

The Christmas Message in the Gospel of John

Pastor Adam Hall ☞ Dryden First Baptist Church ☞ Dec 25, 2022

John 1:1-14 ESV

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Introduction and Background

- I thought this next short article could help you out next year, or if you have presents that you will be receiving in the next few days

- it is called "8 Bad Responses to Gifts You Don't Want"!

- here they are:

8. *Well, well, well, now, there's a gift!*

7. *No, really, I didn't know that there was a Chia pet tie! Oh, wow! It's a clip-on too!*

6. *You know, I always wanted one of these! Jog my memory—what's it called again?*

5. *You know what?—I'm going to find a special place to put this!*

4. *Boy, you don't see craftsmanship like that every day!*

3. *And it's such an interesting color too!*

2. *You say that was the last one? Am I glad that you snapped that baby up!*

1. *You shouldn't have! No, really, I mean it, you really shouldn't have!"*

- these tips might save your family dynamic at Christmas!

- God has graciously given us a _____ in the person and work of Jesus Christ, but how have we _____ to God's gift?

- as we see in the Gospel of John there are many people who respond to Jesus with _____ and even anger

- the Gospel of John gives us direction in how we are to _____ to God's gift to us, who is Jesus Christ, the Son of God

- in fact, this is the whole reason that John wrote this gospel

John 20:31 but these are written so that you may _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have _____ in his name.

- John wrote this gospel so that we would believe two important truths about Jesus Christ

1) Jesus is the _____ – the Messiah

2) Jesus is the _____ of God

- John writes this gospel so that we have real, authentic and living _____ so that we can have _____ in Jesus Christ

- John writes this gospel so that we can know Christ and thus have _____ life

- this gospel is written by John the apostle who was the beloved _____ of Jesus Christ

- John writes again why he has written this _____ and testified to Jesus

John 21:24 This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we _____ that his testimony is true.

- the Gospel of John was written so that we might know the _____ about Jesus Christ

- truth is important to the Lord Jesus

- thus, truth is important to John the Apostle

- therefore, the truth of Jesus Christ _____ to be important to us as Christians

- the Gospel of John is the last gospel that we will be looking at to discover what John teaches us about the _____ Message

- let us give a short summary on what Matthew, Mark, and Luke say about the _____ of Jesus

- in the gospel of Matthew, we see the Christmas message in Matthew 1-2

- the _____ of the Lord speaks to Joseph and gives him two commands with regards to Mary and the baby that is to be _____ to her

- He is to take Mary to be his wife and to _____ the baby Jesus

- in Matthew 2:1-12, we have the wise men visiting Jesus, this happens around two years after the birth of Jesus

- in the gospel of Mark we have _____ reference to the birth of Jesus Christ

- Mark only explains why Jesus had to assume _____ nature

- the gospel of Luke explains, in the most _____, the birth of Jesus Christ

- the angel Gabriel visits Mary and explains to her how she is with _____

- the _____ Spirit overshadows her and what is in her (the child) has been conceived by the Holy _____ (Luke 1:26-38)

- in Luke 2, Jesus is born in Bethlehem and because there is no room for Jesus in the Inn, Jesus is born in a _____

- angels visit _____ who are watching their flocks by night and they hear about the greatness of Jesus Christ

Luke 2:11 For unto you is _____ this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

- the shepherds respond in _____ and they go and see the baby Jesus and are filled with joy because of Jesus

- the Gospel of John really makes _____ references to the birth of Jesus

- first, at the beginning of the gospel John, the birth of Jesus is referenced

John 1:14 And the Word became _____ and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and _____ .

- the second reference is at the end of the _____ , when Jesus is talking with Pilate about truth

- Jesus tells us the purpose in why He was _____

John 18:37 Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this _____ I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world-- to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

- there are three _____ to consider when we discuss the Christmas message according to the Gospel of John

Brief Outline:

1) The Incarnation in the Gospel of John

2) 7 Reasons Why Jesus Came

3) The Response to Jesus

1) The Incarnation in the Gospel of John

a) the miracle

- "incarnation" is a fancy word for God assuming human _____

- this is the _____ of God taking on human flesh

- although you might hear people say that there are many religions and they all worship the same God, this is not true

- we _____ that Christianity is different than all the other religions because it is the _____ religion that teaches that God assumes human nature

- in the introduction to the Gospel of John we really have an introduction to "the _____ of Jesus Christ"

b) the Word

- John uses the word " _____ " to describe Jesus Christ in John 1

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the _____ was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was _____.

