

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 1:6-14

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-359 JANUARY 16, 2000

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“The Greatest Story Ever Told”

THE THEME OF THE 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.

TOPICAL SUBJECT REFERENCED UNDER:

Jesus - The Word of God

INTRODUCTION:

Prior to the Arrive of Jesus, Israel has sat for some 400 years without a prophet. There was no representative to speak for God. The Nation, In fact the world was the rule of the Roman Empire. Israel was longing for the Messiah to come and throw off the yoke of the Gentiles so that the Kingdom of God could come.

**For The People, For the Nation,
That was About to Change**

What Seemed Like God was **Nowhere** was Soon to be Announced That He was Actually - **Now Here**

John 1:6-14

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 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 beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

1.) God Has Been Faithfulness to Man

vv. 6-8

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** This man came for a **witness**, to bear **witness** of the Light, that all through him might believe. **8** He was not that Light, but was sent to bear **witness** of that Light.

a.) We Have The Divine Mission

v.6

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

□ Sent grk 649 apostello (ap-os-tel'-lo);
set apart, to send out on an errand mission)

John the Baptist's Conception, Birth and Ministry was Divinely Ordained

Luke 1:8-18

So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, 9 according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense

when he went into the temple of the Lord. 10 And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. 11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. 15 "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. 16 "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 "He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." 18 And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years."

We Too Have Been Called and Sent by God

Jeremiah 1:4-5,8-9

Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations." - - 8 Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD. 9 Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

God Has Provided the "Going Power"

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

And God Has Given Us "The Direction"

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

It's Just a Suggestion but

I Think You Have Been Born and Saved for just This Very Time

John, Like Us
Were Called to Preach The Word of God
and to Baptize Those who Believe

b.) We Have The Divine Message v. 7

This man came for a **witness**,
to bear **witness** of the Light, that all through him might believe.

For A **Witness** / To Bear **Witness**

Witness grk 3141 marturia (mar-too-ree'-ah);
To give evidence (judicially) to bear record, report,
testimony, as one under oath.

It is Now, Through us,
that the World is Going to Believe

1 Corinthians 1:4-6

I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, 5 that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, 6 even as the **testimony** of Christ was confirmed in you,

Hebrews 12:1-2

1Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Our Personal Experience...

1 Timothy 6:12-13

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

Matthew 27:11

Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" So Jesus said to him, "It is as you say."

Living a Lifestyle That Generates a Response

"Are You a Believer in Jesus as Messiah?"
And So We Answered unto Them, "It is as you say."

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand **that we should walk in them.**

that we should walk in them

c.) We Have The Divine Ministry v.8

He was not that Light,
but was sent to bear **witness** of that Light.

Barkley Notes that
"If Jesus was The Sun, Then John was The Moon"

□ to bear, to announce or to live out that which is being reported

+/- Christians are Witnesses +/-

John - A "Witnessing" Ministry

Luke 7:28

"For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

John's Ministry
was the "Summation" of the Old Testament Prophets

He was the Last
in a Long Line of Messengers

Matthew 21:33-40

"Hear this parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers (Israel) and went into a far country. 34 "Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants (the prophets) to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. 35 "And the vinedressers took his servants, (the prophets) beat one, killed one, and stoned another. 36 "Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. 37 "Then last of all he sent his son to them (Jesus), saying, 'They will respect my son.' 38 "But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir of the vineyard. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.'....."

And Maybe We Are Too...

Romans 10:13-15

13For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
14How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? **15**And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. **11** He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

That was **the true Light** which **gives light**
to every man coming into the world

There's Light and then there's Illumination light in the ancient world

was something that was to be sought after. Light was a blessing from the gods which warmed the skin, enhanced vision and removed the darkness where doubt and danger lurked

Matthew 4:12-17

Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. **13** And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, **14** that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: **15** "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: **16** The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." **17** From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

the greatest and darkest enemy of every man was
death

death was the ancients greatest fear

life and death
is the great reality of the human experience. The warm glow One is passionately embraced, while the cold darkness of the other is better left ignored.

Matthew 8:11-12

"And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. 12 "But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

John's Purpose was to Point at Jesus

true Light

here is a warning to the careful reader. The greek word here implies that there exists also a false light...

John 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

b.) We've Been Called to Obedience (*preach it*) v.10

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,
and the world did not **know** Him

#1

He Was in the World

#2

The World Was Made Through Him

#3

The World Didn't Recognize Him

Satanic blindness holds people in darkness
so that they cannot see the light

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

3But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,
4whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the
gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

c.) We've Been Called to a Self-Death (live it) v.11

He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

#4

And His Own People

The Jewish People, The Nation of Israel

**This Verse is Considered
to be the Saddest Verse in All of the Bible**

Matthew 20:18-19

"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the
chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, 19 "and deliver
Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will
rise again."

Personally – I am a Christian

Mark 8:34-35

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them,
"Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and
follow Me. 35 "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life
for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

Associate with John and His Ministry

John 3:30

"He must increase, but I must decrease.

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and
the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and
gave Himself for me.

There is a Blessedness to the Death that Jesus Speaks of

- It's After This Death That We Really Begin to Live
- It's After This Death That Experience True Freedom
- It's After This Death That We Enjoy God's Peace

1.) God Has Been Faithful to Man vv. 6-8

2.) God's Invited Man to Fellowship vv. 9-11

3.) God's Created a Fulfillment for Man vv. 12-14

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 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 beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

a.) A God Given Right to Life v.12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

as many as received Him

This is a willful determination to Come to Christ

Deuteronomy 30:19

"I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

1 Corinthians 9:19-22

Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.

to them He gave the **right**
to become children of God,

▭ the right grk 1849 exousia (ex-oo-see'-ah);
privilege, competency, freedom, mastery
jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength.

Romans 8:14-15

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

Galatians 4:6

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

What Is It to be a Child of God ?

We've Been Given a New Nature

2 Peter 1:2-4

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

We've Been Made New Creations

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

We've Been Born into His Family

1 Peter 1:23

having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh,
nor of the will of man, **but of God.**

...Born of God ! Born from Above

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.

□ **dwelt** grk 4637 skenoo (skay-no'-o);
to tent or to pitch a tent to encamp, to occupy
to take up residences

□ **beheld** grk 2300 theaomai (theh-ah'-om-ahee);
a prolonged form of a primary verb; to look closely at, to examine
well. By touch and by sight

I John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

“full of grace and truth.”

“full of grace” “full of truth.”

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. 40 "But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

The End