

Approximately 45 minutes expository



John 1:1-18 The Word Became Flesh:

Opening Prayer:

Father God, we come before You in the name of Jesus, and we thank You for Your holy Word. Lord, open our eyes today. Open our hearts. Open our understanding. Let us not just hear words, but let us see Christ. Let us see His glory, His power, His grace, and His truth. Strengthen the believer, awaken the sleepy heart, encourage the broken soul, and draw the lost person to salvation. Lord, let John chapter 1 come alive to us today. Speak clearly, powerfully, and personally. We ask it in Jesus' mighty name, amen.

Introduction:

Today we are going to walk through **John chapter 1**, one of the greatest chapters in all the Bible.

If someone asked, “Who is Jesus really?”

👉 John chapter 1 gives the answer.

If someone asked, “Why did Jesus come?”

👉 John chapter 1 gives the answer.

If someone asked, “Can I really know

God?” 👉 John chapter 1 gives the answer.

- John does not begin with Bethlehem.
- He does not begin with the manger.
- He does not begin with shepherds or wise men.
- John goes back farther than Matthew.
- Farther than Luke.
- Farther than Genesis 1:1 in a sense.

He takes us back before creation itself and says, in effect:

Before there was a universe... before there was a star... before there was time...

👉 **Jesus already was.**

That is where John starts.

John writes so that we will not reduce Jesus to merely a good teacher, a religious leader, or a moral example. Jesus is all those things in a sense, but He is considerably more. John presents Jesus as **the eternal Word, the Creator, the Light, the Lamb of God, the Son of God, and the King of Israel.**

And as we move through this chapter, one truth keeps shining brighter and brighter:

Jesus Christ the Messiah God who came near.

- Not a distant God.
- Not a silent God.

- Not a cold God.
- Not a God hidden behind a cloud of mystery with no way to know Him.

No God stepped into human history.
God put on **flesh**. Think about that.....

👉 God came to dwell among us.

That means Christianity is not just rules.

- It is not rituals.
- It is not cold religion.
- It is not man trying to climb up to God.

👉 It is God coming down to save man.

So let's walk through John chapter 1 together.

1. Jesus Is the Eternal Word:

John 1:1–5

John opens with these powerful words:

John 1:1-2 (NIV) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God.”² He was with God in the beginning.

This is one of the clearest declarations in all Scripture about the deity of Jesus Christ.

Notice John does **not** say, “In the beginning the Word came into existence.”

He says, **“In the beginning was the Word.”**

That means when the beginning began,

👉 Jesus already existed.

- Jesus did not start in Bethlehem.
- Jesus did not begin in Mary’s womb.
- Jesus did not become divine later.

👉 He is eternal.

And John calls Him **“the Word.”**

Why “the Word”? Because a word reveals what is in someone’s mind. A word expresses thought. A word communicates truth. Jesus is the perfect revelation of God.

If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus.

Want to know how God feels about sinners? Look at Jesus.

Want to know how God responds to broken people? Look at Jesus.

Want to know the holiness of God? Look at Jesus.

Want to know the love of God? Look at Jesus.

👉 Jesus is the visible expression of the invisible God.

Then John says, Vs. 1:1 **“the Word was with God.”**

That speaks of relationship, fellowship, distinction in person.

Then John says, Vs. 1:1 **“and the Word was God.”**

That speaks of deity.

So right in the opening verse, John shows us something glorious: Jesus is distinct in person, yet fully God in nature.

Then verse 3 says:

John 1:3 (NIV) “Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”

- Jesus is **not** part of creation.
- Jesus is the **Creator of creation**.

Everything you can see mountains, oceans, galaxies, birds, rivers, the human eye, the human brain, the structure of DNA, the rotation of planets, the laws of physics all of it ultimately traces back to Christ.

👉 Think about that.

- The One who later grew tired at a well created the water in the well.
- The One who later hungered created wheat in the fields.

- The One who later slept in a boat created the sea beneath it.
- The One who later wore a **crown of thorns** created the bush that first bore thorns after the fall.
 - This is not a small Christ.
 - This is not a manageable Jesus.
 - This is not a Jesus we can box up into a religious system.

