

“Blessed Assurance from Beginning to End”

INTRO

John’s purpose is God’s joy over our salvation.

John 20:30-31 - John begins with the Divinity of Christ.

THE WORD OF GOD

John 1:1-5

- (V. 1) – The foundational truth: Jesus is Divine.
- (V. 2-5) – Elaboration upon this truth.
- Three truths about the Word:
 - The Word is eternal
 - The Word is a distinct God-Person
 - The Word is God

The Word is Eternal

“In the beginning was the Word...”

Christ is the Word (Grk. *Logos*). He is the very character, mind, purpose, intelligence, and will of God.

In the Old Testament, God revealed Himself through His Word:

Genesis 1:3 – “Then God said...”

Jeremiah 36:27 – “Then the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah...”

2 Sam. 23:2 – “The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, And His Word was on my tongue...”

The Word has always been existing. This continual existence means that the WORD is a Divine Person because only God continually exists (cf. Gen. 1:1).

The Word is a Distinct Person with God

“...and the Word was with God...”

- The Word is of the same essence and substance and power and purpose as God Himself, but the Word is a distinct Person, distinguished from the Person of God Himself.
- The Word and God live in perfect unity and oneness as two separate Persons.

The Word is God

"...and the Word was God."

This is the climax of John's statement. The Word is God!

The Word is not only an eternal Person but must be understood as being fully and forever God in Himself.

- The Word is NOT "God-like."

The Word is absolutely and forever God Himself, equal with God in His Person, essence and work.

- (V. 2) *"He was in the beginning with God"*

John reaffirms that the Word and God are in perfect unity

- (V. 3) *"All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being."*

Jesus is the very Creator of Genesis.

Gen. 1:1-2:3 - *Elohim* is the title: "God"

Gen. 2:4ff - Lord God: *YHWY Elohim*.

Exodus 3:14 "God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM;,' and He said, 'Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

John 8:58 "...before Abraham was, I AM"

- (V. 4) *"In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men."*

Jesus is *Zoe*, the essence of what Life is: uncreated and eternal.

John 5:21 "...the Son gives life to whom He wishes"

John 17:1-3

Jesus Life is the "Light of men". Man's life was supposed to mirror the kind of Life that Jesus has in Himself; rational, Righteous, reflecting the knowledge and understanding of God; it was to be a Life of God awareness and God centeredness for the glory of God

- (V. 5) *"The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend It."*

2 Cor. 4: 3-6

In summary:

- John has now told us Who the True God is:

He is One [Deut.6:4] Who eternally dwells in unapproachable Light [1 Tim.6:16] as three distinct Persons in perfect unity [John 17:22], each Person being fully sovereign, possessing all the attributes, qualities and power of God in equality, expressing Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit [1 Peter 1:2; Rom. 5:16; Eph. 2:18; 2 Cor. 13:14]

- Now the "second Person" of God has been identified

He is the WORD, the son of Joseph and Mary, the Son of God, the Savior of the world.

HOW DOES THE DEITY OF JESUS AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- The only way to enter the Divine Kingdom is through the Divine Door.

John 10:9-10 "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly"

- Anyone who does not believe in the Divinity of Jesus calls God a liar

1 John 5:10 "The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son"

- Apart from Jesus' Divinity, there is no Christianity, no hope, no forgiveness, no eternal life, only a SURE hell for everyone.

- Christianity is not a system of moral and ethical teachings, a life of doing good and work of merit to attain to the goal; it is a personal relationship with God Himself through faith in God's eternal Son. All of this is dependent upon Jesus' Divinity.

Because Jesus is Divine,

- He has "all authority in Heaven and earth";
- He has created all things;
- He "sustains all things by the word of His power" [Heb. 1:3];
- He is the God of all comfort [2 Cor. 1: 3-5];
- He WILL complete [Phil. 1:6] the work of our salvation;
- He will judge all wickedness by His own Righteousness [Rev. 20:13];
- He is Personally the fulfillment of all of God's promises for His people -[Col. 1: 13-20];
- He is the author and finisher of our faith [Heb. 12:2]; He is our Light and Life [John 9:5; 11:25].
- He is the Alpha and the Omega, our soon coming King of kings and Lord of Lords [Rev. 19:16]

Because Jesus is Divine,

- we are saved by grace through faith [Eph. 2:8];
- we have peace with God [Rom. 5:1];
- we have the peace of God [John 14:27];
- we have the Holy Spirit [John 14:16];
- we are forgiven of our sin [1 John 1:7];
- we are the children of God [1 John 3:1];
- we can walk in victory over all sin and temptation [Rom.6:4; 8:37];
- we are God's lights in the world [Matt. 5: 14-16];
- our names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life [Rev. 13:8];

Because Jesus is Divine,

- Who or what can be against us?
- What shall we fear?
- Why should we be discouraged by circumstances and problems?
- Why should we fail to trust in His love and power to do good for us?

Because Jesus is Divine,

- All of the Bible is true;
- We can have complete confidence in God's Word.
- We will rise up and live victoriously;
- we will love and serve one another;
- we will live for the glory of God;
- we will look for His return from heaven.

Because Jesus is Divine,

- WE WILL CELEBRATE!!!