

# **The Gospel of John**

## **In The Beginning**

### **John 1:1-14**

John begins his Gospel by going back to the beginning. It is more like before the beginning. Because John's theme is the deity of Christ, he begins by showing that Christ was God.

### **Christ as the Word – 1:1-3**

- “In the beginning” - Before Genesis 1:1. Christ was before “eternity past”
- “The Word”
  - “Word” – Greek *logos*, corresponds to Hebrew *davar* and Aramaic *memra*.
  - First used in Genesis 15:1 and 4.
  - Only used by John as a name for Christ in the New Testament - I John 1:1, 5:7; Revelation 19:13
  - This is a term used by philosophers such as Philo and Plato, but it is not used in that exact sense here.
  - “The Only Begotten is called ‘The Word’ because He is the express image of God, as the invisible thought is expressed by the corresponding word. He is the revealer and interpreter of the mind and will of God.” – A.C. Gaebelien
- “with God” - the intimacy of Christ's relationship with the Father
- “was God” - the deity of Christ, two persons of the Trinity in once verse
- “same ... with God” - repetition of the previous truth applied to God the Father
- “All things were made by Him” - Christ was instrumental in Creation
  - Genesis 1:26 - “us”
  - All three members of the Trinity worked in Creation

### **Christ as the Light – 1:4-9**

- Christ is the source of all life
  - Physical life in Creation – vs. 3
  - Eternal life in Salvation – vs. 4
- Christ is the light of hope in a dark world – vs. 5
- Even though the Light was present, darkness persisted still – vs. 5
- John the Baptist pointed people to the Light – vs. 6-8
  - He acknowledged he was not the Light and that he prepared people to see the Light – vs. 8, 21
- True Light – vs. 9
  - There are many false lights, but only Christ is the True Light
  - The Light of Christ shines upon all men, Jew and Gentile, alike

## **Christ in the World – 1:10-14**

- Christ came to the world, the world He made, and still it rejected him – vs. 10
- Christ was rejected (individually and corporately) by:
  - The World (as in the world system, mankind) – vs. 10
  - The Jews – vs.11
- Though rejected by many, yet some accepted Him – vs. 12
- Those who received Him:
  - Believed on His Name – FAITH – Ephesians 2:8-9
  - “Power to become sons of God” - right, privilege to do so
  - Were born again spiritually – vs.13
- The Character of Christ's Coming – vs.14
  - God became man dwelt among man.
  - He revealed the Father to man
  - The marks of His life – Grace and Truth