

THE ETERNAL WORD AND CREATION

John 1:1-5

Who is Jesus and Why did He come to earth?

“The other gospels begin with Bethlehem; John begins with the bosom of the Father. Luke dates his narrative by Roman emperors and Jewish High Priests; John dates his ‘In the beginning’. Matthew and Luke take us to the cradle and the manger, Mark to the prophecies of old, but John takes us back into the mists of eternity.” – Alexander Maclaren.

1.WHO IS JESUS? – THE ETERNAL WORD, OUR CREATOR – John 1:1-3

- “In the beginning” links us back to Genesis – Genesis 1:1. The “Word” is meaningful to both Greeks and those who know the Old Testament. The Greek philosophers used “Word” (Logos) for the reason, logic, or uniting principle of the universe. *“The eventual goal of science is to provide a single theory that describes the whole universe’.* *From the theological perspective, the theory is a Person, Jesus Christ.” – Bruce Milne.* The Word of God in the Old Testament *“is His powerful self-expression in creation, revelation, and salvation - D.A. Carson.* God’s Word created the universe – Psalm 33:6. God’s Word brought deliverance or judgment. Here the Word refers to God the Son as God’s Spokesman, the One who reveals God to us. This Word is eternal. He was there in the beginning before creation. He was face to face or in close communion with God the Father. He was and is God – John 1:18; 20:28. The eternal Word shares God’s nature and character. He is One with God the Father. He is the ultimate disclosure of God Himself.
- Verse 2 emphasizes His eternal special relationship with God – John 17:5,24. The Word was eternally with God. There never was a time when He was not existing! These are extremely important verses for the Christian doctrine of the Trinity. The council of Nicea in A.D. 325 did not create the Deity of Christ or the Trinity, but it is where the Church officially recognized these truths as totally Biblical.
- Verse 3 declares the Eternal Word is the One who through Him all things were created. All things happened through Him. He is the Agent who caused everything to exist, including all things seen and unseen, and all the angelic hosts. He is not an angel, but the Creator of angels! Everything that exists was created through the Eternal Word, God the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord – Colossians 1:16,17; Hebrews 1:2. The universe proclaims the greatness of Christ.
- How do we know this Eternal Word is Jesus? – John 1:14. He is not God in a man, but God as a man. Jesus is the unique God-Man: 100% God and 100% Man at the same time. Jesus is forever human, linked to our race now for all eternity.
- Our response and approach to Jesus Christ includes honoring His finality, mystery, and centrality. The revelation of Jesus Christ is the final and ultimate revelation of God. Jesus Christ is the God-Man and beyond our full comprehension. Jesus Christ is to have the supremacy in all things – Colossians 1:18,19. *“If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him.” – C.T. Studd, missionary to China, Africa, and India.*

2.WHY DID JESUS COME TO EARTH? - LIGHT AND LIFE – John 1:4,5

- The Eternal Word Himself is the Light and the Life. All is darkness without Jesus Christ. There is no life without Jesus Christ. There is no light without Jesus Christ. He is the One who gave us

life. He sustains all life – Hebrews 1:3. All life comes from Christ. He is the only One who gives real spiritual life – eternal life. Jesus came to give eternal life to all who trust Him. *“A Christian is someone who was dead to God but has now been made alive by and for Him.”* – Matt Carter. The eternal Word is the source of all life, physical, spiritual, and eternal.

- The life that comes from Jesus enlightens every person. We are created in His image. But in His becoming human, He enlightens all of humanity, Jew and Gentile. The Eternal Word, Jesus Christ is the Light - Isaiah 9:2; John 8:12. But not everyone sees the light in Christ. This may also be referring to the light of creation itself which is sufficient to condemn all who do not seek the true Light – Romans 1:20. Conversion is when “the lights really come on.”
- Jesus always shines God’s light. Darkness does not overcome Him. “Overcome” can also mean understand or comprehend. The darkness does not understand Jesus the Light – John 1:10; 3:19; 12:35, 36, 46. No matter what darkness does, it will not overcome or quench the light of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is still continually shining in the darkness of this world. *“The darkness neither understood nor quenched the Light.”* – C.K. Barrett.
- Jesus Christ rules and His light shines now, but someday His light will fill the New Heavens and the New Earth in the Glory to come. There is no night in the Holy City – Revelation 21:22-24.

Concluding Applications:

- Are you honoring Jesus as God the Son, the Eternal Word, your Creator by surrendering your life to live for His glory?
- Is Jesus your life?
- Are you rejoicing in the light of Jesus, the Eternal Word, and in His written Word?
- Is your life a witness to the life and light of Jesus?