

***“What Will You Do With Jesus?”***  
***John 1:1-5***

**Introduction:**

1. Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles This Morning:
  - To The Gospel Of John:
    - Where - Last Week:
      - I Introduced You To Our New Series:
        - By Considering The Overall:
          - Purpose Of The Book!
  - In John 20:31 - We Are Told:
    - “But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!”
      - So - The Purpose Of This Gospel - And:
        - The Purpose Of Our Series:
          - Is For You To Truly:
            - Believe In Jesus!
        - And Then - To Truly:
          - Live Through Jesus!
2. Well - As We Head To:
  - The First Chapter Of This Gospel:
    - John Wastes No Time:
      - In Pursuing This Purpose!
    - And So - In What Is Known As:
      - The “Prologue” Of The Gospel:
        - From 1:1-18 - He Wants To Introduce You:
          - To Who This Jesus Is!
    - And - To Convince You That:
      - He **Is** Worthy Of:
        - All Your Faith And All Your Trust!
  - Well - This Morning:
    - We Are Going To Cover:
      - The First 5 Verses:
        - That Introduce Jesus:
          - As “The Word!”
3. Let's Read John 1:1-5 Together!
  - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. / The same was in the beginning with God. / All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. / In him was life; and the life was the light of men. / And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not!”
    - These Familiar But Powerful Verses:
      - Are Really The Key:
        - To The Door Of The Whole Gospel!
          - Because Every Word That John Writes:
            - Points Us To Jesus As “The Word!”
4. Now - What Is A Word?
  - A Word Is The Smallest Unit:
    - That Can Be Used:
      - To Collect & To Communicate:
        - Your Thoughts!
    - **IE**: It's The First Thing You Want To Hear - As A Parent - Come Out Of The Mouth Of Your Child! Just One, Single Word! Momma - If You're Mom! Dadda - If You're Dad!
      - Because - Its Evidence That Things Are Starting To Work Upstairs! So - At Its Core:
        - A Word Is The Simplest Means:
          - To Communicate Your Thoughts!
  - And This Is What:
    - “The Word” Is In John 1:1!
      - It Is The Very Means To Communicate:

- The Thoughts Of God!
- But - A Word Can Also Refer To:
  - An Entire Message:
    - Given From One Party To Another!
      - **IE:** Like When Your Favorite Program Is Interrupted By “A Word From Their Sponsor” - Or - In An Emergency - “A Word From The President!”
  - And This Too Is What:
    - “The Word” Is In John 1:1!
      - It Is The Message That God Wants To Communicate:
        - With You & With Me!
- And - Even Though Any Kind Of Word:
  - Can Be A Powerful Thing!
    - This Word That John Wants To Introduce You To:
      - Is More Powerful Than Any Word Or Message You’ve Ever Heard In Your Life!
      - Because This Word Is God’s Word!
      - And God’s Word Is A Miraculous Word!
- This Word Is Able:
  - To Bring God’s Own Thoughts:
    - Into Being!

- “God Simply Speaks, And His Powerful Word Creates!”

5. And John Wants You To Know That:

- It Is Jesus Who Is:
  - The Word Of God!
    - The Revealing Word Of God!
    - The Creative Word Of God!
    - And - The Living Word Of God!
- And - When You Hear This Word & You Hear His Message:
  - It Demands A Response!
    - So - Lets Let John Introduce Us This Morning:
      - To This “Wonderful Word Of Life!”

\* First - The Lord Jesus Christ Is:

1. **God’s Revealing Word!**

- A Word That:
  - Tells Us All We Need To Know:
    - About God!
      - In Revelation - Jesus Calls Himself The “Alpha And Omega” - Which Means:
        - “He Is God’s Alphabet, The One Who Spells Out Deity, The One Who Utters All God Has To Say!” (Pink)
  - So - What Does This Word:
    - Reveal To Us?
      - 1:1-2 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. / The same was in the beginning with God!”
- The Word First Reveals To Us:
- Its Own Involvement:
  - “In The Beginning!”
    - Of Course - This Brings Our Mind:
      - All The Way Back To The Very First Verse In The Bible - Genesis 1:1:
        - Which Starts The Same Way!
          - “In The Beginning God Created The Heaven And The Earth!”
  - But - Here - “In” - That Same Beginning:
    - “Was The Word!”
      - John Does Not Say Here:
        - **At** The Beginning - Or Even:
        - **From** The Beginning - But:
        - **In** The Beginning!
- This Means That:

