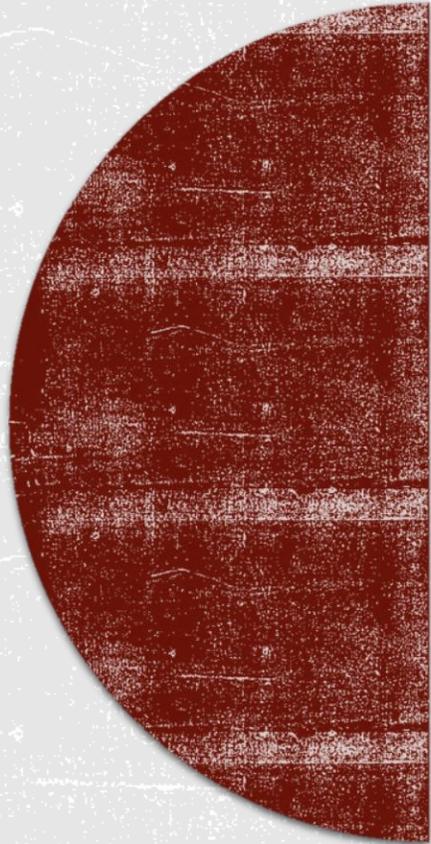


THE LIFE OF CHRIST

- John 17:3; “And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”
 - We need to know the Father and the Son
- Jeremiah 24:7; “I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.”
 - God has always wanted his people to know him
- How can we know the Father or the Son?
 - Study important dates and accomplishments
 - Learn what the person was like through studying behavior
- We shall study Jesus’ behavior and apply what we learn to our lives

CLASS TOPICS



The Life of Jesus

- Reveals the Father
- Tempted
- Loved the World
- Angry
- His Look
- Frustrated
- Listening
- Harshness
- Compassionate
- Prayer
- Weeping
- Servant
- Prince of Peace

JESUS REVEALS THE FATHER

John 1:1-18

David White

September 1, 2021

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JOHN 1:1-9

■ ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

JOHN 1:10-18

■ ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ”) ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

JOHN 1:1-18: KEY TO JOHN'S GOSPEL

- This Prologue tells us of the origins and character of Jesus
 - He pre-existed the creation
 - He was the agent that carried out the Father's will in creation
- John does not write that the Word was the God
 - If he had, that would suggest that there is no distinction between the Word and the Father.
- John does not write that the Word was a God
 - If he had, that would suggest that there might be many such deities or demigods.
- John writes that the Word was God
 - John is making the point that the Word partook of the divine identity.
- John 1:18; "No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known."

HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE FATHER

- John 1:1–2; “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.”

“I and the
Father are
one.”

JOHN 10:31

THE DESIGNATION OF CHRIST — THE WORD

- “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (v. 1).
- To speak of the Word (*logos*) in relation to the beginning of creation would make sense to both Jews and Greeks.
 - In some schools of Greek thought, the universe is *kosmos*, an ordered place, and what lies behind the universe and orders it is reason (*logos*).
 - For the Jews, creation took place through God’s speech (Gen 1; Ps 33:6).
 - Furthermore, in John’s day “word” was often associated with “wisdom” (for example, Wisdom of Solomon 9:1 and John will often use wisdom motifs to speak of Jesus).
- John uses this “Word” designation six times.
 - Three times he uses this designation in the first verse of the Gospel of John,
 - once in John 1:14 (“the Word was made flesh”)
 - once in 1 John 1:1 (“the Word of life”)
 - once in Revelation 19:13 (“his name is called The Word of God”).

THE DURATION OF CHRIST

- John 1:1; In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- Jesus existed before the beginning
 - The time of verse 1 – In the beginning
 - The tense of the verb – “Was”
- The “in the beginning” of our John 1:1 is the same as the “in the beginning” of Genesis 1:1.

Genesis 1:1 starts at the beginning and describes what came after



The Beginning



John 1:1 starts at the beginning and describes what was before

THE DURATION OF CHRIST'S DEITY



- John 1:1; In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 - The tense of “was” is the imperfect tense (we do not have an imperfect verb tense in the English language).
 - The imperfect tense “denotes continued action in past time” (Machen).
- Never view Jesus Christ as only coming into being when born of Mary.
- View Jesus Christ as One Who existed eternally and Who simply began to be manifested “in the flesh” when conceived in Mary.

THE DWELLING OF CHRIST

- The intimacy of the dwelling – “with God”
 - Greek scholar Vincent says that the Greek denotes more than merely “being near or beside, but as a living union and communion ... John’s statement is that the Divine Word not only abode with the Father from all eternity, but was in the living, active relation or communion with Him”
 - Hendriksen translates the statement, “The Word was face to face with God,” and says, “The meaning is that the Word existed in the closest possible fellowship with the Father.”
- The individualism of the dwelling – “with God”
 - “The Word was with God” is a very strong statement and confirmation of the fact that Christ the Son of God is a distinct individual from God the Father.
- In view of the intimacy of the dwelling of Christ the Son with God the Father, what a tremendous sacrifice Christ made in order to be incarnated and provide redemption for us.

THE DEITY OF CHRIST

- “The word was God” (v. 1).
- This sentence states the very important truth that Jesus Christ is indeed God.
- The plainness of this sentence about the Deity of Christ reminds us that the important truths God would have us know are all stated very plainly in the Scriptures.
- While in the vast majority of cases in the NT the term theos (God) refers to God the Father, there are a few examples where the term is used of Jesus
 - Rom. 9:5, Titus 2:13, Heb. 1:8, Jn. 1:1, 20:28, 2 Pet. 1:1.
- Repeatedly the Bible teaches by implication the truth that Jesus is God.
 - Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, John 8:58-59, John 10:30-33, Phil. 2:6, 1 Tim. 3:16

THE DUPLICATION ABOUT CHRIST

- John 1:2; “He was in the beginning with God.”
 - Verse 2 repeats the idea of verse one
 - He was in the beginning with God



HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE GALAXIES

John 1:3; “All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.”