👉 This is the eternal Creator.

Then John says:

John 1:4-5 (NIV)⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Jesus is life. Not just a giver of life. **Life is in Him.**

And because life is in Him, light is in Him.

Darkness in Scripture often speaks of sin, ignorance, rebellion, death, and separation

from God. The world is dark morally dark, spiritually dark, emotionally dark. Man tries education, politics, entertainment, wealth, pleasure, philosophy, and self-help, but **none** of those can turn **the light on in the soul.**

👉 Only Jesus can do that.

And John says the darkness has not overcome the light.

That is a **word of hope** for the **church.**

- Darkness may resist the light.
- Darkness may hate the light.
- Darkness may try to hide from the light.

👉 But darkness cannot conquer the light.

A little light changes a dark room.

Darkness never swallows light.

👉 Light always overcomes darkness.

That means when Christ steps into a life, darkness begins to flee.

Maybe someone here feels dark inside.

- Confused.
- Bound.
- Ashamed.
- Discouraged.
- Addicted.
- Afraid.

Hear this: Jesus does not struggle against darkness as though it is an equal force.

👉 When His light shines, darkness loses.

2. God Sent a Witness:

John 1:6-13

John now introduces another John not the author, but **John the Baptist**.

John 1:6-8 (NIV) ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

John the Baptist had a clear calling: not to draw attention to himself, but to point people to Jesus.

That is real ministry.

Real ministry does not build around personality.

Real ministry does not spotlight man.

👉 Real ministry always points to Christ.

John knew who he was, and he knew who he was not.

John was not the light.

He was a witness to the light.

Brothers and Sisters, there is freedom in that.

- You are not the Savior of your family.
- You are not the Savior of your friends.
- You are not the Savior of your workplace.
- You are not the light in yourself.

👉 But you can point people to the One who is.

Then John says:

John 1:9-11 (NIV) ⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

So sad. They missed the mark.

The Creator entered His creation, and creation did not recognize Him.

The promised Messiah came to His own people, and many rejected Him.

Why? Because light exposes darkness. People often want spirituality without surrender. They want blessing without repentance. They want religion without a Lord. But Jesus did not come merely to rouse approval.

👉 He came to demand a response.

John 1:12-13 (NIV) ¹² ***Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—*** ¹³ ***children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.***

That is one of the sweetest promises in Scripture.

Not everybody rejects Him.

- Some receive Him.
- Some believe in His name.
- Some come to Him as Lord and Savior.

And what happens?

They become **children of God**.

- Not improved sinners only.
- Not religious spectators.
- Not church attendees only.

👉 Children of God.

That means salvation is not just about escaping hell.

👉 It is about entering a relationship.

The lost person is not merely uninformed.

- He is spiritually dead.
- He needs new birth.
- He needs a new heart.
- He needs a new family.

And that does not come through bloodline, heritage, family tradition, denomination, or human effort. John says this new birth is **not of natural descent, nor human decision, nor a husband's will it is of God.** Vs.13...

- You do not inherit salvation from your parents.
- You do not earn salvation by effort.
 - 👉 You receive Christ by faith, and God gives new birth.

3. The Word Became Flesh:

John 1:14-18

Now we come to one of the most amazing verses in the Bible.

John 1:14 (NIV) "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one

and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The eternal Word became flesh.

👉 This is the wonder of the incarnation.

God did not merely send a message.
God came Himself.

- He stepped into humanity.
- He entered our world.
- He did not come as an angel.
- He did not come as a vision only.
- He did not come as a hallucination.

He came in **real flesh**.

- He knew hunger.
- He knew thirst.
- He knew weariness.
- He knew rejection.
- He knew grief.
- He knew pain.

👉 Yet without sin.

And John says He **“made his dwelling among us.”** Vs.14...

That literally carries the idea of tabernacling among us.

In the Old Testament, God’s glory dwelt in the tabernacle among His people. Now in Jesus, the presence of God is dwelling among men in a greater way than ever before.

👉 Jesus is the true meeting place between God and man.

And then John says He came **“full of grace and truth.”** Vs.14

- Not grace without truth.
- Not truth without grace.