- we see clearly, that Jesus is _____ God
 - Jesus is with God in the beginning, this means that before _____ had come about Jesus was there with God the Father
 - _____ was with God in the beginning
 - Jesus is _____ - all of creation was made through Jesus Christ
 - everything that has been made, has been made through _____ Christ
- this is _____ what Paul says about Jesus Christ in the book of Colossians 1:15-17
Colossians 1:15-17 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were _____, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in _____ all things hold together.

c) Jesus claims to be God

- John _____ that Jesus is God, but Jesus also claimed to be fully God and we see this throughout the Gospel of John
- in three different passages Jesus proclaimed that He is _____
- Jesus proclaims His divinity in John 5, 8 and 10

i) in John 5

- in John 5, Jesus heals a man who was paralyzed and commands him to carry his bed and walk
 - the Jews think that Jesus is teaching this man to break the Sabbath
 - Jesus responds to this accusation by saying this!
- John 5:17-18 But Jesus answered them, " _____ Father is working until now, and I am working." 18 This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he _____ the Sabbath, but he was _____ calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.
- do you see how the Jews respond to Jesus?
 - they _____ who Jesus is claiming to be, He is claiming to be God
 - they do not _____ Jesus is God and so they seek to kill Him

ii) in John 8

- in John 8:54-59, Jesus says that Abraham _____ that he would see the day when Jesus would come to the earth
 - the Jews criticize Jesus saying that He cannot be 50 years of age even though Jesus claims to be _____ Abraham when He says this:
- John 8:58-59 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, _____ Abraham was, I am." 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.
- do you see how the _____ respond to Jesus here?

- they pick up stones to stone Jesus, which could only _____ one thing in the context of John 8
- they know that Jesus is _____ to be God and they think He is guilty of blasphemy, so they seek to _____ him

iii) in John 10

- in John 10:30, Jesus claims that He and the Father are _____
 - because of this profession of Christ "I and the _____ are one", the Jews respond to Jesus with wanting to stone Him
 - they want stone Jesus because, He is _____ to be God, when they do not think He is God
- John 10:33 The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a _____, make yourself _____."

d) Thomas believes Jesus is God

- finally, we see that Jesus is God by the confession of _____ at the end of the gospel
- John 20:27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but _____." 28 Thomas answered him, "My _____ and my God!"
- Thomas makes this declaration about Jesus, "My Lord and My _____"
 - Jesus then blesses those who believe in Him and do not see _____
 - this affirms Thomas' words that Jesus is Lord and _____

d) fully God and fully man

- the Gospel of John is crystal clear, Jesus is fully God and Jesus is also _____ man
- in the gospel of John, "the Word" who was with God, who is Jesus Christ, dwells in the _____
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his _____, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and _____.
- God becomes flesh or God becomes _____
 - Jesus is described as _____ among us
 - the "dwelling among" phrase is the Greek word to tabernacle or _____
 - this means that God _____ among His people
 - you cannot help but think of Exodus 33-34 where God commits to Moses that He will _____ with the people of God

f) full of grace and truth

- Jesus is also described as full of grace and _____
- Jesus is full of grace because by means of His _____ on the Cross, He takes upon the punishment of sin bearing the _____ of God so that those who trust Jesus Christ can experience forgiveness of sins

- Jesus is the _____

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the _____. No one comes to the Father except through me.

- although John, in his gospel, does not describe the details surrounding the _____ of Jesus, he clearly speaks about the incarnation (which means God assuming human _____)

2) _____ Reasons Why Jesus Came

- John describes 7 reasons _____ God assumed human nature

#1) Jesus came from God in _____ to God

- although Jesus did come from God to earth for the _____ of humanity

- Jesus came first and foremost to be obedient to the _____

- Jesus' greatest concern was for the _____ of God and therefore he was totally obedient to God

- if Jesus had not been _____ obedient to God then He would not be the Son of God

- hear what _____ says about coming in obedience to the Father

John 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would _____ me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me.

John 16:28 I came from the _____ and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

#2) Jesus came to bring light

- in his gospel, John explains that _____ is darkness in his gospel

- Jesus comes to bring _____ and that means that Jesus has come to offer a remedy for our darkness, which is our sin

- Jesus does this by going to the cross and bearing the punishment for our sin so that we can experience eternal life and not eternal _____

John 1:9 The _____ light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

John 12:46 I have come into the _____ as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

#3) Jesus came to bring judgment

- Jesus explains that He has come to bring _____ and this judgment is not a punishment for sin, but exposing those who truly _____ and those who reject Him

John 9:39 Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not _____ may see, and those who see may become blind."

