

# GOD the SON

## Jesus is Absolutely Unique

### John 1:14-18

Pastor Jason Dennett's Teaching Notes

**NKJV** - "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, 'This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' " And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."

**ESP** - "Y el Verbo se hizo carne, y habitó entre nosotros, y vimos su gloria, gloria como del unigénito del Padre, lleno de gracia y de verdad. Juan dio\* testimonio de El y clamó, diciendo: Este era del que yo decía: "El que viene después de mí, es antes de mí, porque era primero que yo." Pues de su plenitud todos hemos recibido, y gracia sobre gracia. Porque la ley fue dada por medio de Moisés; la gracia y la verdad fueron hechas realidad por medio de Jesucristo. Nadie ha visto jamás a Dios; el unigénito Dios, que está en el seno del Padre, El le ha dado a conocer."

- Years ago, a book was written by Michael Shapiro, a Jewish author. It was entitled "The Jewish 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Jews of All Time"...
  - #1 - Moses, the great giver of the Jewish Law.
  - #3 - Albert Einstein, who unlocked the mysteries of the atom's energy.
  - #6 - Paul the Apostle, the great teacher of the Early Church.
  - #9 - Virgin Mary, humble woman & mother of Christ.
  - #98 - Sandy Koufax, the pitching legend for the LA Dodgers.
- But if John the Apostle had his list, number one: **JESUS!!** And you know why? Because that's God's list.
- Jesus really impressed John. In chapter 1 he uses 22 different names/titles for Jesus, (Jesus, the Christ, the Lord, the Light, the Lamb...)
  - "There are over 265 names for Jesus in the Bible, because he is infinitely beyond what one name can express." - **Billy Sunday**

I. The **INCARNATION** of Christ. (v.14)

II. The **DECLARATION** of John. (v.15)

III. The **REVELATION** of God. (v.16-18)

I. The **INCARNATION** of Christ. (v.14) - "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

- "only begotten" is a very special Greek word "**μονογενής**" or "**monogenēs**". This greek word is only used 9x in the entire Bible, and 5 of those uses are by John the apostle. It means "**single of its kind, only one that there is; it's used of only sons or daughters (in relation to their parents); used of Christ, as He is the only begotten Son of God**" This is why Jesus Christ is ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE, because He alone is the "monogenes" of God. Only Jesus Christ is God the Son, of the same divine nature as God the Father.
  - "Jesus Christ has no peers; there is no human to be compared with Him." - **DL Moody**

- *"It is not possible that the man who denies the deity of Christ can be a Christian, because He is deliberately refusing the only way of escape from the wrath to come...Depend on it, you will never go to Heaven unless you are prepared to worship Jesus Christ as God." - **Charles Spurgeon***
- **"..the Word became flesh.."**
  - **"Logos"** to the Greeks was a well know concept. Plato, Aristotle, and Xenophenes called the Divine Mind behind physical reality the "Logos".
  - **"Memra"** to the Jews was another name for the God of the OT. The Lord acts thru His Word, creates thru, and works thru His Word. The Jews "Memra" or the Divine Word as a title for the Lord.
    - *"God, still fully God, became fully man as well so that He could pour Himself out on an executioners cross as our representative. That's who Jesus was - the Son of Man, and also the Son of God.." - **Budzizewski***
      - **Very Unique Christmas Card:** *"History is filled with men who tried to be god, but only one God who became a Man."*
    - *"God the Son became a Man, so that men could become sons of God." - **CS Lewis***

## II. The **DECLARATION** of John. (v.15) - **"John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, 'This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' "**

- **Apostle John sees himself ON TRIAL before the eyes of the unbelieving world.** Therefore, throughout this book, he will strategically call upon the evidence, testimonies, and witnesses to prove his case that **JESUS IS GOD!**
- **Here, the Apostle summons to court his first WITNESS:** John the Baptist. He is the first of 8 witnesses that will be called forth in John's Gospel, and go on record stating that **"Jesus is God in the flesh!"**
- **John the Baptist was a GREAT man...**
  - **Matt 11:7-11** - *"..Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist.."*
- **John Baptist declares 2 incredible truths here: **"He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me."****
  - **1. "Jesus is SUPREME!" - "He is preferred before me.."**
    - **AMP** - *"..has priority over me..He takes rank above me..He has advanced before me..because He is my Chief."*
  - **2. "Jesus is DIVINE!" - "..for He was before me."**
    - **AMP** - *"..He was before me...He existed before I did."*

