/Omega is 1<sup>st</sup> and last letter in Greek Alphabet.
- John 13:13: (Jesus is speaking) “You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am.”  
In John, there are 7 “I am” statements, where Jesus claims to be God, which are as follows:

- 1.) (I Am) the Bread of Life in John in 6:35,
- 2.) ...the Light of the World in 8:12 & 9:5,
- 3.) ... the Door of the Sheep in 10:7,
- 4.) ...the Good Shepherd in 10:11-12,
- 5.) ...the Resurrection and the Life in 11:25,
- 6.) ...the Way, the Truth, and the Life in 14:6, &
- 7.) ...the True Vine in 5:1.

**Every time He is stating “I Am” (Gk: *Ego eimi*), he is claiming Jehovah God.**

- God the Father calls Himself the “I Am” in Exodus 3:1-20, particularly in vs.' 6 and 14.

***vs' 1-18 is the Prologue (a short introductory section that comes before the main narrative):***

- “Word” (Gk: *Logos*). Used by Greek philosophers. Has basic meanings of: Reason/Thought and Communication. Remember John is not only writing to Jews, but also Gentiles and keep in mind where he is at.
- Words express our hidden thoughts, feeling, and ideas through verbal and written communication.
- **(vs' 1-2)** In the beginning...(Genesis 1:1). Reference time, matter and space.

1.) “Word” much as our words reveal out hearts and minds; God's Word reveals his heart (soul), His being and purpose, and His care for us. (Hebrews 1:1-3)

- 2.) In Chapter 1 of John, Jesus has 7 titles throughout the book of John: 1.) The Word; 2.) The Light; 3.) The Lamb; 4.) Son of God; 5.) Christ; 6.) King of Israel; 7.) Son of Man.
- 3.) Jesus is the Eternal Word (vs. 1): Existed in the beginning (John 8:58).
- 4.) Jesus is the Personal Word (vs. 1): Was with God.
- 5.) Jesus is Divine Word (vs. 1): Was God.
- 6.) vs. 2 is a summary of vs. 1.

- **(vs. 3)** Jesus is the ***Creative Word: All things created through Jesus*** (Colossians 1:16).

- **(vs. 4)** Jesus is Life (spiritual and physical), go back to Genesis to be reminded!

- 1.) He has life and gives life.
- 2.) Life is a key theme. John uses this term more than thirty times in his gospel to describe Jesus.
- 3.) Jesus is the Light (title) – John 8:12.

- **(vs. 5)** Jesus, the Light (truth and moral goodness), shines (it shows) in the darkness (evil/ignorance).

- 1.) Evidence of God is all around, but people choose not to see it.
- 2.) Instead, we turn our back on Jesus - Romans 1:18-21;28 (this applies to us as a nation today).
- 3.) For unbelievers, they are blinded to spiritual light and direction by God because they don't submit to Him.

- **(vs' 6-13):** The author John, sums up his entire gospel in these 8 verses.

- 1.) Introduces John the Baptist, the Word's witness to the world in vs.1. (Malachi 3:1)
- 2.) (vs. 7) Notice John the Baptist's role and how important he was in the Will of God (Matt. 11:11)
- 3.) His role was not supernatural. Some “Christians” may think their spiritual gift is less than because it isn't miraculous (Romans 12:6-8). Test those who claim miracles by what the Bible says. Is it for God's glory and our good and align with His Will?
- 4.) John the Baptist's mission was to live a pure/holy life and was the forerunner for Jesus. (Luke 7:28).
- 5.) (vs' 8-9) Jesus is the ***True Light: shines on all men and reveals who they really are.***
- 6.) (vs' 10-11) His creation and people (Jews) rejected Him.
- 7.) (vs. 12) Those who believe are children of God (Christians).
- 8.) (vs. 13) Born again is “not of blood” = cannot be passed down by your parents (“I'm Christian

because my parents are Christian”) ; “the will of the flesh” = not of one's will or ability; “the will of man” = no man can save another spiritually. (John 3 and Nicodemus).

● **(vs' 14-18)** Jesus is God, ***Incarinate: Embodied in flesh; given a bodily, especially a human, form.***

- 1.) (vs. 14) God in flesh who ***dwelt (pitched His tent)*** among us. (1 John 1:1). “Became flesh” means He took on human nature, but He didn't give up his ***Deity (God)***, being fully God and fully man (sinless human nature). (***Hypostatic Union: humanity and divinity in one individual person***) (John 10:30; Colossians 2:9; John 8:58; John 20:28).
- 2.) Speaks of Jesus' glory: divine = God & His ***grace: undeserved or unmerited favor.***
- 3.) (vs. 15) John the Baptist and Jesus were cousins. John was about 6 months older than Jesus. (Luke 1:26-48).
- 4.) (vs. 16) Jesus completeness allows us to receive an abundance of grace.
- 5.) (vs. 17) The Law showed God's ways and proof that man cannot abide by them; shows why we need Jesus the Christ.
- 6.) (vs. 18) Until Jesus, nobody seen God. God is spirit and ***transcendent (surpassing ordinary limits)***. (Exodus 33:20; Deuteronomy 18:16; etc.). Jesus reveals God and redeems us. ***Redeem: to deliver from sin and its consequences by means of a sacrifice offered for the sinner.***

- What did you learn about Jesus from this entire passage?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (vs. 1) Why do you think John, the author, refers to Jesus as the Word?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (vs. 5) The Light overcomes darkness. Can you think back to an example in your life when you experienced Light overcoming darkness?

- (vs. 10) It says Jesus wasn't recognized by the world. Why do you think we as people can have a difficult time recognizing the Truth and Light?
  
- (vs. 12 & 13) Those who believe in His name are children of God, born of God. That is an important idea, but what does it mean? What does it mean to believe in Jesus' name and to be a child of, and born of God?
  
- (vs. 14) Why do you think it's important God came down and dwelt among us?
  
- (vs. 18) We see the distinction between Father and Son here (Son is at the Father's side), but both God. How does that make sense to you?

**Wisdom for the Week:** *“Much as our words reveal to others our hearts and minds, so Jesus Christ is God's “Word” to reveal His heart and mind to us. “He that hath seen me hath seen the Father” (John 14:9). A word is composed of letters, and Jesus Christ is “Alpha and Omega” (Rev. 1:11), the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. According to Hebrews 1:1-3, Jesus Christ is God's last Word to mankind, for He is the climax of divine revelation” -Warren W. Wiersbe: **Be Alive Commentary.***