- Jesus is using a play on words in this verse, he has just healed a man who was born blind

- Jesus then teaches us that He has come to give _____ to those who cannot see and blindness to those who _____ see

- Jesus tells us that He came to bring salvation to those who know they are _____ and rebels against God
- those who _____ God's grace through Jesus Christ and who love their sin will experience eternal separation from _____

#4) Jesus came to bear witness to the truth

- Jesus discusses the _____ with Pilate at His trial and Jesus explains why He was born
- John 18:37 Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world-- to bear witness to the _____. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

- Jesus bears witness to the truth about the Lord
- since Jesus has been with the Father in heaven, Jesus _____ all things about the Father
- Jesus comes to reveal the truth about God

#5) Jesus came to die

- to miss this reason would be a serious and epic _____
 - Jesus came for "this hour" and this refers to His death upon the _____
 - _____ came to the earth to go to the cross
- John 12:27 "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this _____ I have come to this hour.

- many _____ in the church advocate that Jesus came only to be a great moral teacher and His death has _____ consequence for humans
- that is complete hogwash

- the song "Above All" also gives us the _____ why Jesus came – He lived to die Crucified.....Laid behind the stone.....You lived to die.....Rejected and alone Like a rose trampled on the ground.....You took the fall.....And thought of me

#6) Jesus came to save

- Jesus came to the earth to die and the death of Christ was for the _____ of the world
- John 12:47 If anyone _____ my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to _____ the world.

- all humans are in the darkness because of their sin and need _____
- Christ Jesus has accomplished this work of salvation for those who _____ His grace through faith

#7) Jesus came to bring abundant life

- we ought to never forget the great _____ of knowing Jesus Christ
- some people unfortunately see Jesus as just an _____ route from the judgment of God

- but the blessings of Christ keep flowing to God's people

- Jesus came to bring abundant life to His people

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have _____ and have it abundantly.

- we can have this _____ life through Christ: our sins are forgiven, we have the _____ of eternal life and the judgment that we deserve is _____

- we are free from judgment because Jesus has made us _____ – Praise the Lord

3) The Responses to Jesus

- there are a variety of responses to Jesus and His teaching in the Gospel of John

a) rejection

- at the start of the gospel, John writes that many of the Jews did not _____ Jesus Christ

John 1:11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

- in John 6, the teachings of Jesus cause a great number of his followers to turn _____ and they _____ following Jesus (John 6:66)

b) hostility

- there is great hostility against Jesus Christ in the gospel of John

- in John 5, 8, and 10, the Jewish religious establishment tries to _____ Jesus

c) unbelief

- to top things off, even the family members of Jesus do not _____ in Him

John 7:5 For not even his brothers believed in him.

- as you can see in the gospel of John, Jesus is rejected by _____

d) faith

- but not everyone rejected Jesus Christ

- the _____ response to Jesus in the Gospel of John is faith

- the word _____ is used over 100 times in the Gospel of John

- faith is not trusting in something that is a fairy _____ without evidence

- faith in the Biblical sense is _____ the Lord who has revealed Himself in the person of Jesus

- thus, faith in Christ is not _____ faith

- faith in Christ is embracing the truths of Jesus Christ in the _____ of God

- faith in Christ is resting upon Jesus Christ and His _____

- _____ responds to Jesus with faith

John 11:27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I _____ that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Application

1) Jesus Has Come, Now What?

- since Jesus left the Father and assumed _____ nature to die for sinners and save sinners at Christmas how should you respond to Jesus?

- now is the time to understand these ABCs so that you can _____ in faith to God's gift in Christ

a) **A** – Acknowledge "All Have Sinned" (Romans 3:23)

-each of us have sinned and _____ against God

- in the Gospel of John Jesus says this _____ our sinful condition

John 3:19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the _____ rather than the light because their works were evil.

- all our works are _____ and our sin has put us at _____ with God

b) **B** – Behold the Lamb of God

- when John the Baptist saw Jesus Christ, he declared this!

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, " _____, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

- God has _____ a Savior, who can take our sin away

- we cannot save ourselves by doing good works or deeds

- only _____ saves!

c) **C** – Come Unto Me

- Jesus promises this in the gospel of Matthew

Matthew 11:28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will _____ you rest.

- the word "come" has the same meaning as the word for " _____ " in the Gospel of John

- we see this in John 5:40

John 5:40 yet you refuse to _____ to me that you may have life.

