

'The Son of God and the Lord of Glory Series'

Sermons in the Gospel of John

Message 2 - Jesus Christ is Life John 1: 3 - 4a



John continues this wonderful opening to his gospel by relating further truth about the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, and also the implications of this for all mankind. In every aspect of the verses we have before John guided by the Holy Spirit is underlining truth upon truth so that there can be no misunderstanding as to the nature and person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Also, in the fourth verse as a whole we are introduced to two of the key themes of this gospel, 'life' and 'light'. The 'life' connected with Jesus Christ is what all of us need to grasp.

In v3, he makes it clear that Jesus Christ, the eternal Word created all things, only to re-iterate that fact with a negative statement 'apart from Him nothing (not even one thing) came into being that has come into being.' This reality that Jesus Christ created everything introduces further evidence for His deity. The fact that He is Creator, and not the created, shows His deity, as only the eternal God is uncreated.

The reinforcement of Christ's deity is central to John's purpose not just in these verses, but also in the whole of this gospel. The importance of recognising that Jesus is the Son of God, eternal, with creative power is fundamental to the Christian faith. So the question is, who do you think Jesus is?

John speaks of life connected with the Saviour, and the eternal life that He offers, and continues to offer to men and women. It is present at the beginning of this book and at the end.

John 1:4, *'In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.'*

1. He is Life - When he speaks of 'in Christ was life' he is referring to the staggering truth that Christ has life in Himself. In the world of theology, they call it aseity, or self-existence. Again, this is a key proof of Christ's divinity as only God is self-existent. This is a foundational truth that Christians must hold. If something is created, then it can be understood to be 'becoming', nothing that is created is unchanging. God 'is', not 'will be', His permanent eternal, non-changing being or life is different from what is 'becoming'. God 'being' is the source of life for what is 'becoming' or created. So when John says that Jesus was/is the life, is a fantastically pure truth about Christ possessing the very nature of God. As John has stated in v3, it is enforced here, that He is the Creator. In and of Himself He is life, not dependent on anything to sustain Him.

2. He is the source of Spiritual Life - The Greek word that John uses for life is always used for the spiritual or eternal life that Christ is the source and giver of. In the Scriptures, this life is very clearly given by God's sovereign grace to all those who savingly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ came to impart spiritual life to sinners. Without Him, we are dead spiritually. Without Christ, no man has ever breathed one breath toward God, or had any spiritual pulse. The Bible tells us that man is dead in sin. He needs new life, and that is why the Bible tells us that we must be born again! What does it mean to be born again? It means that we receive new life from God through the Lord Jesus Christ by faith in Him! Have you been born again?

3. He is the giver of Eternal Life - The life that God gives to sinners through the Lord Jesus Christ is far superior to any promise of a better earthly life, or quality living as some preach, no, the life that God gives is eternal life! Why is that so important? Eternal life can never be lost. When a sinner comes to Christ, repenting of their sin, believing on the Lord Jesus Christ by faith, the life they receive is the life that that will keep them throughout eternity, years without number in the presence of God!



Penzance Baptist Church

'Upholding the Ordinary Means of Grace'

Pastor Jonathan Stobbs