

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN IN REVIEW AND PREVIEW

John 1:1-18

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INTRODUCTION: A SOLID FOUNDATION

A foundation must have depth and proper consistency to make it stable and permanent.

Many people will claim to be followers of Jesus. Their Jesus looks at first glance like the Jesus of the Bible, but when you look a little closer at their Jesus and their faith in him, you find that it can't bear up under the weight of regular use.

1 Corinthians 15:17-19

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ only in this life, we are of all people most to be pitied.

A wrong or shallow understanding of Jesus provides no more lasting value than a shoddy concrete floor.

Matthew 19:26

Jesus said to them, "With people [salvation] is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Natural man's efforts, apart from God's work cannot produce the kind of faith required to accomplish salvation.

The Gospel of John was written so that we would have the proper consistency of faith in a Person who has the proper depth of being that would give us an eternal foundation to our Christianity.

John 20:30, 31

So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life in His name.

I. ETERNAL LIFE IS GAINED BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

A. THE NEED FOR FAITH, JOHN 1:10, 11

1. Mankind is Woefully Dull
2. Mankind is Willfully Rebellious

John 3:32

B. THE FOCUS OF OUR FAITH, JOHN 1:12

John 3:14, 15

C. THE ABILITY TO BELIEVE, JOHN 1:13

Faith isn't something that mankind can produce in his own power.

John 2:25

Faith is something granted by God (Ephesians 2:5, 8) to people who have been born of the Spirit.

John 3:3; 6:37, 44, 45

D. THE RESULT OF FAITH

John 3:16, 21

E. CASE STUDIES OF FAITH

1. The Disciples
2. A Jewish Rabbi
3. A Samaritan Village
4. A Royal Official

II. FAITH DEPENDS ON CHRIST BEING THE SON OF GOD

We believe in Christ, fully God and fully man.

Colossians 2:9-10a

For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete,

If Jesus wasn't truly human, He couldn't die for sin. If Jesus wasn't really God, He couldn't reconcile us to the Father.

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is also able to save forever those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

A. JESUS IS FULLY GOD

John 1:1-5; 14-18

B. JESUS IS FULLY MAN

John 1:9, 14-18

C. THE PURPOSE OF THE GODMAN

1. To Enlighten Man, v. 9
2. To Extend Grace, v. 17
3. To Reveal The Father, v. 18

D. UNDERSTANDING THE GODMAN

CONCLUSION: A DEEPER MORE CONSISTENT JESUS

Christianity has been inundated with wrong views about Jesus and wrong views about what it means to believe in Him.

Norman Greenbaum

Prepare yourself you know it's a must
Gotta have a friend in Jesus
So you know that when you die
He's gonna recommend you
To the spirit in the sky

Our faith rests on God who became a man to die in our place and reconcile us to the Father.

APPLICATION

? Have you trusted in Jesus for eternal life?

Romans 10:13

? Have you told all your friends and neighbors about the miracle of Christ who atones for sin and grants eternal life to those who believe?