

**“HE IS THE BOOK”**

**ST. JOHN 1:1**

**INTRODUCTION**

**I WANT TO CONCLUDE THIS SERIES OF MESSAGES ON THE WORD OF GOD.**

**PREVIOUSLY I HAVE PLEADED WITH YOU TO BECOME PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND PRAYER MEETING.**

**SOME OF YOU HAVE RESPONDED AND SOME OF YOU STILL ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT YOU NEED TO KNOW THE WORD OF GOD FOR YOURSELF!**

**I BEGAN WITH “HE OPENED THE BOOK” AND “HE CLOSED THE BOOK” IN JOHN 4.**

**NOW I WANT TO LOOK AT THE WORD OF GOD IN IT’S BEST AND HIGHEST VIEW IN SCRIPTURE.**

- 1. WE ARE NOT IN A VALLEY BUT WE ARE AT ONE OF THE SUMMITS IN SCRIPTURE.**
- 2. WE ARE AT THE HEIGHT OF HUMAN CONCEPTS.**
- 3. WE ARE AT THE PINNACLE OF THEOLOGICAL DISCLOSURE.**

**YOU SEE, WE’VE DISCUSSED THE WORD AS THE WRITTEN DECLARATION OF WHO AND WHAT GOD IS.**

**WE’VE DISCUSSED THE WORD AS THE BOOK WHICH IS THE SYNONYM OF THE WORD OF GOD.**

**BUT THE WORD OF GOD IS NOT BEST REPRESENTED IN THE PRINTED FORM.**

**NO, THE WORD OF GOD IS BEST PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF JESUS CHRIST, LIVING WORD, AND THE SON OF GOD!**

- 1. I KNOW HE'S A BURDEN BEARER!**
- 2. I KNOW HE'S A HEART FIXER!**
- 3. I KNOW HE'S A HEAVY LOAD SHARER!**
- 4. I KNOW HE'S A FRIEND FOR THE FRIENDLESS!**
- 5. I KNOW HE'S A MOTHER FOR THE MOTHERLESS!**
- 6. I KNOW HE'S BREAD WHEN I'M HUNGRY!**

**HOWEVER, THAT'S NOT HIS BEST EXPRESSION!**

**HIS BEST EXPRESSION IS THAT OF NOT BEING "LIKE AS", HIS BEST EXPRESSION IS WHAT HE IS!**

**HE IS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD; HE IS GOD WRAPPED IN FLESH.**

**HE'S NOT CONFINED TO SIXTY SIX BOOKS IN BOUNDED PAGES.**

**IF JESUS IS BOUND BY THE PAGES OF THE TEXT, THEN HE'S NOT ABLE TO MOVE BEYOND THE PRINTED PAGE.**

**IF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS JUST IN THE PRINTED PAGE, YOU'RE MISSING A DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM THAT IS NOT MUTED, NOT HANDICAPPED, AND NOT REDUCED TO JUST A CASUAL BRUSH WITH HIM IN THE BIBLE.**

**HE IS THE LIVING GOD!**

**JOHN IS NOT WRITING PROSE, BUT HE'S SINGING THE PRAISES OF THE LORD AFTER KNOWING HIM, WATCHING HIM, WORSHIPING HIM, LOVING HIM, AND HE REACHES OUT TO US TO GET US TO JOIN IN THE PRAISES OF THE LORD.**

**NOT MINDLESSLY, BUT WITH INTENT, FOUNDATION AND PURPOSE, JOHN SUGGESTS THAT IF YOU KNEW JESUS LIKE I KNOW JESUS, YOU'LL JOIN IN THE CHORUS OF SINGING THIS PRAISE!**

**I. FIRST, "IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD" - THAT'S PRE-EXISTENCE.**

**JOHN SAYS IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF JESUS, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND HOW LONG THE LORD HAS BEEN AROUND.**