- When The Beginning Began:
  - This Word Was Already There!
    - And So - As God's Own Word:
      - He Was Actively Involved "In The Beginning!"
- The Word Also Reveals:
- Its Own Immutability!
  - The Linking Verb "Was" - Which Is Used 4 Times:
    - In Just These 2 Verses:
      - Points Us To The Fact That:
        - "In The Beginning" - This Word:
          - Already "Was!"
  - It Didn't Have Its Start:
    - **At** The Beginning - It Already Was:
      - **In** The Beginning!
        - And When The Beginning Came Around:
          - It Didn't Change Who & What It Already Was!
  - So - Already - At The Beginning Of John:
    - We See The Unique Nature:
      - Of This Word!
        - A Word Like No Other!
  - This Word Further Reveals:
  - Its Own Intimacy:
    - With God!
      - "And The Word Was With God!"
        - This Shows Us That:
          - There Is Something Distinct:
            - About The Word!
  - But - At The Same Time:
    - There Is A Closeness & An Intimacy:
      - Between The Word & The God:
        - Who Created All Things!
  - The Word Translated "With" - Carries With It:
    - The Idea Of:
      - Drawing Towards Someone!
        - So - This Word Is Close To:
          - Though Distinct From:
            - God!
  - But Then - At The Same Time:
    - The Word Reveals:
  - Its Own Identity:
    - As God!
      - "And The Word Was God!"
        - Now - Even Though Jehovah's Witnesses Will Translate This In Their Bibles As:
          - "The Word Was *A* God!"
            - The Underlying Greek Does Not Allow For This!
  - Because - "God" Here Is:
    - Emphatic - That Is:
      - It Actually Comes At The Beginning Of The Phrase:
        - To Express That This Word:
          - Is Not Just **Like** God:
            - It **Is** God!
  - Of Course - The Question Comes To Mind:
    - How Can This Be?
      - How Can Something Or Someone:
        - Be **With** God & **Be** God:
          - At The Same Time?
    - Well - John Doesn't Explain It Here:
      - He Just Expresses It:

- As Something To Know & To Believe!
- But - Because Of This Word's:
  - Involvement & Immutability & Intimacy
    - In The Beginning!
  - It All Points To:
    - The Word's Identity:
      - As God Himself!
- In Other Words:
  - "The Word Does Not By Himself Make Up The Entire Godhead; Nevertheless, The [Divine Nature] That Belongs To The Rest Of The Godhead Belongs Also To Him!" (Tasker)
    - What A Word This Is! But Even More:
      - In 1:2 - The Word Reveals:
- Its Own Interest:
  - With God!
    - "The same was in the beginning with God!"
  - Even Though This Verse:
    - Repeats Two Ideas From The First Verse:
      - It Shows That There Was:
        - A Coexistence Between:
          - The Word & The God Of John 1:1!
    - And - Along With That Coexistence:
      - A Special Unity & Equality:
        - Between Them!
      - And So - Though There Is:
        - A Distinction Between Them:
          - There Is No Disharmony!
  - This Word Is God's Revealing Word!
    - And - Not Only Does This Word:
      - Reveal The Mind Of God:
        - This Word Reveals Himself:
          - As God!
    - And John Wants You To Know:
      - That It Is Jesus:
        - Who Is This Revealing Word Of God!
          - And This Truth:
            - Demands A Response!
    - And - What Should Your Response Be?
      - As Thomas Would Respond:
        - Eventually - In The Second To The Last Chapter Of The Gospel:
          - Which We Looked At Last Week!
      - In John 20:28 - Thomas Said:
        - To Jesus:
          - "My Lord And My God!"
    - Thomas Believed That:
      - Jesus Was & Is:
        - The Word That Was:
          - Involved In The Beginning!
      - Jesus Was & Is:
        - The Word That Was:
          - Immutable!
      - Jesus Was & Is:
        - The Word That Had An Exclusive:
          - Intimacy - With God!
        - An Intimacy That Is Further Described:
          - In John - As A Son Has:
            - With His Father!
    - Thomas Believed:
      - In The Interest & Identity:

