



Series: SEEING IS BELIEVING  
(Book Study Gospel of John)

Christ First Church  
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Sermon 3: The Word Of God (John 1:1-5)  
CONTINUED

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**INTRO:** Open your Bibles back to John chapter 1. We will look again at verse 1 today and see how far we can go. Do you have your John Journals and are you prepared to take notes? I hope so. If you don't have a journal, there are some in the back. They are \$5, but if you don't have the money take one anyway. I would like you to be able to follow along and journal our series. I also hope you have started reading through the book of John. If you'll read through this great Gospel every month during our study, I promise it will have a much greater, much deeper, meaning, and could be life changing.

I want us to get right into the study today. So read along with me in your Bibles or John journals. The verses will also be on-screen if you'd prefer.

**John 1:1-5** *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

Now, last week we looked at the first phrase of verse 1. *"In the beginning was the Word..."* With this simple opening statement, John, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, declares the deity of Jesus Christ! And as we saw in the first sermon of the series, that's John's primary goal in this book, to present Jesus as the SON OF GOD! Remember what he said in **John 20:30-31** *"Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."*

And John wasted no time making his point. *"In the beginning was the Word..."* Here, John is saying that before creation, before the world came to be, Jesus already was. And HE WAS THE WORD! That is, the Revelation of God Himself to man. The LOGOS, the Logic, the Rationale, the Reason for the universe, for all things. Your Reason to live!

That's an awesome way to open a book! Now let's look further at what John has to say. Remember, we're still looking at our first point...

**I) THE INTRODUCTION OF JESUS:** CONTINUED Since we spent our entire time last week looking at the opening phrase, let's look now at the rest of **v 1** *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*

## I) THE INTRODUCTION OF JESUS: CONTINUED

Let's look at the second phrase, v 1b "...and the Word was with God..." Now, we have established that the Word is Jesus. And we all know that God is a reference to the Father. So, the point being made here is that Jesus was with God (at the beginning). An accurate amplified translation would be, "the Word was with (Gr. Pros, a strengthened version of pro, meaning, face to face intimately toward or before) God."

In other words John is saying there is more than one person in the Godhead! THAT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN ORDER TO PROVE THAT JESUS IS INDEED THE SON OF GOD AND VERY GOD.

Using the word *pros*, instead of *pro* gives us the picture of the Word FACING God. He was not just in close proximity to, or even just by His side, the Son was continually "inclined toward" the Father. The Son was forever face to face with the Father. The picture, simply, but profoundly, shows the Father and Son enjoying an intimate fellowship with each other throughout eternity, being continually "face-to-face" as it were!

Notice John 1:18 "No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God (That is, the Son of God who is God), Who is in the bosom of the Father, has made Him known"

The phrase "in the bosom" clearly speaks of intimacy and communion between the Father and the Son. Jesus Himself describes this intimate communion in John 17:5 "And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed."

The WORD, the Logos, later to be called Jesus at His birth, has forever been in the presence of the Father! "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,"

Now, let's look at the last phrase of the verse. v 1c "...and the Word was God." This statement could not be clearer! In fact, the four Greek words (theos en ho logos) may be the clearest declaration of the Godhood of Jesus Christ in all of holy writ!

John Phillips - "...and the Word was God." "That is, in His essence, in what He actually is, in His nature, person, and personality, in His attributes and character, Jesus is all that God is. All the essential characteristics of deity are His. He exists in His own right, independent of all creation. Does God have the wisdom and power to create a hundred million galaxies and hold them whirling through space at enormous velocities on inconceivable paths, according to fixed laws, expending prodigious amounts of energy? So does Jesus. Such is the Lord's ineffable person."

C. H. Spurgeon - "I know not how the Deity of Christ can be more plainly declared than in his eternal duration. He is from the beginning. In his glory he was "with God." In his nature he "was God."

Jesus said it simply in John 10:30 "I and the Father are one."

What an introduction John has given us to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. NOW NOTICE...

## II) THE INFINITE JESUS: v 2

## I) THE INTRODUCTION OF JESUS: v 1

**II) THE INFINITE JESUS: v 2** *"He was in the beginning with God."* This phrase is not meant as simply, a reiteration of verse 1, it's purpose is to add weight to what's been said. Not only was the Word in the beginning, and with God, but here, in verse 2, John indicates that these two distinctions existed contemporaneously. *"He was in the beginning with God."*

And not only does it add to what's been said in John's opening sentence, but...

