

# ***“His Name Is Jesus”***

John 1:1-18

January 5, 2014

**Series Intro:** What are your best intentions for this year?

I offer you a walk with God!

Imagine yourself in the Garden... as Enoch... amongst the Apostles...

- Series' Structure: 52 week exegesis & Visual Bible

- Series' Strategy: Preach & Teach God's Word

Experience

Engage

Explain

Apply

- Making disciples by learning, loving & living God's Word...
- Together... **as Ekklesia... in Koinonia.** AMEN!

**T/S:**

**Gospel Intro:**

**Qt:** John is “the beloved Gospel” *because* John probes the depth of Christ's character with a simplicity and majesty that cannot be forgotten. - **Gary Burge, NIV Application Commentary**

**John uses plain speak to describe & apply powerful truths.** - JDP

John vs. *Synoptic* (“*seen together*”) Gospels:

**Matthew** = **King/Messiah Jesus**

Heavy O.T. references written to Jews...  
"That it might be fulfilled,"  
"As it was written,"  
"Behold your King."

**Mark** = **Servant/Prophet Jesus**

No genealogy resumes needed for servants!

**Luke** = **Human Jesus** (very *human* examples...)

**John** = **Divine/Deity Jesus**

**Qt:** “when we turn to the Gospel of John, we see the open heavens and the Eternal Son descending from above, taking His place in the womb of the Virgin—God and Man in one blessed, glorious Person—the Eternal Son manifest in the flesh.” - **H.A. Ironside**



**The early church used Eagles to symbolize John's Gospel... due to the spiritual heights it was said to have reached...**

**Qt: MacArthur: Uniqueness of John's Gospel:**

Unlike the Synoptics, John contains no narrative parables, no eschatological discourses, no accounts of Jesus exorcising demons or healing lepers, no list of the twelve apostles, and no formal institution of the Lord's Supper. John also does not record Jesus' birth, baptism, transfiguration, temptation, agony in Gethsemane, or ascension. On the other hand, John does include a large amount of material (more than 90 percent of its content) not found in the Synoptics, such as... 1) the prologue describing Christ's preexistence and incarnation; 2) His first miracle; 3) His dialogue with Nicodemus; 4) His encounter with a Samaritan woman; 5) His healing of a blind man; 6) the resurrection of Lazarus; 7) the washing of the disciples' feet; 8) the Upper Room Discourse; 9) Jesus' High Priestly Prayer; and 10) Jesus' re-commissioning of Peter...

See Synoptics & John as Complementary NOT Contradictory  
(important principle for all Bible students)

**2 Key passages help to unlock *John's Gospel*.**

**#1 The front-door key: 1:11-12 = Confrontational Evangelism**

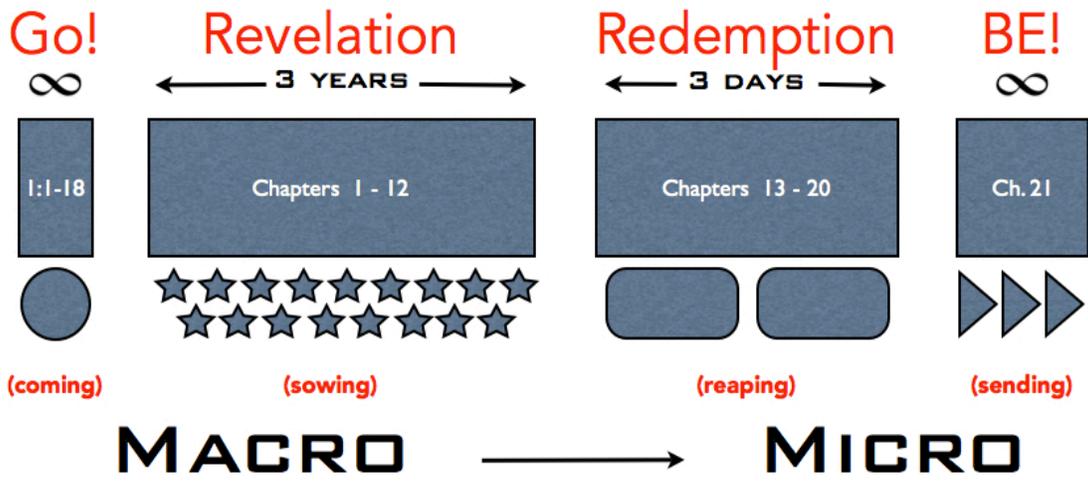
*"He came unto His own, and they that were His own received Him not. But as many as received Him to them gave He the right to become children of God, even to them who believe on His name."*

**#2 The back-door key: 20:31 = Apologetic Evangelism**

*"these are written that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life through His name."* This was John's whole thought in telling the Jesus-story. **John has become simply and echo of Jesus.**

\*\*\* Overview of the book (DIAGRAM) \*\*\*

*“The Walk of God”*  
**GOSPEL OF JOHN**



*“These things are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.” - John 20:31*

**T/S:** Let’s take a closer look at John... our human author & guide

**John the Author:**

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| John is <u>a Jew</u> :          | Familiar with <b>traditions...</b>           |
| John is <u>a local</u> :        | Familiar with <b>area</b>                    |
| John is <u>an eye-witness</u> : | Familiar with <b>details</b>                 |
| John is <u>an Apostles</u> :    | Familiar with <b><i>intimate</i> details</b> |

John was a disciple of John the Baptist!  
Required & demonstrated bold belief...  
Accustomed to persecution  
A man of courage & conviction!