THE REQUIREMENT FOR CREATING

- To create all things requires that Jesus is greater in every dimension than all things
- The Father and the Son worked together to create all things
- Colossians 1:15–17; “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”
- Hebrews 1:2; “but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.”
- Hebrews 11:3; “By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”
- Revelation 4:11; “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

THE REGULATION OF THE CREATION

- Jesus sustains the universe
- Hebrews 1:3; “He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and **he upholds the universe by the word of his power....**”
- Colossians 1:17; “And he is before all things, and **in him all things hold together.**”



THE REASON FOR THIS CREATION

- The creation is for Jesus
- Colossians 1:16; “For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and *for him*.”
- Colossians 1:20; “and through him to *reconcile to himself all things*, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”
- Romans 8:19–22; “For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ *For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope* ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE GOSPEL

▪ John 1:4–14; ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE GOSPEL

▪ John 1:14–18; ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ”) ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

FROM PHYSICAL LIFE TO SPIRITUAL LIFE



- John 1:4-5; “In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and **the darkness has not overcome it.**”
- Christ, the embodiment of life and the glorious, eternal Light of heaven, entered the sin-darkened world of men, and that world reacted in various ways to Him.

THE WITNESS TO CHRIST

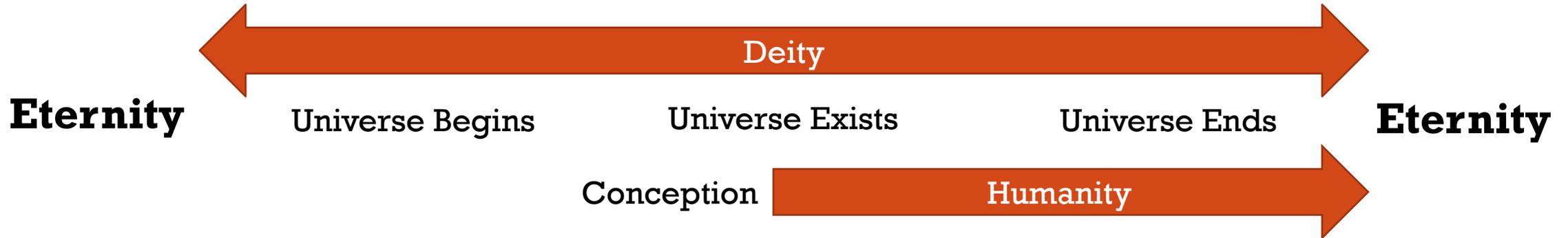
- John 1:6–8; “There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.”
 - He was not the light, but his mission was to bear witness to the light
- John 1:9; “The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.”
 - The true light was coming

A GREAT MORAL DIVIDE

- John 1:10–13; “He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
- Sadness in v. 10-11
- Good news in v. 12-13



THE DURATION OF CHRIST'S HUMANITY



- John 1:14; And the Word ***became flesh*** and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- 1 Timothy 3:16; “Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was ***manifested in the flesh***, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.”
- 1 Timothy 2:5; “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, ***the man Christ Jesus,***”

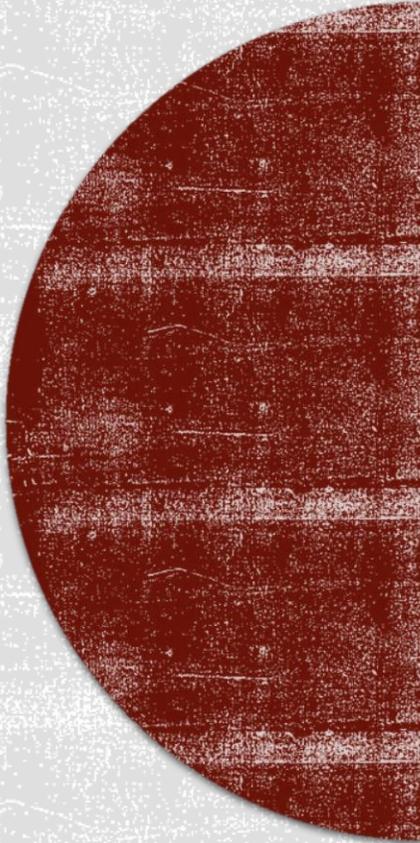
THE REVELATION OF THE FATHER

- John 1:18; “No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.”
- John 14:6–9; “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”
- Men had seen visions, theophanies, and angelic appearances of God; but until the incarnation of Jesus in the flesh, no man had seen God in person.
- Now He who was with God from the beginning and who was Deity itself, has revealed, interpreted, unfolded God, becoming “a satisfying exposition” of Him.

JESUS IS FULLNESS

- John 1:16-17; “And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”
- Christ, the Word, is the fullness of Deity, of Godhood.
 - Colossians 1:19; “For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.”
 - Colossians 2:9; “For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?



The Life of Jesus

- Reveals the Father
- Tempted
- Loved the World
- Angry
- His Look
- Frustrated
- Listening
- Harshness
- Compassionate
- Prayer
- Weeping
- Servant
- Prince of Peace

- John 13:15; For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.
- 1 Corinthians 11:1; “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”
- Ephesians 5:1; “Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.”
- Philippians 2:5; “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,”
- 1 John 2:6; “whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.”