**I CAN TELL YOU FOR A FACT THAT HE WAS ALIVE BEFORE HE WAS BORN.**

- 1. HE WAS BREATHING BEFORE HE WAS BORN.**
- 2. HE WAS WALKING BEFORE HE CRAWLED.**
- 3. HE WAS COMMUNICATING BEFORE HE COULD TALK.**
- 4. HE WAS THINKING BEFORE HIS BODY WAS CREATED.**

**YOU SEE JESUS DID NOT HAVE HIS GENESIS IN A MANGER FILLED WITH HAY.**

**THE REASON HE DIDN'T WAS HE WAS ALREADY AROUND BEFORE MARY GAVE BIRTH IN A MANGER.**

- 1. HE IS OLDER THAN HIS MOTHER;**

2. HE'S OLDER THAN BETHLEHEM;
3. HE'S OLDER THAN ISRAEL;
4. HE'S OLDER THAN THE OLD TESTAMENT.
5. THE LORD WAS PRE-EXISTENT, MEANING THAT HE HAS NO ORIGIN, BUT HE SIMPLY SUPERSEDES THE CREATED ORDER OF TIME AND SPACE.

**SIMPLY PUT, HE WAS BEFORE THE BEGINNING!**

**GENESIS 1:1 IS NOT THE BEGINNING OF GOD, IT'S THE BEGINNING OF TIME AS WE KNOW IT.**

**BEFORE GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, JESUS WAS ALREADY AROUND!**

**HE DOESN'T HAVE A MOTHER! HE HAS ALWAYS EXISTED!**

1. HE DID NOT BECOME JESUS!
2. HE WAS NOT CREATED JESUS!
3. HE DID NOT HAVE A BEGINNING!
4. HE'S JUST ALWAYS BEEN THERE!

**THAT'S WHY I HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THOSE CLAIMING TO BE GOD.**

1. BECAUSE IF YOU CAN POINT TO YOUR BEGINNING, YOU'RE NOT GOD.
2. IF YOU CAN POINT TO WHEN YOU GOT HERE, THEN MY QUESTION IS, IF YOU'RE GOD, WHO BROUGHT YOU INTO THE WORLD?

**JESUS WAS ALREADY AROUND WHEN THE SUN, THE MOON, THE STARS AND THE PLANETS WERE CREATED.**

**JESUS WAS ALREADY AROUND WHEN THE FATHER SAID “LET US MAKE MAN.”**

**JESUS WAS ALREADY AROUND AND WHEN JOHN SAYS IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD. THAT WORD “WAS” IS NOT THE ORIGIN OF GOD. NO, IT’S GREEK, EN, WHICH MEANS CONTINUOUS ACTION:**

**HE NOT ONLY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AROUND. HE WILL ALWAYS BE AROUND!**

- 1. YOUR HIGH SCHOOL WEIGHT WAS AROUND, BUT FOR MANY OF US IT’S GONE.**
- 2. FOR SOME OF US OUR BLACK HAIR WAS AROUND, BUT NOW IT’S EITHER GRAY OR GONE.**
- 3. FOR SOME OF US OUR VEHICLES AND CLOTHES WERE AROUND, BUT NOW IT’S EITHER OBSOLETE OR GIVEN AWAY.**
- 4. JESUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AROUND!**

**II. SECONDLY, JOHN SINGS HIS PRAISES MORE, “THE WORD WAS WITH GOD” – MEANING THAT JESUS IS CO-EXISTENT.**

**HE HAS BEEN AND HE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH THE FATHER AND THEY HAVE LIVED IN PERFECT KOINONIA OR FELLOWSHIP.**

- 1. THEY’VE NEVER HAD A FALLING OUT;**

2. **THEY'VE NEVER GONE THEIR SEPARATE WAYS;**
3. **THEY'VE NEVER STOP COMMUNICATING WITH EACH OTHER;**
4. **THEY'VE NEVER FOUGHT OR ARGUED OVER ANYTHING;**
5. **HEY HAVE A PERFECT AND ETERNAL FELLOWSHIP.**

