

Did I Say Something Wrong

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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known. John 1:1-18

What is it about Christianity that is so offensive to our culture today?

The Gospel

The Gospel begins with God (Genesis 1:1)

He is the creator (Nehemiah 9:6, Isaiah 40:28, Romans 1:25)

He is good (Exodus 33:19, Psalm 100:5, 106:1, 119:68, 145:9, James 1:17)

He is just (Deuteronomy 32:4, Job 34:12, Psalm 7:8, Isaiah 61:8, 1 John 1:9)

He is gracious (Genesis 14:19, Lamentations 3:22-23, John 1:14, James 4:6, 2 Peter 3:9, 1 John 1:9)

The offense of the Gospel

It is God who possesses (Psalm 50:11, 89:11, 1 Corinthians 10:26)

It is God who endures (Psalm 55:22, 73:26, Isaiah 40:29, Nahum 1:7, Colossians 1:17, 1 Peter 5:7)

It is God who sets the rules (Exodus 20:1-17, Isaiah 5:20, John 3:9-21)

It is God who has all authority (Daniel 2:21, 37, Matthew 28:18, Romans 13:1)

It is God who will judge (Psalm 75:7, 2 Corinthians 5:10, James 4:12, Revelation 20:11-15)

It is God who saves (John 3:36, 5:24, 10:28, Ephesians 2:8-9)

We have all sinned (Romans 3:23)

The human condition

Slaves to sin (John 8:34)

Worshipping Self (Romans 3:12)

Denial

Moving Targets

Jesus

Unique

Offensive too many

Application

It all begins with the Gospel

The Gospel changes everything