



"Salvation Has Come"  
Sunday | December 28th, 2025

"How is Jesus to be understood? Did he stride out of the wilderness 2,000 years ago to preach a gentle message of peace and brotherhood? Or did he perhaps advocate some form of revolution? When did he realize his mission would end with death upon a cross? Did he vie himself as the promised Messiah? Did he understand himself to be both God and man?"

Richard Ostling; "Who Was Jesus?" (*Time Magazine*; August, 1988)

~ Unfortunately, there are still many concepts and confusions about Jesus in our day; some of which have crept into the church and found a way to cause division and confusion.

~ These questions and falsehoods are exactly why we need the gospel of John. John's gospel is unique - he wrote his own account to complement and supplement the other 3 gospels. Where the other authors focus on the life and ministry of Christ, John begins with the deity of Jesus.

#### > Why We Need John 1!

~ It's a Christmas passage! We need God incarnate... We need a God who would lovingly send His son as a propitiation for the sins of mankind.  
~ Never forget - Christmas is an act of war!

"Everything we are and believe as Christians depends upon this: that Jesus Christ is God and Jesus Christ is man. Fully God, fully human. Everything depends on this. So even though Christmas as a Christian festival may not be taught in the Bible, the Christian meaning given to Christmas is the very foundation of the Bible."

- John Piper

**1.** The Whole Gospel is \_\_\_\_\_ to All People For All Time  
~ John uses the same wording to draw his readers back to OT literature. John 1:1 is NOT talking about the beginning of Jesus.

Hebrews 1:1-4 = "*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world....*"

**2.** Christ Himself is the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_  
~ It is estimated, that in John's gospel alone, they are roughly 25-30 uses of the Greek word for light.

> John 1:9; John 8:12; John 9:5; John 12:46 = John's idea of light is not just physical concept. It's a spiritual concept.

> What Makes Him the Light? - What Makes Him Shine?

Answer = John 7:45-46 & John 10:25 (His words & actions)

> We don't like the light...or judgment = John 3:19 "*And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.*"

~ \*\* *Isaiah 53:6-8* \*\*

**3.** Christians are Commanded to Bear \_\_\_\_\_ to the Light  
~ John the Baptist is our example. He wasn't the light, but he came to bear witness to the light.

~ What do we do with the light once we have received it? It's simple .... We bear witness to it. We do not hold it selfishly. We do not hide it willingly. We share it \_\_\_\_\_.

> (NT) Matthew 5:16 (and Matthew 28:16-20); Acts 1:8

> (OT) Isaiah 43:10-12

> If you've ever asked yourself "How can I be a witness to this?" How can God use such a wretched person like me?

**Never ever forget .... You Have Been \_\_\_\_\_!**