

THE WORD - THE WITNESS - THE WORLD

Page 1

INTRODUCTION

- A. TEXT: *“in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him; and without him was not anything made that hath been made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. and the light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness apprehended it not.”* (John 1:1-6)
- B. THE SETTING:
1. John is different in his introduction to the ministry of Jesus.
 2. Nothing about His birth or early life on earth.
 3. Rather the declaration that He is Eternal, that He is God, and that at a point in time He became man.
- C. THE WITNESS.
1. *“There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John.”* v. 6.
 2. *“And I have seen, and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”* v.34.
- D. THE WORLD.
1. Its origin...Created by the Word.
 2. Its Condition...Darkness—The Word was the light. Vs. 4,5.
 3. Was lost in sin.....The Word, *“the lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.”* v. 29.
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LOGOS - THE WORD

- A. Definition of “Logos”.
1. Vine: “the expression of thought - not the mere name of an object. As embodying a conception or idea.
 2. Thayer: “The essential Word of God, i.e. the personal wisdom and power in union with God. The cause of all the worlds life both physical and ethical.
- B. THE WORD - “LOGOS” - NOT JUST THE NAME OF A PERSON.
1. But identifying that which he represents.
 2. As the Logos of God, He is the embodying, revelation of God to man.
 3. John would have us to see Him, not just as an individual, but rather as that for which he stands or represent. God....Light....Life.
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THE WORD - THE WITNESS - THE WORLD

Page 2

THE PERSONAL WORD

- A. John 1:1-18. A title for the Son of God and is seen in:
 - B. HIS DISTINCT AND SUPERFINITE PERSONALITY.
 - 1. *"In the beginning was the Word"*.
 - 2. Affirms his eternal existence.
 - 3. Antedating all creation.
 - 4. That he has always existed.
 - 5. Not created but CREATOR!
 - C. HIS RELATION IN THE GODHEAD.
 - 1. He is Himself God in the same sense and to the same degree that the Father is God.
 - 2. There is one God - one divine nature - consisting of three distinct persons.
 - D. HIS DEITY.
 - 1. "Logos" the Word, the personal manifestation, not of a part of the Divine nature, but of the whole Deity.
 - 2. *"AND THE WORD WAS GOD."*
 - E. HIS CREATIVE POWER.
 - 1. *"All things were made through him; and without him was not anything made that hath been made."* v 3.
 - 2. Every single thing came into being "through" by the means of agency.
 - 3. They were made, came into being, by Him who was always.
 - 4. These (created things) are temporal; He is Eternal.
 - F. HIS INCARNATION: *"And the Word became flesh"* v. 14.
 - 1. He who was of the very nature of God became man in flesh without divesting himself of his divine nature.
 - 2. He simply took on the human nature as well. (Phil. 2:5-11).
 - 3. He entered upon a new mode of being without becoming a new being!
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THE WITNESS

- A. *"There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John."* v. 6.
 - 1. When John began teaching, the Jews asked *"Who art thou?"* v. 19.
 - 2. They thought the possible answer was...
 - a. Art thou Elijah?
 - b. Art thou the Prophet?
 - 3. John's answer... *"I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make*

THE WORD - THE WITNESS - THE WORLD

Page 3

straight the way of the Lord, as said Isaiah the prophet.” v. 23.

B. THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE WORD AND THE WITNESS.

1. Jesus was (een) eternally subsisting; John came (egneto) at a definite point in time, not have before existed.
2. Jesus was Deity; John was man (anthropos), v. 3.
3. Jesus is the origin and source of life; John could only testify concerning it
4. Jesus is the true Light, the object of faith; John merely reflected this light.

C. JOHN BORE WITNESS TO CHRIST.

1. By testifying to His identity through inspiration of Holy Spirit. vs. 33,34.
2. By proving from O. T. scriptures that Jesus was expected Messiah.
3. By fulfilling the prophecy that one was to come in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way. (Mal. 3:1; 4:5).
4. By actually introducing Jesus to the people: “Behold the Lamb of God” vs. 35,36.

THE WORLD

- A. The World to which the Witness presented the Word!
- B. See Introduction: Point C, “The World”.
- C. John 3:16.

CONCLUSION

- A. In this Prologue is revealed that the Word became flesh and brought down to earth a demonstration of not only who God is, but What God is.
 1. The Eternity of the word and His creative activity in the beginning.. 1-3.
 2. The Light in Him in conflict with the darkness of sinful world. vs 4-13.
 3. His Revelation of God to man in His coming into the world. vs. 14-18.
- B. COME AND SEE.
 1. When he heard of, and was invited to come and hear Jesus, Nathanael said unto him (Philip) “Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?”
 2. Philip’s answer was... “COME AND SEE”.
- C. THIS IS THE INVITATION TO THE WORLD TODAY.
 1. The Word became flesh and dwelt among men.
 2. The Witness, testified to His identity.
 3. The Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world!.
- D. WILL YOU COME AND SEE?