Marcus Dods - "He wishes also to emphasize this in view of what he is about to tell. In the beginning He was with God, afterwards, in time, He came to be with man. His pristine condition must first be grasped, if the grace of what succeeds is to be understood."

Listen, Jesus is God. Because of that, He has existed eternally. He is the Son of God, and the Word of God, thus He acts on behalf of God to reveal God to His creation. It is through Jesus, and Jesus alone, that we can know God. His name, Jesus, was given at His divine birth in the New Testament, but He predates the whole of creation and humanity. He is matchless in His power, everlasting to everlasting, and INFINITE in His Nature!

**III) THE IMPERATIVE JESUS: v 3** *"All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made."*

John is making a massive statement concerning Jesus here in verse 3. According to this verse, JESUS is not only the SAVIOR of the world, He is the CREATOR of it as well. And this is no peculiar doctrine attributed solely to John.

Notice Paul's doxology in **Romans 11:36** *"For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen."*

Again Paul writes in **Colossians 1:16** *"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him."*

The writer of Hebrews wrote in **Hebrews 1:2** *"but in these last days He (God) has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the Heir of all things, through whom also He created the world."*

**Psalm 33:6-9** *"By the WORD of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm."*

Okay, let's look at this verse a minute. **v 3** "All things", Does anyone know what that means? It means ALL THINGS! *"All things were made through Him,* " That word "through" is important. It's used in a way that is not natural to us. We would normally say that something is made BY someone, not THROUGH someone, right? So, what's being said here? Well, this word indicates that something is being done *through one* particular person on behalf of someone else. John is telling us, that creation was brought into existence through Jesus (the Word, the Logos) on behalf of God. Jesus is the effecting agent of creation!

## I) THE INTRODUCTION OF JESUS: v 1

## II) THE INFINITE JESUS: v 2

**III) THE IMPERATIVE JESUS: v 3** CONTINUED And then John adds, simply, v 3b *"and without him was not any thing made that was made."* Again, this can't be more clear! It's not hard to understand what's being said here. You may deny the claim, but you can't misinterpret it.

**IV) THE ILLUMINANT JESUS: v 4-5** *"In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

*"In Him was life"...* and *"by believing you may have life in His name."* John begins his Gospel by talking about LIFE and he ends talking about LIFE. Remember that John has just explained that the Word created everything without exception, and everything would include physical life. So from the context it would make sense that one meaning of "life" is physical life. But John's ultimate purpose is not for men to have physical life (everyone born has that attribute), but for them to have life in His Name (the Word, the Logos, Jesus) by being born a second time! Ultimately, this is the point he wants to make.

v 4b *"...and the life was the light of men."* What does John mean by this statement?

John MacArthur - "While it is appropriate to make some distinction between life and light, the statement, *"the life was the Light"*, halts any disconnect between the two. In reality, John is writing that life and light cannot be separated. They are essentially the same, with the idea of light emphasizing the manifestation of the divine life. *"The life was the Light"* is, grammatically, the same construction as *"the Word was God"* (Jn 1:1). As God is not separate from the Word, but the same in essence, so life and light share the same essential properties. God's life is true and holy. Light is that truth and holiness manifest against the darkness of lies and sin.

Notice what Jesus said, John 8:12 *"I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."* Now notice...

v 5 *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* This was true historically, and it's true today spiritually. Jesus, the LIGHT OF THE WORLD, came into the world to shine the light of God in the darkness, but the world missed it. There were some, very few, who SAW Christ for who He was, but most missed His true beauty. The KJV reads, *"And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."* The word translated comprehend, and overcome is the Gr. Katalambanō. And it has a very diverse meaning. In one sense it means "to seize upon, take possession of, overtake or overcome" the second meaning is "to understand, perceive, learn, comprehend". The true meaning being that the world did not comprehend who Jesus was. They wasn't able to see the light He brought into the world. But by the same token, the darkness of the world was not able to extinguish the light He brought either. They tried, but His light still burns today!

**CONCLUSION:** Can I ask, do you see His light today? In all your darkness, if you'll lift your head, and call on Jesus, a light will break through the sin, the hurt, the brokenness of your life and point you to help. Your help is Jesus! What will you do today? Will you turn to Him or will you turn away? Will you look to the light or turn a blind eye to it?