

In The Beginning Was The Word

John 1:1-18

INTRODUCTION:

As I was reading the book of John it became more apparent to me that it would be a blessing to share with others what was being a blessing to me.

The book of John records for us the explicit deity of our Lord. In other words it records for us the very facts that Jesus Christ our Lord is not only the Son of God our Father but in fact that he is God, being preexistent with the Father.

If you want to find out who your Lord is, then come to the book of John. In fact John writes many of the witness testimony of who our Lord is.

The Danger of not knowing who Jesus Christ our Lord is, and that he is God can lead those individuals down a path of religiosity, be it any religion that you might want to pick at.

The key to our salvation is Jesus Christ, who is the God of our salvation and no other.

JOHN 1: 1-18

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

1. When reading this verse, and for the following verses for that matter we are going to have to determine what is actually been said or implied.
2. In order for us to interpret scripture, we are going to have to use other scriptures to do that. Scripture must interpret scripture in order to be true and accurate before the Lord.
3. First of all when we look at the words "**In the beginning was the Word**", the whole passage hinges on us being able to be correct and true to this interpretation.

So, let have a look at these words:

1. First of all, the word in the beginning is really only mentioned here for our benefit. The word beginning here is referring to when our beginning started (the human race and the creation as we know it) and is not related to the beginning of God.
2. So as we look now at this sentence of the first part of verse¹ we need to realize that it is relevant only from our human existence point of view.

Now next we have to look at the next part of that sentence which says "**was the Word**".

3. For us to answer this question of the meaning of the word “**WORD**”, we can look to the scriptures in several places without just looking at verse 14 in our text which we will also do shortly.

Firstly: Lets take a look at Genesis 1:1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

1. When God created the heaven and the earth he created it for his pleasure.
2. The bible tells us that God created the heaven and the earth here in Genesis 1 verse 1. He also tells us that it was good.

Secondly let's look at Genesis 3:15.

Genesis 3:15 ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

1. This is the first mention in the OT of Jesus Christ our Lord who would come to this earth. The Lord said that between Satan and the woman's seed (Jesus Christ) there would be enmity (hostility).
2. So here we can determine that Jesus was coming in the flesh.

Thirdly now that we know Jesus our Lord was coming

1. Now that we know that Jesus was coming it helps us to understand the other scriptures more easily, just like the scripture in Isaiah 9:6, speaking of our wonderful councilor the mighty God.

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Other places we can look to the deity of our Lord Jesus is in Hebrews 1:8.

Hebrews 1:8 ⁸ But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

3. Un-deniably we can confirm that Jesus is God.
4. What about the other scripture that comes to mind of 1 John 5:7

Fourthly we confirm the Word.

1 John 5:7 ⁷ For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the **Word**, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

1. With the confirmation of the scriptures prior to the ones we are going to read now, we have confirmed our Lord's position and title of “God”, his position as God

the Father's Son, and also that he has been referred to in the triune head as the "**Word**".

2. The confirmation of His position and title therefore leave us with no doubt of who our Lord Jesus is.
3. The rest of our verse 1 text this morning also goes on to confirm for us that "**and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**"
4. That means for us two things.
 - A. Jesus was always with God the Father prior to his earthly birth.
 - B. Jesus is God.
 - C. These two facts can never change, and neither can they be altered by anyone in any way to mean anything different, but testifies to his righteousness and heavenly position as God, the Son of His Father in heaven.
5. The significance of this scripture here in John 1 verse 1 is the dividing line among many religions today.
6. Your Salvation is measured upon your very belief in these words.
7. Alter them or shut them out of your mind, or trample upon them and you shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

There will of course be many skeptics that will come your way some time or other and they might even try to sway your thoughts or belief, or they may even question your ability to believe in such a statement with truth in your heart. They may present other non biblical evidence which might even tempt you in rethinking your approach to the bible.

Be warned these people are out there and would love nothing better than to persuade you otherwise.

- The Day of Judgment will be carried out by the one who is known here in John chapter 1 and verse 1. It's the same Lord we see who will judge in Revelation.

Revelation 19:12-13

¹²His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

¹³.And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called **The Word of God.**

SCRIPTURES CONFIRMING JESUS IS GOD

1. We cannot help ourselves unless we can begin to grasp the fact that Jesus Christ is the Word, who is God.
2. Time and time again when we read about Jesus we don't stop to think that he is our GOD.
3. So let's take the time this morning to pay honor and tribute to who Jesus is.

