

Bill & Kipp's Excellent Bible Adventure

John - Episode 5 - John 1 - The Prologue - Part A

- I. Notice that Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth...” and John 1: 1-3a says, “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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.”
 - A. Why do you think John chose to start his Gospel with these words?
 - B. What was he trying to say about Jesus?
 - C. How does this passage reinforce the idea of the Trinity?
- II. John is making a number of significant statements in his prologue:
 - A. God made everything and God gave order to everything
 1. If a person rejects this foundational principle, where does it lead in how one views life?
 2. Is it possible have a purpose for existence without a belief in an underlying structure and/or creative force?
 3. Nihilism and Deconstructionism are a philosophical ideas that refute the idea of a purposeful universe. Where do you see these ideas expressed in our culture?
 4. How have you struggled with the ideas of a universe that “just happened” versus a universe that was created purposefully, including your own life?
 5. How are hope and purpose related?
 - B. Jesus was a part of the creative and ordering process. Discuss together the ideas mentioned in the video
 1. Genesis means “Beginning” in Hebrew
 2. Word = Logos = Logical = Giving a System to - used in terms like Theo-logy; Geo-logy; Bio-logy
 3. In the beginning was the ordering principle of the universe, this principle was with God and Was God.
- III. John uses Greek philosophical Concepts
 - A. How does John use Greek philosophy to describe the nature of God?
 - B. What philosophy or cultural analogies from our time are used, or could be used, to describe why Jesus came into the world?
 - C. How have you looked back and been able to see the “underlying structure” of God working in your life?