

Victorious Light

After months of planning, prayer, and discussion, it is exciting to finally begin our new theme for the coming year. *Jesus: Who Was This Man?* It seems logical to begin with this question. Is He just a great man? An amazing prophet? Or is He the Son of God? John 1.1 and 14 supply us with the answer: *The Word was God, 1.1. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, 1.14.* In our lesson today... we will discover what John's intent is behind John 1.1-5.

I. John 1:5: Light is Victorious over Darkness

- A. John 1:5: *That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not **overcome** it.*
 - 1. "Overcome" means to "gain control of," "to seize," or "catch up with." See also John 12.35.
 - 2. The verse could be labeled as "the invincibility of light," or "Light is triumphant over darkness."
- B. What does John mean when he says light shines in the darkness?
 - 1. John 8:12: *Jesus spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."*
 - 2. John 1:9: *The **true** light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.*
 - 3. "**Darkness**" in v.5 is this present world of evil, unbelief, and death. See John 3.19.
- C. John 1.5 is a powerful fact for the Christian. In fact, in this fact rests all our assurances.
 - 1. Believers have passed from darkness to light, John 12.46.
 - 2. Believers have joined the family of light, John 12.36; Ephesians 5.8.
 - 3. The assurance of 1.5 is that the light will triumph. Jesus wins. We will win. How can we be sure?

II. John 1:4: The Light is the Life of the Son of God

- A. John 1:4: *In Him was **life**, and that life was the light of men.*
- B. John 8.12: The light that shines in the darkness is the **light of life**.
- C. Light is victorious over darkness because it is life. It is living light.
 - 1. It has energy and power.
 - 2. It has purpose and motion.
 - 3. It grows and expands.
 - 4. It gives offspring. John 12:36: *...believe in the light so that you may become **children** of light...*

III. John 1:3: The Life is the Creator of All Things

- A. John 1:3: *All things were **created** through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created.*
 - 1. No created thing is more powerful than its creator.
 - 2. God always has the upper hand. He will win. See John 8.29.

IV. John 1.1-2 - The Light and Life is God

- A. John 1:1: *In the **beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
 - 1. The word existed before time. The word always was.
 - 2. When God set out to create this world, the word was already there.
 - 3. Proverbs 8:27: *I was there when He established the heavens, when He laid out the horizon on the surface of the ocean,...*
- B. The word was with God ... i.e., they are distinct persons.
- C. The word is God. Jesus Christ is God in a body.
- D. John 1:2: *He was **with** God in the beginning.*

V. As We Close...

- A. Take heart and are filled with courage ... the light cannot be overcome by the darkness. Therefore: John 16:33: *Be **courageous**! I have conquered the world.*
- B. Will you trust in Him? John 12:36: *believe in the light so that you may become children of light.*
- C. How much do you trust Him?