

# THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

## CHAPTER 1:15-34

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-360 JANUARY 23, 2000

---

### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## “The Kingdom of God on Earth”

---

### THE THEME OF BOOK:

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

### SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Jesus - The Word of God

## Summation Sentence

John's Mission wasn't to get people to believe in Jesus Christ but that he might give all mankind the opportunity to consider and accept two paramounts of truth and reality.

#1 – Jesus was God's gift of eternal to mankind and

#2 – That Jesus was mankind's sin/guilt payment for the world

Part One of John's Gospel 1-14

Is Dedicated to “The Incarnation” of the Son of God

### 15-18

John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" 16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

### 19-23

19 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the **Christ**." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you **Elijah**?" He said, "I am not." "Are you **the Prophet**?" And he answered, "No." 22 Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' 'as the prophet Isaiah said.'"

### 24-28

Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the **Christ**, nor **Elijah**, nor **the Prophet**?" 26 John

answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. 27 "It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

### 29-34

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! **The Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world! 30 "This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' 31 "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." 32 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

Here you have a recorded, legal document of longevity

### **Declaring, Claiming, Announcing,**

that Jesus is the Messiah, / The Christ of the World

## 1.) The Announcement of Jesus as Christ vv. 15-18

John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" 16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

## a.) The Uniqueness of Jesus the Christ v.15-17

The Significance in Verses 15, 16, 17  
Is That The Old Testament Had Met It's Match

But Something Even Better

### Verse 15

John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying,

**#1 - "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'"  
His Eternal Existence**

### Verse 16

**#2 - 16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.**

**Fulness grk 4138 pleroma (play'-ro-mah);** To experience a filling up of. To fill and fill again. to top off A Barrel or cup or bucket with more of what it contains.

For grk 473 anti (an-tee'); A rare use substitution, correspondence, etc. In place of, in place of again, again and again

*The Grace You Need to Get Through Today I Have, and I Have More Tomorrow Waiting for You – Before the Day Arrives*

## !! GET OUT YOUR BUCKET!!

### Lamentations 3:21-23

This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope. 22 Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

### Deuteronomy 33:25

as your days, so shall your strength be.

Verse 17

**#3 - 17** For the law was given through Moses, **(golfer's clap)** but.....  
**grace** and **truth** came through Jesus Christ. **(a gasp!)**

## We Interrupt This Broadcast To Bring You This Special Report

Shalom, This is Moshe Cronkite here -- Late Breaking News began streaming in here just 15 minutes ago making it at 3:00pm in the afternoon - Jerusalem Time from one of our eyewitness news teams in the Judean wilderness just north of the Dead Sea, we go now to our reporter on the scene. We're here at the Jordan River near the site of "Joshua's Crossing" where John the Baptist, The 30 year old, highly revered holy man and noted Prophet of God has been recorded as to having announced just moments ago That Jesus of Nazareth, The Assumed Son of God born of Mary has in fact been Confirmed by John as the Messiah of Israel! – we have thousands of eyewitnesses to this amazing announcement of John's....John can we have a word with you?

What is it that you're trying to say exactly?

Verse 16-17

**Of His fullness** we have all **received**, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ

**“The Keeping of the Law is No Longer Important Toward  
God and Our Relationship with Him”  
grace and truth**

came through Jesus Christ.  
Moses Gave Us The Law - It was Truth...

But Jesus Upheld the Truth  
And Gave US Grace to Pursue the Law

b.) The Supremacy of Jesus the Christ v.18

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father,  
He has declared Him.

Alot of Young people in the Sixties and Seventies  
Thought that They Had Seen God From Time to Time..... or  
from Trip to Trip

## God, Deity, is Invisible

**John 4:24**

"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

That's What Is So Awesome About Jesus Christ  
His Skin was Human, His Blood Human, His Hair Human,  
His Voice - All Human

**Isaiah 53:2**

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no  
beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

**Luke 24:39**

"Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not  
have flesh and bones as you see I have."

- But What Jesus Said is What The Father Was Saying
- What Jesus Did was What the Father was Doing
- When Jesus Taught it was When the Father was Teaching

**I John 1:1**

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes,  
which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life--

2.) The Qualification of John the Baptist vv. 19-23

Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the **Christ**." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you **Elijah**?" He said, "I am not." "Are you **the Prophet**?" And he answered, "No." 22 Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the Lord," 'as the prophet Isaiah said."

a.) He Denied That He Was The Christ	v.19-20
--------------------------------------	---------

Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the **Christ**."

## The Priest Came Because

They Were In Charge of Quality of Worship,  
They Selected that Which was to be Offered to God

## The Levites Came Because

They Assisted in Public Singing and the Priest

## The Word of God

### Was Being Fulfilled in their Eyes and Ears

Jack,

Why must you introduce this word "Prophecy" into Nearly everything thing you teach and preach?