**THIS CO-EXISTENTENCY IS HARD TO TRANSLATE BECAUSE OF THE PHRASE JOHN USES.**

**HE SAYS THAT “*THE LOGOS PROS TON THEON*”, WHICH MEANS NOT THAT “*THE WORD WAS WITH GOD*” AS KING JAMES TRANSLATION PHRASES IT. RATHER IT MEANS THAT “THE WORD WAS TOWARD GOD!”**

**IT TRANSLATES LIKE THIS: “JESUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL ALWAYS BE FACE TO FACE WITH THE FATHER AND WHATEVER HE DOES IT'S ALWAYS WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FATHER.”**

**HE IS NOT LESSER THAN THE FATHER, BUT HE'S WITH THE FATHER – BY HIS SIDE. LIVING AND MOVING IN THE CLOSEST OF RELATIONSHIP.**

### **ILLUSTRATION**

**ONE OF MY FAVORITE TELEVISION SHOWS OF ALL TIME WAS SANFORD AND SON.**

**REDD FOXX PLAYED FRED SANFORD WHO OWNED A JUNKYARD IN LOS ANGELES AND HE MADE HIS SON LAMONT THE CO-OWNER OF THE FAMILY BUSINESS.**

**THEY LIVED IN THE SAME HOUSE. THEY ATE MOST OF THEIR MEALS AT THE SAME TIME.**

**BUT FRED LIKED TO WEAR OVERHAULS AND LAMONT WOULD WEAR TWO PIECE SUITS WITH A WIDE COLLAR SHIRT.**

**FRED LIKED TO THREATEN TO FIGHT AND DRINK EVERY NOW AND THEN.**

**LAMONT WAS A PASSIVE PERSONALITY AND RARELY WOULD DRINK ON THE SHOW.**

**FRED COULDN'T STAND AUNT ESTHER WHO ALWAYS ACCESSORIZED WITH A BLACK LEATHER HANDBAG AND LAMONT LOVED HIM SOME AUNT ESTHER.**

**THE POINT IS THAT THEY LIVED IN THE SAME HOUSE BUT THEY COULD NEVER GET ALONG.**

**TRANSITION BACK TO THE TEXT**

**WHEN IT COMES TO JESUS AND THE FATHER, THEY ALWAYS GET ALONG!**

- 1. WHAT THE FATHER LOVES, HE LOVES.**
- 2. WHAT THE FATHER WANTS, HE WANTS.**
- 3. WHAT THE FATHER BLESSES, HE BLESSES.**
- 4. WHAT THE FATHER FIXES, HE FIXES.**
- 5. WHAT THE FATHER DESIRES, HE DESIRES.**
- 6. THEY ARE IN PERFECT FELLOWSHIP.**

**THAT LETS ME KNOW THAT THERE IS A DEGREE OF INTIMACY THAT IS SHARED BETWEEN THE FATHER AND THE SON.**

SO MUST SO THAT JESUS EVEN SAID “I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE.”

**III. NOT ONLY IS JESUS PRE-EXISTENT AND CO- EXISTENT, JOHN SINGS FURTHER “THE WORD WAS GOD.” JESUS IS GODLY EXISTENT!**

JOHN’S WORDING “KAI -THEOS EN HA LOGOS” IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO SHOW WHO GOD IS.

JOHN IS TRYING TO HELP US UNDERSTAND WHO THE WORD OR JESUS IS!

JESUS CHRIST IS A DISTINCT PERSONALITY FROM GOD THE FATHER!

WHEN WE LOOK AT JESUS, WE SEE A DISTINCT PERSON, BUT WE ALSO SEE A PERSON WHO IS THE VERY SUBSTANCE AND CHARACTER OF GOD IN HIS PERFECT BEING!

