

Lighthouse Bible Church

July 15th, 2012 message #2 in John

John 1: 1 – 5 scripture reading: Colossians 1: 13 - 18

Jesus, the Creator and Light and Life of men

Stand – Read – Pray

Last week we began our study in this great book by looking at Verses 1 and 2 and seeing how the Apostle John presents Jesus Christ to his readers and to us. He described Him in Verses one and two as the Word of God that was in the beginning with God and that was God.

We know this is talking about Jesus because in **Verse 14 of Chapter 1** it says and **the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten of the Father full of GRACE AND TRUTH**. Then in **Verse 17** it says **for the law was given through Moses but GRACE AND TRUTH came through Jesus Christ**.

The Word was God and the Word became flesh, God in human form in the person of Jesus Christ.

We also looked at **John 20: 31** where John gives the reason why he wrote this book and why he put in here what he did. He said **but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name**.

So the two main purposes for the writing of the book of John were, one, to show the deity of Jesus Christ as God the Son, God in human form, and, two, that you may have eternal life in Him, salvation in Christ alone by faith alone.

As we said last time, these are the two areas of doctrine essential to the Christian faith, the deity of Jesus Christ and the saving gospel of Jesus Christ, that are under attack today.

People and religions preaching another gospel of self righteousness, self achievement, good works, religious practices and not the biblical gospel of being saved by grace through faith in Christ alone.

People and religions teaching that Jesus and His sacrificial death on the cross is not sufficient in itself to save because He is only A God or a Prophet or a good Teacher but not God Almighty, God in the flesh.

We saw last time the devastating consequences of believing in a different gospel and not believing in the deity of Jesus Christ; you can get that CD from the table.

This morning we are going to pick it up in Verse 3 where John continues to exalt Jesus in His deity by describing Him in Verses 3 – 5 as the **Creator**, the **Life** and the **Light**.

First of all we see Him as the Creator in **Verse 3: all things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made.**

John, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, says that Christ, the eternal Word, is the creator of everything. He says that, not only is He the creator but **without Him nothing was made that was made.** He makes it as clear as he can that Christ was involved in the creation of all things. When you compare that to Genesis 1: 1 and other passages who is the creator? They are one in the same

That is what the passage said in **Colossians 1: 16** that was read earlier **for by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible ... all things were created through Him and for Him.**

Not only that, **Verse 17** says **in Him all things consist**. All that He has created is held together, that's what the word **consist** means.

In **Hebrews 1: 2 – 3** it says that **He created all the worlds** and that **He upholds all things by the word of His power**.

Back in John 1: 3 it says all things **were made** through Him. That is one word in the Greek and it is the word *ginomai* and it is in the aorist tense and what that means is that everything that was created was created at a specific time and not over the course of time.

By using that word and the tense of that word, it eliminates the possibility of evolution or theistic evolution. *Explain.*

In one moment in time with just the spoken word, **all things were made through Him**, and that is the creative power of God. Think about the fact that:

Our sun is 800,000 miles in diameter and we could put 1 million earths inside of it.

In our solar system is the star Arcturus and it is 22 million miles in diameter or 25 times the size of our sun and is 36 light years away, light traveling at 186,000 miles per second.

In the Orion belt there is a star called Rigel and it is 50 million miles in diameter and is 300 light years away.

Then there is Betelgeuse which has a diameter of 250 million miles, which is larger than the earths orbit and is some 450 light years away.

That is in our own galaxy and astronomers estimate that there are millions of galaxies.

Then think about the creative hand of God in the things that are not seen. The smallest atom or molecule not visible to the naked eye. Our DNA structure with billions upon billions of microscopic information and every one is different.

By the way, the only thing greater than the display of Christ's creative power in speaking the vastness of the universe into existence, both the seen and unseen, was the power of His love that He willingly shed His blood on the cross to die for your sins and mine.

So not only is Jesus the Creator of all things, Verse 4 says He is life and He is Light. **Verse 4: in Him was life and the life was the light of men.**

First of all John says that **in Him was life**. That word **life** is *zoe* in the Greek and it is used in John's gospel of spiritual life or eternal life, not physical life. The word for physical life or existence is *bios or pneumos*.

It is true that God in Christ is the author of human life; that is what **Genesis 2: 7** says **and the Lord God formed man of the dust of the earth and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living being.** **Acts 17: 28** says that **in Him we live and move and have our being...**

But John says that **in Him was spiritual everlasting life**. That is the essence of Christ as the eternal Son of God. He said in **John 5: 26** **for as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself.**

Jesus will say later in **John 11: 25** **I am the resurrection and the (what) life.** He will say in **John 14: 6** **I am the way and the truth and the ... life.** In **1st John 5: 11** John says **this is the testimony that God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life..**

Then John says, back in our text at the end of verses 4 and 5, **and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness...** Jesus is eternal life and the way of eternal life and brought the way of eternal life to mankind through His life and teaching.

He came into a dark sinful God hating self-promoting world of darkness as a light for all to see and hear and all who would see and hear would be saved from the power of darkness.