- if you do not come to Christ, you will not have _____, but if you do come to Christ you will have life

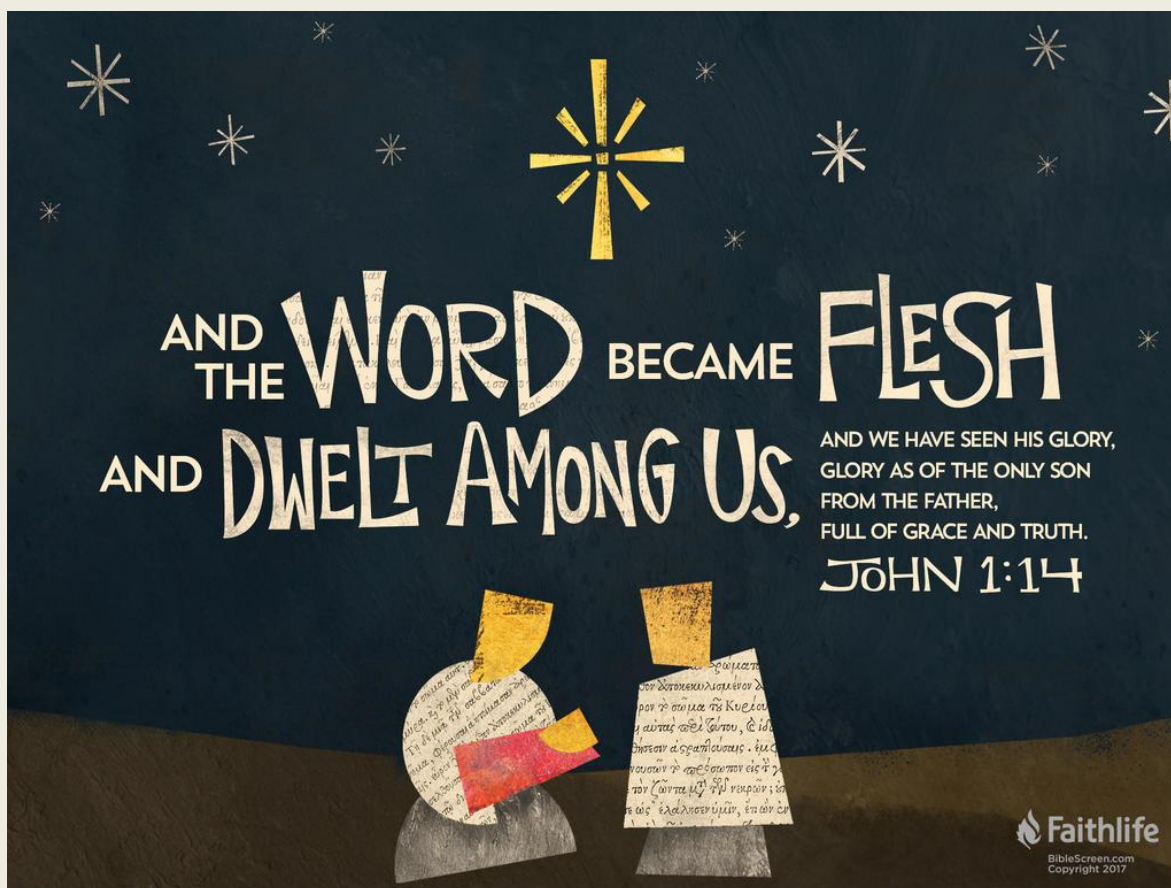
- our sin is offensive to God _____ come in faith to Christ and _____ Jesus Christ and His work accomplished for you

- God has come in the _____ to die for sinners

- let us respond by treasuring Christ above all things, not just at Christmas but _____ day, all to His glory!

Coming UP...

- Jan 1 Pastor Doug Wightman @ 10:30am
- Jan 4 Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study @ 7:00pm
- Jan 7 Sonshine Saturday @ 10:30am
- Jan 8 Introduction to 1 Peter – Pastor Adam @ 10:30am
- Jan 13 Fired Up Fridays @ 7:00pm
- Jan 14 Ladies Fellowship Bible Study @ 1:00pm



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- 2) 7 Reasons Why Jesus Came
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1) The Incarnation in the gospel of John

- a) the miracle
- b) the Word
- c) Jesus' claims to be God
 - i) in John 5
 - ii) in John 8
 - iii) in John 10
- d) Thomas believes Jesus is God
- e) fully God and fully man
- f) full of grace and truth

2) 7 Reasons Why Jesus Came

- #1) Jesus came from God in obedience to God
- #2) Jesus came to bring light
- #3) Jesus came to bring judgment
- #4) Jesus came to bear witness to the truth
- #5) Jesus came to die
- #6) Jesus came to save
- #7) Jesus came to bring abundant life

3) The Responses to Jesus

- a) rejection
- b) hostility
- c) unbelief
- d) faith

Application

1) Jesus Has Come, Now What?

- a) A – Acknowledge All Have Sinned
- b) B – Behold The Lamb Of God
- c) C – Come Unto Me