

Lighthouse Bible Church
July 8th, 2012 Morning Service
John 1: 1 – 2

‘The Word was God’ Other scripture reading 2nd John 1: 7 - 11

Stand – Read – Pray

We are going to begin a study in this wonderful book of John, where the Apostle John presents Jesus for who He truly is, God in human form. When you put the gospels together, **Matthew** presents Jesus as **King of the Jews**, **Mark** presents Jesus as the **Servant of the Lord**, **Luke** presents Jesus as the **Son of Man** and **John** presents Jesus as the **Son of God**.

The Apostle John is the human author of this book but he never mentions himself once by name. John identifies himself in **John 13: 23** as **the disciple whom Jesus loved** *while leaning on Jesus and Peter asks who will betray*

He identifies Himself as **the disciple whom Jesus loved** in **John 19: 26** *when Jesus was on cross and looked at John and said behold your mother..*

There is one thing very unique about this book, John wrote down the reason why he wrote this book under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and it is found in **John 20: 30 – 31** Read and *comment*

Look at **John 21: 25** and there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

John says ‘these things were chosen and written, above all else, so that you could know who Jesus is, the Christ the Son of God, God in human form and you can believe in him to eternal life.

John wrote this book about 20 or 30 years after Matthew, Mark and Luke had been written and the people already knew a lot about Jesus. But John was going to present Him from a totally different perspective; Jesus as the Son of God.

John also wrote some other books in the New Testament, he wrote 1st, 2nd and 3rd John and the book of Revelation. John is not John the Baptist, that is a different John. This John is the brother of James and son of Zebedee according to **Matthew 10: 2** and they are the two that Jesus called **sons of thunder** in **Mark 3: 17**

We are going to just look at Verses one and two as an introduction to this book of John. Let’s look at Verse one.

Verse One: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

Remember that the whole book of John and these verses in Chapter One are all referring to Jesus, and in this case they are showing that Jesus is God and that He is eternal with God.

It says **the Word was God** and then Verse 14, as we shall see, says **the Word became flesh**, talking about Jesus.

So the very opening statements of John tells us that Jesus has always existed and that He has always existed as God, God the Son.

Jesus as much as said that in John Chapter 10 because we see how the Jews reacted to Him and what they said to Him when He says **I and the Father are one.** John 10: 31 – 33 says **the Jews took up stones to kill Him** and Jesus says **why, what work have I done deserving of this.** Then the Jews say in Verse 33: **for a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.**

Jesus told the Jews in John 5: 17 **My Father has been working until now and I have been working.** Remember He had just healed a man who for 38 years was lame and couldn't walk and He did it on the Sabbath day. After He healed him Jesus told him to take up his bed and walk.

Well, some Jews saw Him walking with a bed on the Sabbath day and said **it is not lawful for you to carry your bed.** *Explain rest of story and then Briefly described Laws here about weight and distance.*

After the Jews heard what Jesus said, in Verse 5: 18 it says **therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.** That is because He is God, God in human form.

Thomas will call Jesus God later in John 20: 28 when he sees Jesus after His resurrection and Jesus approaches him and Thomas says **my Lord and my God.** Remember Matthew 1: 23 **a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and you shall call His name Immanuel, which is God with us.**

All throughout the scriptures Jesus is referred to as God and that is what we hold to and teach and what is in our church doctrinal statement. We believe that Jesus is the 2nd person of the trinity, God the Son, God in human form.

In **Titus 2: 13** we are **looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great GOD and SAVIOR Jesus Christ.** He is called our God and Savior in **2nd Peter 1: 1.**

This is the doctrinal area that is under attack today, the deity of Jesus Christ, whether He is God or a God or a good teacher or a great man. Christianity alone acknowledges Jesus as God, if He is viewed in any other way than God in human form He is not the God of the Bible

Jesus is called in **Romans 9: 5** **the eternally blessed God** and that is one of His attributes, being eternal. That is what makes John 1: 1 make sense.

In **Micah 5: 2** there is a prophesy concerning Jesus **as the ruler of Israel whose goings forth are from old, from everlasting.** Jesus, as God, has always existed, from everlasting to everlasting.