Jesus said in **John 8: 12, 9: 5 I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.** By the way light and life cannot be separated, they are always linked together as one like in **Psalms 36: 9** which says **for with You is the fountain of LIFE in Your Light we see LIGHT.**

In **2nd Timothy 1: 10** Paul said ... **Christ has abolished death and brought LIFE and immortality to LIGHT through the gospel. Isaiah 9: 2** in a prophecy about Jesus that was fulfilled in **Matthew 4: 16** said **the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death upon them a light has shined.** Jesus is that light to mankind.

Turn with me to **1st John 1: 5 – 7** *Read*

Paul was sent out by Jesus Himself in **Acts 26: 18** to share the light of the gospel with the unsaved **to open their eyes in order to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to the power of God that they may receive forgiveness of sins ...**

Ephesians 5: 8 says for you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord, walk as children of light... But do you want to know something, when the light of life, Jesus Christ came into the world, He came into a world of darkness because **John 3: 19 says ... light has come into the world but men (what) love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil continually.**

But I will tell you this, when light shines in darkness, when Christ comes into a world of darkness as the light of life and eternal life **the darkness** at the end of Verse 5 **did not and cannot seize it or apprehend it or overtake it or conquer it or overcome it.**

Some versions of the Bible use the word 'the darkness did not **comprehend** it. When we hear the word comprehend we have the idea of something being understood or comprehended.

Well, we know that the dark world of Satan and his demons understand perfectly about Jesus as God's Son and the Savior of a dark world. Remember in **Matthew 8: 29** with the 2 demon possessed men whom, when Jesus came up to them, they said **what have we to do with you Jesus the Son of God, have you come to torment us before the time.**

In **Luke 4: 34** when the man in the synagogue had the demon cast out by Jesus, the demon said **I know who you are, the holy One of God.** Later in that same chapter in **Verse 41** other demons cried out saying **you are the Christ the Son of God.** The demons and Satan know the truth about Jesus and they believe it; isn't that what **James 2: 19** says **you believe in one God you do well, even the demons believe and tremble.**

So it is not that the darkness of this world did not know Him, they, like many people, know Him but they reject Him. And in that rejection they have tried to defeat Him or overtake Him or conquer Him and the darkness could not.

We know that the prince of darkness, the ruler of this world, as Jesus calls Satan in **John 12: 31** and other places, has always wanted to overcome and destroy and conquer Jesus but he has been unable to.

Throughout the Old Testament you can see how Satan tried to destroy the Nation of Israel and then destroy the Davidic line from which the Messiah, Christ Jesus would come.

Then in the New Testament you see him using Herod to try to destroy Jesus after He was born by having all male children 2 years old and under killed. You see him personally coming against Jesus early in His earthly ministry as Jesus was in the wilderness. Satan wanted Him to disobey God, to distrust God and to disown God.

Then Satan even used one of Jesus' own followers to try to convince Him to not go to the cross and die. But Christ did go to the cross and die for the sins of the world and Satan thought he finally won.

Until 3 days later. Jesus, God in human form could not be held by death or the grave, He arose from the dead to conquer sin and death and Satan. That is why Jesus said in **John 11: 25 – 26** **I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this? *Do you believe it?***

In **1st Corinthians 15: 54 – 57** ... **death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is your sting. O hades, where is your victory. The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

The darkness could not triumph over light. **Colossians 2: 15** says that Christ **disarmed principalities and powers, having made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them..**

Hebrews 2: 14 – 15 says that Christ through His own death burial and resurrection might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

John writes later in **1st John 3: 8** he who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

I will close with this; the demons and Satan himself will later be cast into the lake of fire, **Matthew 25: 41** says, not because they don't know who Jesus is, they do and not because they don't believe, because they do, it will be because they choose to reject Him.

In the same way, every unbeliever will be cast into the lake of fire, **Revelation 20: 11 – 15** says not because they don't know Jesus, because many say they do but He never knew you and not because they don't believe in Him because many do, it will be because they choose, also, to reject Him. Because they love darkness rather than light.

Jesus will say later in **John 8: 24** **you will die in your sins, for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.** The idea is that when you believe, by faith that Jesus is who He says He is, you repent of your sins that send you to the lake of fire and, you receive, by faith, the free gift of salvation from sin and death that only Jesus can offer.

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John 1: 14, 17, John 20: 31

Verse 3: All things were made through Him

Colossians 1: 16 – 17, Hebrews 1: 2 – 3

Verse 4: The Life was the Light of men

Genesis 2: 7, Acts 17: 28, John 5: 26

John 11: 25, John 14: 6, 1st John 5: 11

Verse 5: The Light shines in the darkness

John 8: 12, John 9: 5, Psalm 36: 9

2nd Timothy 1: 10, Isaiah 9: 2

Matthew 4: 16, 1st John 1: 5 – 7

Acts 26: 18, Ephesians 5: 8, John 3: 19

The darkness did not _____ it

Matthew 8: 29, Luke 4: 34, 41

James 2: 19, John 12: 31

John 11: 25 – 26, 1st Corinthians 15: 54-57

Colossians 2: 15, Hebrews 2: 14 – 15

1st John 3: 8, Matthew 25: 41

Revelation 20: 11 – 15, John 8: 24

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