

G R A C E

Reformed Baptist Church

Soli ◇ deo ◇ gloria

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Sermon Notes [modified]

The Eternal Logos

September 19, 2004

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

John 1:1-18

- I. **John has three major convictions (when writing the Fourth Gospel):**

- II. **Major Themes**

1.) God (Theology)

2.) Christ (Christology)

3.) Holy Spirit (Pneumatology)

4.) Salvation (Soteriology)

- The Prologue (John 1:1-18) was worn in the medieval church as an emulate to ward off evil spirits.
- It was read over the sick and the newly baptized, and the last prayer of the mass.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

- Arius

- Arianism

- Council of Nicea

- Modern-Day forms of Arianism

THE TRINITY:

God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God, and there is one God.

Verse 1

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

1 Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.

εν αρχη ην ο λογος και ο λογος ην προς τον θεον και θεος ην ο
λογος John 1:1

Transliterated: En arcane ain ho logos kai ho logos ain pros ton theon kai theos
ain ho
logos.

Literally: In [the] beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and
God
was the Word.

- NOTE: the Jehovah's Witness Bible, the New World Translation, states,
 - "In [the] beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god."

□ The *Logos*

- Possible Backgrounds

1. Greek Philosophy

2. Early Gnosticism

3. The Word of God of “the Word of the LORD” in the Old Testament

4. The Personification of Wisdom

“Christ (the *Logos*) fulfills the expectations of the whole human race, Gentile and Jew.”
Robert Kysar

□ How does this statement relate to the purpose of the Gospel of John as stated in John 20:31?

□ *In the beginning...*

□ **Three Spiritual Truths:**

1.) Logos existed before Creation began

2.) Relational difference between Logos and God

3.) There was unity with between the Word and God

“John intends that the whole of the gospel shall be read in the light of this verse.”

C.K.

Barrett

Verse 2

He was in the beginning with God.

Verse 3

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

Verse 4

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

Verse 5

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (NASB)

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (ESV)

- There are two possible translations for this verse: