

**TEXTUAL SERMON**  
**“THE WORD WAS GOD...THE WORD IS GOD!”**  
**John 1:1-4, 14, 18**

Thesis: To offer Christians encouragement in their proclamation of “Jesus is Lord!”

Introduction:

1. Many of the World’s religions, including Judaism and Islam, and even some “sects” of alleged Christianity, believe that there was a Jesus; but they deny that He was Lord and Christ or God on Earth...in other words, they doubt His deity.
  - A. Some go as far to claim that there was never “a Jesus.”
  - B. Some mistakenly believe Him to be a mere prophet or just one more of God’s creations, or even simply an angel.
2. It would be one thing if some of these faiths simply believed as much because of the proponents of their own flawed faith; but some go as far to say that the “Bible itself” teaches such false pretenses.
3. Christians must know that the Bible teaches “no such thing,” and that the inspired authors of the Bible fully believed that Jesus was indeed both Lord and Christ; and that He was “God on Earth,” or rather, as the name “Immanuel” implies, “God with us!”
4. The Gospel of John is no different, in that its author, John, the son of Zebedee and Salome, whom is also known as “the Beloved Disciple,” fully believed and taught that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
  - A. John not only states as much in the beginning of his gospel (John 1:1-4, 14, 18)...
  - B. But he gives his reasons towards the end of his testimony (John 21:31) when he states, “But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

Discussion:

- I. In the beginning was the Word, and *the Word was with God*, and *the Word was God*. *He* was in the beginning with God.
  - A. Although he does not yet tell us Who the “Word” is in these first verses, John does indicate that “the Word” existed from the beginning, that “the Word” was with God, and that the Word was God, and that “the Word was a He...a being...an actual sentient entity.”
    1. The Word of God is not given a name at this point; but we know from verse 17 that John is, indeed speaking of Jesus, and we know Jesus, Himself, stated that He was there from the beginning.
      - a. Jesus, Himself, declared “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the *Beginning* and the End...the Almighty!” (Rev. 1:8)
      - b. Three more times in the book of Revelation, Jesus states that He is the Alpha and the Omega, and either calls Himself the *First* and the Last, or the *Beginning* and the end (Rev. 1:11; 21:6; 22:13).

2. Only God, Himself, has ever, or would ever, make such a bold claim.
  - a. We read as much in Isaiah 44:6, where we hear the Lord, the King of Israel, AND the Redeemer, the Lord of Hosts, state: "I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me *there is no God.*"
  - b. And in verse 8, "Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; *I know not one.*"
- B. So was Jesus with God from the beginning? Was this Jesus truly God? Was this what John was truly saying? We address this in short order.

II. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

- A. If Jesus was there in the beginning, and as we now hear, took hand in the creation, than would we not hear His name in the book of Genesis?
  1. It is important to know that Jesus was His earthly name.
    - a. Mary and Joseph were told to call His name Jesus (Mat. 1:21), for He would save His people from their sins.
    - b. His name, Iesous (Greek) means the same as the Hebrew name Joshua (Yehoshua), which means God is salvation!
      - 1). Hence, the angel's message was, you shall call Him, "God is salvation," for He (God) would save His people from their sins.
      2. The name Immanuel (Emmanuel) translates "God with us." (Mat. 1:23) is what they would call Him.
    - c. We know the term Christ (Christos) means the Messiah or the Anointed, another worldly name given to *the Word*.
  2. 1 John 5:7 tells us, "There are three that bear witness *in heaven*: The Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are One!
    - a. Thus, we know that the Word would not be given the name Jesus until His mission upon this World, *which is His creation*, would begin.
    - b. This makes it easier to understand Php. 2:5-7, which states that: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being *in the form of God*, did not consider it robbery *to be equal with God*, but *made Himself* of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming *in the likeness of men.*"
    - c. It also helps us to understand, the man Jesus Christ's prayer in John 17:5, which states: "And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with *the glory which I had with You before the world was.*"
    - d. Thus we can conclude that, before He was made flesh, and before He came to earth to deliver us from our sins, the Word existed before the World was...as for the name Jesus Christ, this was a name used to define His earthly mission.

- B. So where was the Word (Whom we know as Jesus) during the creation?
1. He was with God, as God, taking part in the creation!
  2. We first are introduced to the Godhead in Gen. 1, when we are told that God (Elohiym...plural form of eloah) created the heavens and the earth.
    - a. The Spirit of God hovered over the face of the waters (v2).
    - b. And that is when God spoke creation into existence THROUGH HIS WORD!
    - c. Through Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, everything is “spoken” into existence through the Word of God, WHO (not what) John 1:14 tells us, became flesh and dwelt among us!
      1. Before our God came down to earth to save us from our sins and to give His life as a ransom for many...before He became the propitiation (acceptable atonement) for our sins, He was the Creator, the Firstborn over all creation, meaning He had preeminence (supremacy) over all creation, and is before all of creation, which came through Him.
      2. Hence, we have Him as the Alpha; but as the Omega, His next mission will be judgment, and that is why, only *through* Him, have we been given life, and only *in* Him can we have eternal life, and be saved from the wrath to come.

III. In Him was life, and the life was the life of men.

- A. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17).
- B. We know that only God gives life.
1. In Gen. 2:7, we see that it was God who created man from the dust of the earth and gave him the breath of life.
  2. John 5:21 tells us that as the Father gives life to the dead, the Son gives life to whom He will.
  3. In John 6:33 we know that Jesus is the Bread of God who comes down from heaven and gives life to the World.
  4. In John 6:59, we know that it is the Spirit who gives life.
  5. Thus we have God giving us life via the breath of life, and through the quickening of our spirit which gives us eternal life.
- C. But eternal life only comes for those who are in Christ Jesus.
1. We are alive to God *in Christ Jesus* (Rom. 6:11).
  2. We are given the gift of eternal life *in Christ Jesus* (Rom. 6:23).
  3. We are raised up together *in Christ Jesus* (Eph. 2:6).
  4. We have the promise of life *in Christ Jesus* (2 Tim. 1:1).
  5. We have salvation through faith *in Christ Jesus* (2 Tim. 3:15).

- D. Is it any wonder that John wrote what he did in order that, “We may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in *His* name?”

Conclusion:

1. We can see from the writings of the Gospel of John that the Word was in the beginning with God, and the Word was God.
  - A. Jesus, Himself, stated that He is the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.
  - B. We know from the book of Isaiah that only God would make such a claim.
2. As John believed, we believe, not only that Jesus was there from the beginning, but that He is the Creator.
  - A. We know that Jesus Christ is only what the Word was called when He fulfilled His earthly mission to save us from our sins.
  - B. Yet, before He was called Jesus, we know that all of Creation was spoken into existence, through the Word, because IN HEAVEN, there are three who bear witness: The Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit...whom we know as Elohiymn, or the Godhead.
  - C. We must remember; however, that despite repeated efforts to deny the existence of God, and of Christ and His deity, man has forgotten a very important principle that we do see in John 1:18—and that is that *“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”*
    1. God has given us eternal life, and that life is in His Son (1 Jo.)
    2. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life (1 Jo. 5:11, 12).
  - D. The Second coming of the Word of God will be judgment, as Rev. 14:7 states, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”
    1. Once again...we see God is the Creator.
    2. And the Word...we can successfully conclude...is God.
    3. And we can only have salvation through faith in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 3:15).
3. Thus, despite the ranting, raving, and false proclamations of false religions, and despite the doubts in ‘denominational sects’ of Christianity, we can safely proclaim that THE WORD IS GOD...and that JESUS IS LORD. There is NO OTHER NAME under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.