HE HAS THE VERY NATURE AND CHARACTER OF GOD THE FATHER IN HIM.

### **ILLUSTRATION**

I’VE HAD JEHOVAH WITNESSES COME TO MY DOOR AND THEY HAVE THE AUDACITY TO SUGGEST THAT JESUS WAS NOT GOD BUT A LESSER REALITY OF LOWER DEITY THAN GOD.

IN THE JEHOVAH WITNESS BIBLE THIS SAME PASSAGE READS, “IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD AND THE WORD WAS A GOD.”

THEY SUGGEST THAT THE LORD IS SOMEHOW DEFICIENT IN HIS CHARACTER;

**THEY SUGGEST THAT THE LORD DOESN'T POSSESS  
WHAT THE FATHER HAS;**

**THEY SUGGEST THAT THE LORD DOESN'T HAVE THE  
JUICE THAT THE FATHER HAS!**

**I WISH THEY WOULD TALK WITH THOSE WHO THE  
LORD HAS MADE A WAY FOR:**

- 1. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO THE  
WOMAN WITH AN ISSUE OF BLOOD  
THAT WAS HEALED.**
- 2. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO THE MAN  
WHO'S DAUGHTER CAME BACK FROM  
THE DEAD.**
- 3. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO LAZARUS  
WHO LEFT THE GRAVEYARD WALKING  
AND BREATHING.**
- 4. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO THE BLIND  
MAN WHO JESUS SPIT IN HIS EYES AND  
HE WAS HEALED.**
- 5. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO THE  
YOUNG BOY WHO SAW JESUS TURN HIS  
LUNCH OF HUSH PUPPIES AND  
CATFISH AND FED MULTITUDES.**
- 6. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO THE  
WOMAN AT THE WELL WHO JESUS  
PSYCHOLOGICALLY ANALYZED WITHOUT  
CHARGING A DIME.**
- 7. I WISH THEY WOULD TALK TO THE ONE  
WHO ASKED JESUS TO REMEMBER HIM AT  
CALVARY AND WENT WITH HIM TO  
PARADISE.**

**BUT I DON'T NEED A BIBLICAL WITNESS. I OUGHT TO HAVE SOME WITNESSES IN THIS ROOM.**

1. I OUGHT TO HAVE SOMEBODY HERE WHO CAN TESTIFY THAT THE LORD WILL MAKE A WAY SOMEHOW!
2. IS THERE ANYBODY HERE WHO CAN YOU TESTIFY ABOUT THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD?
3. IS THERE ANYBODY HERE WHO CAN YOU TESTIFY ABOUT THE GRACE OF THE LORD?
4. IS THERE ANYBODY HERE WHO CAN YOU TESTIFY ABOUT HOW HE PICKED YOU UP AND TURNED YOU AROUND?

**CONCLUSION**

**IF YOU CAN'T TESTIFY, ALLOW ME TO SAY, THAT THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION!**

**THE LORD HAS TAKEN CARE OF ME WHEN I COULDN'T TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.**

**THE LORD HAS BROUGHT ME THROUGH THE STORMS AND THE RAINS!**

- I'M GOING TO SING HIS PRAISES LIKE JOHN!

- **I'M GOING TO BLESS HIS NAME!**
- **I'M GOING TO WORSHIP THE LORD!**
- **I'M GOING TO TELL SOMEBODY THAT HE'S ABLE!**
- **I'M GOING TO WAVE MY HANDS!**
- **I'M GOING TO JUMP FOR JOY!**

**WHEN I THINK OF HIS GOODNESS, AND WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE FOR ME!**

**I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I'M GLAD HE IS MY SAVIOR!**

**I'M GLAD HE DIED FOR ME AT CALVARY!**

**I'M GLAD THAT EARLY SUNDAY MORNING, HE GOT UP WITH ALL POWER IN HIS HAND . . .**

**HE'S ALL RIGHT . . . .**