My Friend, Every Time The Prophetic Integrity of the Bible is extolled I Am Convinced That Satan Gets a Headache or Hemorrhoids. And pray for the latter...

## The Prophetic Word!

It's Actual Historical Events Written In Advance.  
that is the Definition of Prophecy

## Just How Detailed is the Bible???

Luke 4:16-20 (Isaiah 61:1-2a)

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the

gospel to the poor; he has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." 20 Then He closed the book,

## Why Did He Close The Book?

Isaiah 61:2b

To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; (The Second Coming of Christ)

**It is The One Thing Satan Cannot  
Do Accurately  
Though Satan Attempts Prophecies  
It's Best That He Leave It Alone - for it is Here That He  
Fails and is Exposed  
Prophecy Spoken**

Psalm 40:7

"Behold, I come; for in the volume of the book it is written of me.

### **Prophecy Fulfilled**

John 5:39-40

"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. "But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

### **Prophecy Realized**

Hebrews 10:7

Then said I, 'Behold, I have come—for in the volume of the book it is written of Me-- to do Your will, O God.' "

### **John Affirms His Humanity**

**John Defines His Testimony** of Witness

**John Confesses His Inadequacy** to the LOGOS

**And John Announces His Vocation** of Life

**The Words That Should Have Captured the Listening Ear of  
Everyone Present**

**John 1:6**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

# John was the great Key of Awakening

For The nation Israel. They were expected to (Understand / Recognize) That through John this was indeed the Christ of Israel

And The Christ of Israel First!  
Jesus Had to First Come to Clear Away the Rubbish

b.) He Denied That He Was Elijah v.21

And they asked him, "What then? Are you **Elijah**?" He said, "I am not."

The Imminent Coming of the Messiah  
Had Long Been Expected...

*Israel Naturally Would Have Looked For Elijah*

## Isaiah 40:3-4

3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth;

The Word or Title "Forerunner" was designated for one who cleared a roadway or path for all those who would follow the King

## God's Last Word, Last Book

### Malachi 3:1

1 "Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," says the LORD of hosts.

### Malachi 4:5-6

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet (before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.) And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

c.) He Denied That He Was The Prophet v.21-22

"Are you **the Prophet**?" And he answered, "No." 22 Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us?"

**You're Not "The Christ"**  
*So You Have Salvation Benefits*

# **You're Not "Elijah"**

*So We're Not at The End of the Age*

## **Then Are You "The Prophet"**

*So Maybe You'll be Our Political Deliver*

### **Deuteronomy 18:15**

"The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,

### **3.) The Examination of the Religious v. 24-28**

Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the **Christ**, nor **Elijah**, nor **the Prophet**?" 26 John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. 27 "It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

### **a.) The Self Righteous Don't Hear Well v.24-25**

Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the **Christ**, nor **Elijah**, nor **the Prophet**?"

**Notice The Pharisees - Their Mouths are Going 100 mph, but Their Ears are as Dead and Dull As Fish on Ice**

### **b.) The Self Righteous Don't Care Enough v.26-28**

John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. 27 "It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

### **4.) The Kingdom of God Comes to Earth v. 29-34**

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! **The Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world! 30 "This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' 31 "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." 32 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, .... Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

### **a.) The Kingdom's Conquering Prince v.29**

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said,  
"Behold! **The Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world!

takes away grk

to take a burden off of another and to remove it as far as far can be.

**Psalm 103:12**

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

**Micah 7:19**

You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

# the sin(~~s~~) of the world

all sin past, present, future, external, internal, expressed, thought

**b.) The Kingdom's Confirmed with a Sign**

v.30-32

30 "This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' 31 "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." 32 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him.

**Matthew 3:11-17**

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 "His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" 15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. 16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

**c.) The Kingdom must be Confronted**

v.33-34

33 "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 "**And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.**"

“May I say to who may be hearing me now, if you are reading this or are in any way able to comprehend what is being said, I plead with you! If you are outside of Christ today, if you live and die out side of Christ today, then you will be raised from the dead outside of Christ on that awful day when all the unjust will stand before that great white throne of judgment.

There you and you alone will stand before the Eternal One who was never born and shall never die nor grow a moment older. It is before His fiery eyes you shall stand naked and it is then that you shall hear your judgement – that it was he who died for you upon a roman cross to save you from your sins which you so willfully ignored. You will look into the eyes of the one who rose again from the dead and comforted the souls of all those who would come to him for safety. It was He who sent you His Holy Spirit to warn you and urge you and guide you but you would not yield nor listen to another. In that day it will be to late for you to be saved and enrolled in heaven above for at that moment you shall receive the baptism of fire that shall not be quenched, nor shall the burning end all because you would not come to him. Your shame shall be all your own. It was you who made this fatal error from which you shall never escape and saddest of all it never had to be thus for you.”

Meditations upon John  
Dr. H.A. Ironside

The End