

John-West Sub #2 Notes

April 25, 2021

Each of the Gospel writers begins his work by tracing back the activity of Jesus to its origin:

- Matthew to the human lineage of Jesus.
- Mark--baptism of Jesus, with the descent of the Spirit & the voice of the Father from heaven.
- Luke to the birth of Jesus from a virgin.
- John goes all the way back to _____ and *behind it* to Who preceded it.

From the very outset of John's Gospel, he wants to make crystal clear--When we are meeting Jesus of Nazareth, we are encountering not only a man, but the very God of the universe.

One of the **distinguishing features** of John's Gospel is that he includes a series of "**I am**" statements by Jesus, all of which also **clearly** point to His **deity**:

- "I am the _____ of Life." (6: 35)
- "I am the _____ of the world." (8: 12)
- "I am the _____ for the sheep." (10: 7 ff)
- "I am the _____ Shepherd" (10: 11, 14)
- "I am the _____ and the Life" (11:25)
- "I am the _____, the _____ and the _____."
- "I am the _____ Vine" (15: 1 ff)

Another *distinguishing* feature: "**Amen, Amen**" ("Verily, Verily", "Truly, Truly" "Very Truly", "I assure you") used **only** in John's Gospel. **24 times**--(1: 51; 3: 3, 5, 11; 5: 24, 25; 6: 26, 32, 47, 53; 8: 34, 51, 58; 10: 1, 7; 12: 24; 13: 16, 20, 21, 38; 14: 12; 16: 20, 23; 21: 18) (Matthew, Mark use a *single* "**Amen**"; Luke uses "Truly")

About **90%** of the material in John's Gospel is _____, not included in the Matthew, Mark or Luke. The material he chose to include clearly shows *his purpose of* _____ (20: 31)

- the encounter with the *woman at the well*
- His dialogue with *Nicodemus*
- series of miracles climaxing with the *raising of Lazarus from the dead.*

v. 1 (Review)

- **When** was the **Word**?--In the _____
- **Where** was the **Word**?--_____ **God**.
- **Who** was the **Word**?--Was _____

v. 2 (Summary of v. 1) "_____ was with God in the beginning..."

- The **Word** is a _____

John 1: 3-5

- v. 3 "**All** things were created _____ him, and apart from Him **not one thing** was created that has been created."
- John wants to make abundantly **clear**--one **positive** statement, one **negative**--that the **Word** was the agent for _____ of God's creation, **without exception!**

- **1 Corinthians 8: 6** “There is one God the Father. All things are from Him, and we exist for Him. And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ. All things are _____ Him, and we exist *through* Him.”
- **Colossians 1: 16-17** “...For everything was created *by* Him...All things have been created *through* Him and *for* Him.” “He is _____ all things, and *by* Him all things *hold together*.”
- **John is telling us something revolutionary!**
 - **Jesus is the _____ of the World. He is God—a person within the Godhead—who was *involved in creating everything in the universe!***
- **Gnosticism** of all types teaches that **matter** and the **physical world** are *evil* and as such could not have come from God, but from somewhere else.
 - **Scriptures:** just the **opposite:** _____ *was created by God, and It was Good! We spoiled it, and God through His Son--will redeem it!*
- **v. 4** “In Him was *life*, and that *life* was the *light* of men.
 - _____ is man’s **most important asset!** (*Agree?*)
 - **Scientists have tried to discover--through the centuries:**
 - **What is the secret of life?**
 - **What is the source of life?**
 - **Where does it come from? Can it be reproduced?**
 - **Philosophers have contemplated: Why is there something instead of nothing?**
 - **God is very clear:**
 - **Genesis 2: 7** “Then the Lord God formed the man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the **breath of** _____ into his nostrils, and the man became a **living being**.”
 - **God is the _____ of life. Life comes from Him. All life!**
 - *Apart from Him, there would be nothing.*
 - *Apart from Him, there would be no life!*
 - **John 5: 26** “For just as the Father has **life** in Himself, so also has He granted the Son to have _____ in Himself.
 - **John 5: 21** “As the Father raises the dead and gives them **life**, so the Son also gives _____ to anyone He wants.”
 - **John 5: 25** “An hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the **Son of God**, and those who hear will _____”
 - **John 5: 40** “You are not willing to come to me so that you may have _____”
 - **John 14: 6** “*I am the Way, the Truth and the _____*”
 - _____ related to **life** is **connected to Him:**
 - “The **Lamb’s Book of** _____” (Revelation 21: 27)
 - “The **River of** _____” (Revelation 22: 1)
 - *from the throne of God and the Lamb.*
 - “The **Tree of** _____” (Revelation 22: 2)
 - *on both sides of the river.*
 - “I am the **Bread of** _____” John 6: 47)
 - “I am the Resurrection and the _____” (John 11: 25)
 - **John 10: 10** “The thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that you may have **life** and have it **in** _____”
 - **Life-“zoe”** more than **just** physical existence, but “*deep meaningful life*”.

All of Creation came into being *exclusively* through God’s _____.

- God **spoke** and things came into existence.

- **Just as light reveals things--the things that were spoken into existence (Creation) reveal things about the Father.**
 - **Psalm 19: 1-4**
 - **Romans 1: 19-20**

John is saying that **this agent of God's creation, (the Word)--who was with God and who was God--** came to earth in the person of **Jesus of Nazareth** to _____ the Father--*His thoughts, His plans, His heart--*in the **clearest** way possible, *by becoming a _____*, sharing flesh and blood. (Hebrews 2: 13)

(v. 4b) ...And that **Life** was the **Light** of men.

Isaiah described the coming of **Messiah** as the people living in **darkness** seeing a great _____
(Isaiah 9: 2)

John 8: 12 "I am the **light** of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the _____ of **life**."

John 12: 46 "I have come as a **light** into the world, so that everyone who believes in me would **not** remain in _____"

v. 5a "That **light shines** in the **darkness...**" **Present tense: "shines on"**

v. 5b "...yet the darkness did not overcome it." (*did not put it out.*)

- The _____ tried to extinguish the light!
- The **ever-shining light** is and always will be the _____ **Christ!**
 - **Acts 2: 23-24** "...it was impossible for Him to be held by it."
 - **Acts 3: 15** "You killed the _____ of Life, but God raised Him from the Dead!"
- He destroyed **death!** (**He overcame** death!)
 - **2 Timothy 1: 10**
 - **Revelation 1: 17-18**
- **John 3: 19-21** "This, then, is the judgment: The **light** has come into the world, and people loved **darkness** rather than the light because their deeds were **evil**...Anyone who lives by the truth comes to the _____ so that his works may be shown to be accomplished by God."
- **Acts 26: 17-18** God sending Paul "to open their eyes...turn from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive _____ of sins." (*The Reason Christ came!*)

Final thought from Commentary: In Him all things **hold together**"(Colossians 1: 17, Hebrews 1: 3)

"The Third Thing"

(a compact prose poem by D.H. Lawrence)

Water is H₂O—two parts hydrogen, one part oxygen.
But there is also a **third** thing that makes it water,
and no one knows what that is.

This "**third thing**" holding everything together--and giving each particular thing its unique identity--is *the Son of God*, whom John introduces as the **Word**.