

John 1:1-5 – The Word of God, Part 1

Introduction

1. We begin with Christ before He became a Man
2. Review of Luke 1:1-4
3. John's Gospel – for children and scholars
4. Francis Turretin's Difficulty: Unity of One God in Three Persons, and Unity of two Natures (Divine and Human) in the incarnation

Primary Focus: Jesus Christ is the Eternal God, Creator of all things. Jesus is the darkness overcoming Light in whom all life is dependent for its existence.

Eternal Logos: In the beginning was the Word... (v 1a)

1. *In the Beginning* – Echo of Genesis 1:1 – Jewish ears would expect *God* to follow
2. John's Twist: *The Word*, Logos
3. *Logos*
 - a. Greek Thought: Philosophers defined the “rational principle of the universe” as the *Logos* (the ultimate coherent reality that makes sense of everything)
 - b. Jewish Thought: *Logos*, or Word – that which was revealed by God through the prophets, spoken by God
4. John equates the *Word* with God in Genesis – the *Word* is Eternal with God
5. Why choose to use this word, *Word*? Why not truth, love, grace, mercy?
 - a. Jesus is God's Final Word to the World (**Heb 1:1a**), God's everlasting message to all creatures
 - b. God created everything in the beginning. Now God begins a New Creation, shining light into darkness
6. Jesus bore witness to His Eternality (**John 17:5**)

Intimate Distinction: The Word was WITH God... (vv 1b, 2)

1. Also translated *The Word moves toward God*
 - a. The Context of Relationship, Fellowship, Intimacy
 - b. In the beginning was the Word *and the Word was face to face with God*
2. A description of Divine Intimacy between two members of the Godhead (**John 1:18**)
3. We worship ONE God, Represented in THREE Persons, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit
4. We confess the Trinity when we think of the Word, when we speak of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ

5. The Father Sent the Word, The Word was Conceived in the Womb of the Virgin Mary by the Power of the Holy Spirit
6. You came to know the Father because the Father sent the Son in order to become your Savior
7. And the way you come to know Jesus as your Savior is the Holy Spirit graciously worked to open your eyes

Wholly Divine: The Word WAS God... (v 1c)

1. Radical Shift in Jewish Thinking – One God, Represented in Three Persons: The *Word is GOD!* (**Colossians 1:15a, 19**)
 - a. Jehovah's Witness Argument: No definite article in front of *Theos* (God)... Jesus is *A god*, not THE God
 - b. Greek, “I Am” verbs often do not receive definite articles
2. John's Gospel begins with *The Word is God* & ends his Gospel with Thomas declaring to Jesus, My Lord, and the God of me!
3. What God does, *The Word* does: Creates, Forgives Sins, etc

Omnipotent Creator: All things were made through Him (v 3)

1. Jesus is our Maker – He created all things
2. There was a time when the world was not... and then God spoke and it was
3. There is nothing in the World that does not owe its origin to the Lord Jesus Christ
4. All things came into existence through Jesus (**Col 1:16-17**)
5. Jesus was not Created – everything in the *Made* category was *Made* through the *Word* – meaning the *Word* was not made

Triumphant Savior: Life and Overcoming Light (vv 4-5)

1. In Christ is Life, not just by Him is Life – He creates & sustains
 - a. In God we live, move, and have our being
 - b. We were created by the *Word* – physical life, and also given eternal life through the *Word*
 - c. We are Created with Purpose and Design
2. Christ is the Light that Triumphs over the Darkness
 - a. Darkness is a reality – Sinfulness, Satan, Worldliness
 - b. In the end, the darkness will not win
 - c. The *Word* came into the darkness, lived, was hated and rejected, deserted by friends, and was nailed to the cross
 - d. It seemed the Darkness Won – But God conquers through Suffering – Jesus defeated Sin at the Cross and defeated Death by rising from the Dead
3. Christians reap the benefits of the Lord's Victory