Let's look to the scriptures one more time:

Here is a list of those scriptures besides the ones I have mentioned.

1 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

- This is another verse claiming Jesus eternal relationship with God the Father.
 - **John 6:62**⁶² What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?
 - **Colossians 1:15**¹⁵ Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:
 - **Colossians 2:9**⁹ For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.
1. Don't deny me know. I can imagine how many times we have read over these ery verses and never stopped to take it in to see what it means.
 2. We get so complacent with scripture that eventusally we really not listening to what it is telling us?
 3. Who will say Amen to that?

In order for the Word, which is Jesus; to have the ability to have power over death and Satin, he would have to be God, right? For how else could he save us if he was but a man?

1. The scriptures say he has the power to destroy both death and the devil.

Hebrews 2:14

¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

2. What about Luke 10:18

Luke 10:18¹⁸ And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

1. How much more we know that Jesus was from heaven originally than by this following scripture quotation in Luke 10:18.
2. If the Lord was not in heaven at the time how would he have been able to see it, let alone say that he had seen Satan fall from heaven. Satan was dispatched in an instant, in the twinkle of an eye like the speed of lightening because he had sinned against God and therefore there was no place left for him but to be cast down.

3. As we look to the next statement from the scriptures it is undoubtedly that of God.
1. Who on this earth could ever make a claim like the following one I am going to give you from the scriptures.
2. The only person ever to make a claim like this would have to be God. In this case it is Jesus Christ our God.

John 17:5 ⁵ And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

3. It would not have been possible for Jesus Christ to have said this if he was not in a position to quantify that statement. He was making the request to His Father in heaven, a request that signifies that even before creation he was with God the Father.
4. Before this world was ever created Jesus was in heaven with God the Father.

So when we look to answer the question of the first verse in John 1:1, we have to realize it is talking about Jesus Christ our creator of this world. The in the beginning statement is the beginning of the Lords creation.

It is only when we get to Genesis 1:26 that we finally realize that there is a triune Godhead. The statement of that verse is what forever will lead mankind to wonder about the Godhead described here in God's Word. Some will embrace it whilst others will reject it.

Genesis 1:26

²⁶ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

5. We can comfortably answer three questions today that we have seen answered here in the scriptures this morning.

Namely:

1. Who is the WORD?
2. When did the WORD exist?
3. Who is responsible for creation?

² The same was in the beginning with God.

1. Jesus Christ our Lord. (The Word).
2. Eternal with God the Father.

³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

1. He is responsible for creation.
2. Everything in creation was made by Jesus Christ.
3. That includes heaven and earth, and man.
4. The answer to all creation is found in the bible. The book of Genesis speaks of the creation coming into existences and testifies of the creator.

Whilst the New Testament continues to deliver the same message of Genesis, we are thankful to the Lord that we have had the opportunity to be certain of our creator, king and redeemer.

When we read the following verses in **John 1 verse 14 and 18** we again begin to realize the confirmation of the position Jesus Christ our Lord holds.

1. If there is any further doubt as to who Jesus Christ our Lord is.
2. The bible attests to us here that there has never been a time when any man has ever seen God the Father.
3. Yet the bible also attest here, that the one and only to see God the Father has been the only begotten Son which has always been in the bosom of His Father.
4. No amount of imagination is necessary to see who Jesus is?
5. Yet there are still people today who will not believe it to be so, that Jesus is God.

The question for us today, and the message or us today is this?

1. What does Jesus mean to you?
2. What position do you ascribe to Jesus Christ?
3. Do you truly believe what the Bible says about Him?

WE SHOULD STRONGLY ASK THE LORD IF WE CAN BOW BEFORE HIM ON HIS THRONE.

PRAYER.....CLOSURE.

HYMN.

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 See Extra versus below.

⁴ In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

⁵ And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

⁷ The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

⁹ That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

¹¹ He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

¹³ Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

¹⁶ And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

¹⁷ For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

6. If there is any further doubt as to who Jesus Christ our Lord is. The bible attests to us here that there has never been a time when any man has ever seen God the Father. Yet the bible also attest here, that the one and only to see God the Father has been the only begotten Son which has always been in the bosom of His Father.

7. No amount of imagination is necessary to see who Jesus is?

8. Yet there are still people today who will not believe it to be so, that Jesus is God.

Prayer.....