- Of Jesus As God - And So:
  - He Worshiped Him!
- Do You Believe?
  - This Is Who Jesus Is:
    - Has Always Been - And:
      - Will Always Be!
  - This Word:
    - Is Worthy Of Your:
      - Belief!

\* But Then - Second - From John 1:3 - We See That The Lord Jesus Christ Is:

## 2. *God's Creative Word!*

- The Very Word That Created This World!
  - Again - Pointing Us Back - To The Beginning:
    - Which Is Found In Genesis 1:1 - John Adds:
      - "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made!"
  - John Wants You To Know That:
    - "All Things" Were Created By This Word!
- Powerfully!
  - Through God's Word:
    - "All Things" - "Became!"
      - Now - That's Power!
        - **IE**: I Can "Make" Things - But I Can't "Create" Things! Even If Something Never Existed Before, I Can Only Use Pre-Existing Materials!
  - But - All You Have To Do:
    - Is Go Back To Genesis 1:
      - And See The Power Of God's Word!
        - Starting With Day 1:
          - Genesis 1:3 - "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light!"
  - And - You Can Go Through:
    - The Reet Of Genesis 1 - And Find God's:
      - Active, Creative Word:
        - Going Forth - 8 Different Times!
          - That's Power!
  - But Even More:
    - "All Things" Were Created By This Word:
- Personally!
  - For The First Time:
    - The "Word" Is Not Described In Terms:
      - Of An "It" - But Of - A "Him!"
        - "All Things Were Made By Him!"
  - God's Creative Word:
    - Is A Personal Being:
      - Not An Impersonal Idea Or Message:
        - Or Even Some Kind Of:
          - Magical Word!
    - No - This Word:
      - Is A Personal, Powerful, Perceptive:
        - Being!
    - In Colossians 1:15-16 - Paul Says This:
      - About This Word - "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: / And he is before all things, and by him all things consist!"
    - This Means - Not Only:
      - Can You Get To Know God:
        - Through This Word:
          - You Can Know This Word:

- As God - In A Personal Way!
- He Is The Powerful & Personal:
  - Word Of God - But We Also See That:
    - He Created All Things:
- Perfectly!
  - John 1:3b Says - “And Without Him Was Not Anything Made That Was Made!”
    - So - If Something / Anything Was Made:
      - Then The Word Did It!
        - And He Did It:
          - The Way It Is Described:
            - In Genesis!
  - Six Times In Genesis 1:
    - After God Created Something:
      - Through The Power Of His Word:
        - He Declared It To Be:
          - “Good!”
    - And - After All Was Created:
      - He Proclaimed That:
        - “Behold, It Was Very Good!”
  - And - This Is God’s Creative Word!
    - And John Wants You To Know:
      - That It Is Jesus:
        - Who Is This Creative Word Of God!
          - And This Truth Also:
            - Demand Your Response!
    - And - How Should You Respond:
      - Again - As Thomas Did:
        - Back In John 20:28 - When He Said Jesus:
          - Was His Own Lord & Master!
      - We’re Not Told That He Did This:
        - When Jesus Showed Himself To Him:
          - And Told Him To:
            - “Reach Hither Thy Finger, And Behold My Hands! And Reach Hither Thy Hand, And Thrust It Into My Side!”
      - But - I Can Imagine That:
        - Thomas Fell Before Jesus:
          - And Bowed To Him:
            - Prostrate At His Feet:
              - As His Lord!
      - And So Must You!
        - As The Creative Word Of God:
          - Jesus Created & Made You!
            - And You Are Responsible To Him & Are To Respond:
              - By Bowing To Him:
                - As Your Lord And Master!
          - This Means That You Are To Submit To:
            - His Wisdom, His Will, And His Word!
              - His Wisdom:
                - Because He Knows Better Than You Do!
              - His Will:
                - Because He Wants The Best For You!
              - His Word:
                - Because His Direction Is Best!
          - So - If You Say That:
            - You Believe In Jesus:
              - Are You Bowing & Submitting To Him?