In **Isaiah 9: 6** you know this one, **for unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,** who is this talking about? Jesus! Then listen **and the government will be upon His shoulder and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, Prince of peace...**

Remember John wrote this book, according to John 20: 31 so that people will believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. And he is off to a very good start in doing that here.

Look back at John 1: 1 where it says **in the beginning**. In the beginning of what, well in the context here he is talking about the beginning of creation because in Verse 3 it says He was already in existence and He is the one who began to make everything. So he is talking about the beginning of creation, the creation of **angels** and the creation of the **universe** and the **physical realm**, the beginning of **time** and **history** as we know it, just like in **Genesis 1: 1**

And we know that He was in the beginning with God because that is what **Verse Two** says **He was in the beginning with God**. He was already there and began to create everything that started the beginning of time. In His prayer to the Father, Jesus said in **John 17: 5** **glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You BEFORE the world was**. Before anything was created, Jesus had a wonderful fellowship with God the Father.

John 16: 28 says **I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father**.

Notice what John calls God and Christ in Verse One in the beginning **was the WORD and the WORD was with God and the WORD was God**.

He describes God and Jesus as The Word, the *logos*. But it is not merely just the spoken Word but all that the Word represents as it relates to God and Christ, intelligence, reason and will. Not only that but in this passage:

- The Word is **God** according to Verse One
- The Word is **Eternal** according to Verse Two
- The Word is **Creator** according to Verse Three
- The Word is **Life** according to Verse Four
- The Word is **Light** according to Verses Five - Nine

So it is more than just a spoken word, it is meant to convey the fullness of who God in Christ is. John says **the Word was with God and was God**. And we know from Verse 14 that the **Word became flesh** and that is talking about Jesus.

John writes in **1st John 1: 1 – 2: that which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and our hand have handled, concerning the Word of Life.**

In **Revelation 19: 12** it says **He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood and His name is called the Word of God.**

In **1st John 5: 7** it says it as clearly as it can when he says **for there are three that bear witness in heaven; the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit and these three are one.**

So what John is saying is that Jesus is God, He was in the beginning with God, He is God the Son and they were together enjoying one another in fellowship before the beginning of time and history as we know it.

That is an incredible statement and one of the things that John does throughout this book, is to present Jesus as God. Christianity is the only religion that portrays Jesus for who He is, God in human form.

All other religions look at Jesus as A God, or a Prophet, or a Good Teacher or not sufficient in Himself to save, but that is not what the Bible teaches. The doctrine of Christ as God in human form, coming to this earth and dying for the sins of the world is essential. We must earnestly contend for it.

In **2nd John 1: 10** that was read earlier it says **if anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him.**

To believe that Jesus is anything other than God incarnate, God become man, and to teach that, is to teach another gospel that is untrue and brings a curse on the one that does that.

Look at **Galatians 1: 6 – 9** Read

Look at **1st John 1: 22 – 23** to **1st John 4: 1 – 3, 14 – 15**

1st John 5: 4 – 5 to **1st John 5: 20** to **2nd John 1: 7**

And since Jesus is who He says He is and who the word of God says He is the Son of God, then what does that mean to you? Simply this and listen very carefully to **1st John 5: 11 – 13** Read

Gospel and close.

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How the Apostle John identified himself
John 13: 23, John 19: 26
The Reason for writing the book of John
John 20: 30 – 31, John 21: 25
The Background of the Apostle John
Matthew 10: 2, Mark 3: 17

Verses 1 - 2: In the Beginning was the Word ... was...

Jesus is the Word, Jesus is the Son of God:
John 10: 31 – 33, John 5: 17 – 18
John 20: 28, Matthew 1: 23, Titus 2: 13
2nd Peter 1: 1, Romans 9: 5
Jesus is the Everlasting, Eternal Son of God:
Micah 5: 2, Isaiah 9: 6
Jesus in the Beginning:
Genesis 1: 1, John 17: 5, John 16: 28
Jesus is the Word of God:
1st John 1: 1 – 2, Revelation 19: 12
1st John 5: 7
What you **MUST** believe about Jesus:
2nd John 1: 10, Galatians 1: 6 – 9
1st John 1: 22 – 23, 1st John 4: 1–3, 14 – 15
1st John 5: 4 – 5, 20, 2nd John 1: 7
1st John 5: 11 – 13

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