### III. The **REVELATION** of God. (v.16-18) - "And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."

- **Man has always asked "What is GOD truly like??"**
  - Is God an **UNKNOWABLE FORCE?** (Hinduism, Mysticism)
  - Is God the **MOTHER EARTH?** (Nature Cults, Shintoism)
  - Is God **OURSELVES?** (New Age, Mormons)
  - Is God **IMAGINARY?** (Atheism, Humanism)
- **Jesus is the true REVELATION of God to mankind. - v.18**
  - **Heb 1:1-2 NKJV** - "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has **in these last days spoken to us by His Son..**"
  - **Col 1:15 NLT** - "He is **the visible image** of the invisible God."
  - **1 Tim 3:16 NKJV** - "...without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifested in the flesh..**"
  - **John 14:9 NKJV** - "...He who has **seen Me has seen the Father.**"
    - No one has seen God in his undiminished glory and pure essence. If we did, we would die. But if you want to see God clearly, look at Christ. Jesus is God, the Son who came to make God the Father perfectly clear to the world. Without Jesus, God would be distant, unclear and unknowable.
- **"..the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."**
  - The law saves no one, it only points out our failures and sins!
  - **LAW** demands righteousness - **GRACE** gives you righteousness!
  - **LAW** is based on your works - **GRACE** is based on Jesus' work!
  - **LAW** demands your perfection - **GRACE** gives you Jesus' perfection!
  - **LAW** will bless if you obey - **GRACE** gives you blessings freely!
  - **LAW** brings condemnation - **GRACE** gives you liberation!
  - **LAW** is about what YOU have to do - **GRACE** is what Jesus did!
  - **LAW** is a burden to be fulfilled - **GRACE** is a gift to be received!
- **As Christ revealed God the Father, what was the primary revelation? GRACE!!**
  - What is this thing called **"grace"??**
    - **GRACE** is the kindness, the goodness, and the love of GOD, that He pours upon our lives, though we don't deserve it.
    - **GRACE** is God's Love, that we didn't earn/deserve, but it given to us anyway, because God is good!
  - **"COMMON Grace"** - As humans, we all receive this grace.
    - Life, breath, air, consciousness, knowledge, this world around us..
  - **"COVENANT Grace"** - Only Christians receive this Grace!
    - Eternal Salvation, Holy Spirit, peace, Heavenly inheritance, every single spiritual blessing, everything we need to live victoriously in this world!!
- **This is one of the central characteristics of God... GRACE!!**
  - **Gen 3** - Grace to **Adam**..inspite of his disobedience!
  - **Gen 6** - Grace to **Noah**..inspite of the world's wickedness!
  - **Gen 11** - Grace to **Mankind**..inspite of their rebellion!
  - **Lev 1-7** - Grace to **Israel**..inspite of their sin!
- **"And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace."**

- This expression speaks of "*Grace on top of Grace, on top of more Grace*", like waves on the ocean...
  - God's **GRACE** can handle *everyone* no matter how sinful, no matter how hopeless:
    - **Thomas**..the infamous doubter.
    - **Peter**..the infamous denier.
    - **Paul**..the infamous destroyer.
      - **Augustine**..completely immoral!
      - **CS Lewis**..complete atheist!
      - **Lee Strobel**..complete skeptic!
      - **David Berkowitz**..serial killer!
      - **Mosab Han Youseff**..lifelong terrorist!
      - **Jesus showed His love to YOU still today!!**
      - **Jer 31:3 NKJV** - "Yes, I have loved you with ean everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."
      - **Lam 3:23 NLT** - "..His mercies begin afresh each morning."
      - **1 John 1:9 NLT** - "..if we confess our sins to him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."