\* Then - Third - In John 1:4 - We See That The Lord Jesus Christ Is Also:



- So You Can Walk With Him!
- 1 John 1:7 - "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another!"
- God's Light-Generating Life Can Strengthen You:
  - In Your Service For Him:
    - So You Can Work For Him!
- God's Light-Generating Life:
  - Can Warm Your Heart:
    - So You Can Live Your Life:
      - In Worship Of Him!
- So - Even When:
  - The Power & Light Of The Sun:
    - Wanes - The Power & Light:
      - Of The Life-Giving Word:
        - Will Always Be!
- And - This Is God's Living Word!
  - And - When You Belong To Him:
    - Jesus Can Be:
      - Your Life - And:
        - Jesus Will Be:
          - Your Light:
            - In This Dark & Dying World!
  - Do You Belong To:
    - The Word Of God Today?
      - And If So - Are You Today:
        - Walking In The Light Of His Life?
  - In 1 John 1:6 - John Tells Us:
    - "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth!"
      - And - If You Walk In Darkness:
        - The Fault Does Not Lie:
          - With The Light!

### Conclusion:

1. Because - In John 1:5a - We Are Told That:
  - "And the light shineth in darkness!"
    - **IE:** If You've Ever Seen A Picture Of The Sun From A Telescope - What Do You See? A Blazing Ball Of Fire! But What Surrounds That Sphere Of Light? Darkness! And Yet - You Know That The Sun Is Still Shining! And The Rays Of Its Light Are Still Pouring Out! So - Why Is It So Dark Around The Sun? Because There's Nothing There! Nothing There For The Rays To Touch & Illuminate!
      - It Works The Same Way With The Light Of The Word!
        - We Live In A World Of Spiritual Death And Darkness!
          - But - The Light Of Christ Still Shines!
  - The Problem Lies Not:
    - With The Light From The Life Of The Word!
      - No - The Problem Lies:
        - With The Dead & Dark Souls:
          - Of Sinful Men!
2. Because - Even Though:
  - "The Light Shineth In Darkness" - 1:5:
    - "And The Darkness Comprehended It Not!"
      - The Word "Comprehend" Can Mean:
        - To "Apprehend" Or To "Seize" For Oneself!
  - This Means That:
    - The Darkness:
      - Did Not Take Hold Of The Light:
        - Because It Didn't Want To - And Even:
          - Because It Couldn't!
    - What We Find Here:



- Is The Recurring Theme:
  - Throughout The Gospel Of John!
- 3. Though The Light Is Always Shining:
  - Those In Spiritual Darkness:
    - Want Nothing To Do With It!
    - Want Nothing To Do With Him!
    - And Will Do Everything They Can:
      - To Hide From His Light!
  - But - His Light Still Shines!
    - And That's Why Jesus Said:
      - In John 12:35 - "Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth!"
- 4. So - What About You Today?
  - Do You Believe In:
    - Jesus Christ As:
      - The Revealing Word Of God?
        - Not Only Revealing:
          - The Mind Of God - But Even:
        - Revealing Himself:
          - As God?
    - Are You Bowing To:
      - Jesus Christ As:
        - The Creative Word Of God?
          - As Your Lord & As Your God?
          - Submitting Yourself To Him?
    - Do You Belong To:
      - Jesus Christ As:
        - The Living Word Of God?
          - Are You Living:
            - In His Life - And:
          - Are You Walking:
            - In His Light?
  - 5. You Only Have - "A Little While!"
    - While The Light Of The Gospel:
      - Is Shining Upon You!
        - Grasp It! Seize Him! Take Him As Your Own!
          - Before Darkness Seizes You:
            - And Its Too Late!
      - What Will You Do With Jesus?

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