Some people are all truth and no grace. They are harsh, cold, cutting, rigid. Some are all grace and no truth. They are soft, unclear, and never deal with sin.

👉 Jesus is perfect in both.

- He will tell the woman at the well the truth about her sin, but also offer her living water.
- He will tell the woman caught in adultery to leave her life of sin, but He will not judge her.
- He will weep with the broken, rebuke the proud, receive children, confront hypocrisy, cleanse the temple, and go to the cross.

👉 Grace and truth meet perfectly in Jesus Christ.

Then John compares Moses and Christ:

John 1:17 (NIV) “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

- The law reveals sin.
- 👉 Jesus removes sin.
- The law can show you your guilt.
- 👉 Jesus can wash your guilt away.

- The law is holy, but it cannot save.
👉 Jesus is Savior.

Then John says:

John 1:18 (NIV):¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Jesus explains God to us. He reveals God. He makes the Father known.

So if somebody says, “*I want God, but I do not want Jesus,*” **that cannot happen.** You cannot reject the revelation of God and still claim to know God truly.

👉 If you want to know the Father, you must come through the Son.

And that brings us to the great question of John chapter 1:

And now the **question** of John chapter 1:1-18 becomes **very personal**:

Born again invitation:

👉 What will you do with Jesus Christ?

- He is not just a teacher.
- He is not just a prophet.
- He is the eternal Word.
- He is God the Son.
- He is the Light of the world.
- He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

John tells us that some rejected Him, but others received Him.

And that is still true today.

👉 Maybe you know about Jesus in your head, but you have never trusted Him in your heart.

👉 Maybe you have been religious, but you have never been born again.

👉 Maybe deep inside you know you need forgiveness, mercy, and a new life.

Listen carefully:

👉 **Jesus did not come just to impress you. He came to save you.**

John 1:12 (NIV) says:

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

That means you can come to Jesus just as you are.

- You do not clean yourself up first.
- You do not earn salvation.
- You come as a sinner needing grace.

The world cannot save you.

Religion cannot save you.

Good works cannot save you.

👉 **Only Jesus Christ can save you.**

So if you have never truly been born again,
do not wait.

Do not stay in darkness when the Light has
come.

👉 Come to Jesus by faith.

You can pray from your heart right now:

Let us Pray....

**“Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I
believe You are the Son of God. I believe
You died for my sins and rose again.
Please forgive me, save me, and make
me new. I turn from my sin and I place
my trust in You alone. I receive You as
my Lord and Savior. In Jesus’ name,
amen.”**

Conclusion:

John chapter 1 gives us a glorious picture
of Jesus Christ.

- He is the eternal Word.
- He is God the Son.

- He is the Creator of all things.
- He is the Light shining in the darkness.
- He is the Word made flesh who came to dwell among us.
- He is full of grace and truth.
- He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
- He is the Son of God, the King, and the Savior.

So Brothers and Sisters, let us not leave John 1 with a small view of Jesus.

- He is not just a teacher.
- He is not just a good man.
- He is not just a prophet.
- 👉 He is the Savior of the world.

Jesus did not come only to show us truth.

- He came to save us.
- He came to carry our sin.
- He came to bring us back to God.

The Word became flesh.

He came near.

He died on the cross.

He rose again in power.

👉 And through Him, sinners like us can be forgiven, changed, and made children of God.

So let us leave this chapter with our hearts fixed on Jesus Christ alone.

Not religion.

Not tradition.

Not man.

👉 But Jesus.

Lord, open our eyes to see You.

Open our hearts to receive You.

Open our lives to follow You.

Because when you truly see Jesus, you will never be the same.

Let us Pray:

Father God, thank You for Your Word and for the truth of John chapter 1. Thank You that Jesus is the eternal Word, the Light of the world, and the Lamb of God who takes away our sin. Strengthen every believer here to walk closely with Jesus. For anyone who has called on You Lord today, give them peace, assurance, and joy in their new life with You. Help us leave with our eyes fixed on You and our hearts ready to serve You. In Jesus' mighty name, amen.



Matthew 28:19-20