

*Morning Sermon Outline – August 6, 2017*  
*“The Word Made Flesh” John 1:1-5 & :14-18*

*I. Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God –*  
**In the beginning was the Word... (John 1:1 NKJ)**

**Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." (John 8:58 NKJ)**

**of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen. (Rom. 9:5 NKJ)**

*The three words which start John's Gospel “In the beginning” are meant to remind us of Genesis 1 –*

**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1 NKJ)**

- 1. However, they take us behind the scenes of the creation, as the fourth word in John 1:1 is the word “was”*
- 2. This word “was” is in the Greek imperfect tense, which refers to a continuing, or constant state, meaning as the Word is eternal, He was always in a state of being!*

*This truth goes against the idea of the Arians & Jehovah Witnesses who claim Jesus had a beginning in time. As a Man He did, but as God He had no beginning. Note two ways of interpreting one correct and one incorrect:*

- (1) Son of God: Jehovah Witnesses put emphasis on the word “son” and think human son, human sons have beginnings, so they figure the SON of God, that word “son” to them implies He had a beginning.*
- (2) Son of God: God is eternal, it only makes sense that His Son too would be eternal. Cats give birth to cats, dogs to dogs, and human beings to human beings: none of these creatures are eternal, so none have eternal offspring, but God's Son is the Son of God, therefore He must be eternal.*

*II. Jesus Christ was and is, eternally with God –*  
**... and the Word was with God, ... (John 1:1 NKJ)**

*What is communicated here is extreme unity and intimacy –*

- 1. The word translated “with” here literally means “face to face”*
- 2. It implies intimacy, Christ as the Word of God is often related to the Created Wisdom of God Personified in Proverbs 8 –*  
**Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him, (Proverbs. 8:30 NKJ)**

*Jesus is / was always with God, as His delight and delighting in Him –*  
**And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17 NKJ)**

- 3. However, the words “with God” also imply unity, unity of purpose. God the Father and God the Son have the same goals, even our salvation and His glory –*

*This should be a great comfort to us –*

**"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.<sup>28</sup> "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.<sup>29</sup> "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.<sup>30</sup> "I and My Father are one." (John 10:27-30 NKJ)**

*III. Jesus Christ was and is God –*  
**... and the Word was God. (John 1:1 NKJ)**

- 1. These words confirm the point I have already made, Jesus is God.*
- 2. Jesus shares with God the Father and the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God, the Son of God is in no way a different kind of Being from his Father -*

WSC 4 What is God? A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth. (WSC 1:4 WCS)

IV. *Jesus Christ is introduced here as our Creator, our Life and our Light –*

He was in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.<sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.<sup>5</sup> And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:2-5 NKJ)

*Note here again the similarity with Genesis 1 –*

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.<sup>2</sup> The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.<sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.<sup>4</sup> And God saw the light, that *it* was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.<sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. (Genesis 1:1-5 NKJ)

1. *Both passages start "in the beginning" - see John 1:1*
2. *All things were "made" through Him / Christ John 1:3 ... God said, "Let there be light" notice the word "said" it was / is God's Word which "Who" is the Creative Power –*

**By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word (or Word) of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. (Hebrew 11:3 NKJ)**

3. *In Genesis 1, the first created thing is light, but before there was created light, there was He Who is the Light of the world –*  
**Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12 NKJ)**
4. *In Him was life, John 1:4, meaning true life was in Jesus' hands, in His power, under His control –*  
**... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly. (John 10:10 NKJ)**  
**"For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. (John 5:21 NKJ)**

V. *Jesus Christ is the Word made Flesh, He declares to us the truth of our Creator –*

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.<sup>15</sup> John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'"<sup>16</sup> And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.<sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.<sup>18</sup> No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*. (John 1:14-18 NKJ)

1. *Christ is the Word made flesh, God in our language. The word - Word means God is a Communicator and that He communicates with us –*

**...The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. (Psalm 19:1 NKJ)**

**God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,<sup>2</sup> has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;<sup>3</sup> who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (Heb. 1:1-3 NKJ)**

2. *What we see in Christ is God's glory - :14*
3. *He is preferred above John the Baptist, he John the Baptist was a communicator too - :15 but The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!" (John 7:46 NKJ)*
4. *He still speaks – "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27 NKJ)*
5. *He is the Source of:*
  - (1) *fullness - :16*
  - (2) *grace for grace, or grace on top of grace - :16*
  - (3) *grace and truth :17 in contrast to the law, He is superior to Moses!*
  - (4) *true knowledge of God :18*

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