John was "the disciple Jesus loved" = inner 3

John was there when JB baptized Jesus...  
He was infused with passion on that day...  
He was never the same again...  
He became *Odd, Obvious, Obsessed...*

John was a man called & equipped by God Himself  
Physically as well as spiritually...  
"What do you want?" (Jesus asks John)  
"Follow Me..." (Jesus to John and the others)

**the only disciple that did not...**

<i>Betray</i>	(Judas)
<i>Deny</i>	(Peter)
<i>Flee</i>	(the 9 others)

**John was at the cross!**

John was ***acknowledged*** (Scripture places him)  
John was ***affirmed*** (trusted with assignment)  
John was ***assigned*** (take care of Mary)

**Time/Location of authorship:**

Tradition supports approx. **80-90 A.D.**

...no mention of Temple destruction in 70 AD  
...Synoptics are assumed knowledge by then  
...church fathers tell us John's Gospel was last

Church fathers... John wrote from Ephesus to the Church...  
(\*\*\* see 1<sup>st</sup> John and Revelation 2-3 for context)

**T/S:** So let's jump into our text for this morning...

**Text Intro:** Gospel of John... ch.1... vv.1-18

**Paraphrased Qt:** “In seminary, during an 18 week class on the Gospel of John... the professor spent the first 13 weeks on 1:1-18... Let that give you a little perspective on the magnitude and the magnificence of this passage.” - **John Piper**

**Prologue =** an **early Christian Hymn** of the Incarnate Word

**QT:** “The opening section of John's gospel expresses the most profound truth in the universe in the clearest terms. Though easily understood by a child, John's Spirit-inspired words convey a truth beyond the ability of the greatest minds in human history to fathom: the eternal, infinite God became a man in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. – **Kent Hughes**

**Big Idea:** *God wants YOU to KNOW Him!*

**T/S:**     **His name is Jesus!** (sermon title)

Jesus THE Creator God

Jesus THE Calling God

Jesus THE Confronting God

Jesus THE Christ... the Curing God

**T/S:**     Let me show you... then we'll study together.

**VIDEO:**   John 1:1-18

**T/S:**     You've *Experienced* His Word...  
              Now let's *Engage, Explain, & Apply* it!

**PREVIEW:** see God's glory... & our common ground...

1. Created by Jesus...

2. Called by Jesus...

3. Confronted by Jesus...

4. Cured by Jesus!

**T/S:** The prologue (of John's Gospel) is the most complete, indeed, the most explicit study of Christ's preexistence in the New Testament... He is God-in-descent, God stepping into the context of humanity... The prologue to John is not about a message that offers hope, but about *THE* Message that is the *ONLY* hope. - NIV Commentary

## #1 Created by Jesus (vv.1-5)

**1:1** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

### *“Christ's Instigation”*

NOTE: **“Word” = Communicator/tion with Clarity**

*NOT Deed (disguised motives)*

*NOT Thought (disguised intent)*

*NOT Feeling (disguised emotions)*

**Qt:** *The simple sentence of **verse 1** is the most compact and pulsating theological statement in all of Scripture.* Jesus was always existing from all eternity as God, in perfect fellowship with God the Father and the Holy Spirit. ***He is the cosmic Christ.*** – Kent Hughes

**Ironside on v.1:** Notice 7 things...

1. Our Lord's Eternity of Being
2. His Distinct Personality:
3. His True Deity:
4. His Unchanging (Trinitarian) Relationship:
5. His Full Creatorial Glory:
6. His Life-giving Power:
7. His Incarnation:

"In the beginning was the Word." There never was a time when Christ did not exist because the word "was" **in the Greek imperfect tense, which means "was continuing."** In fact, the entire first verse bears this sense. **"In the beginning was continuing the Word, and the Word was continuing with God, and the Word was continually God."**

**"Word" = philosophy to Greeks; deity to Jews...**

***2 He was in the beginning with God.***

Key words associated with "Word"

1. "WAS" = Eternal!
2. "WITH" = Distinctive (Trinity)

**3** *All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*

*“Jesus is Creator-God... He is Christ, the crucified Creator!”* - JDP

**Eternally Creator:**    See also:

1 Corinthians 8:6  
Colossians 1:16-17  
Hebrews 1:2-3  
Revelation 4:11

**4** *In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. **5** The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*

**‘Life’ is “in Him” = only He can give what He has...**

**His life becomes our light.** - JDP

**His Light lives on OFFENSE!** - JDP

**Darkness ALWAYS loses to the Light.** - JDP

## John 1:1-5's Awe-inspiring Truthful Christology

- Jesus is the eternal Word
- Jesus is God
- Jesus is Creator
- Jesus is Christ
- Jesus is Light
- Jesus is Life
- Jesus is Love that Overcomes the darkness!

**T/S:** "John intends that the whole of his gospel shall be read in the light of this (opening passage). The deeds and words of Jesus are the deeds and words of God. This is the theme that will be echoed throughout the Gospel. - Ironside

### #2 Called by Jesus (vv.6-8)

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

***“Christ’s Initiation”***

## Called by Christ

- A. John: a sent one sent for others
- B. John: a witness-the work of worship**
- C. John: told to testify-no matter what!
- D. “so that ALL might believe thru him”  
\*\*\* we are ALL called to be bridges

## NOTE: interesting parallel of confusion in the church

In the same way people see Peter as “the Rock” ...

To counter any false exaltation of John the Baptist, the apostle John wrote that he **was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.**

### ***Ref. John the Baptist...***

The phrase **sent from God** confirms John's role as herald in several ways. First, the Baptist had a divine commission as the one who fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies regarding Messiah's forerunner. Isaiah predicted him ([Isa. 40:3](#); cf. [Matt. 3:3](#); [Mark 1:2-3](#)). The Old Testament closes with Malachi's prophecy of the Elijah-like prophet to come before the Day of the Lord ([Mal. 3:1](#); [4:5-6](#)), which the angel of the Lord told Zacharias referred to John ([Luke 1:17](#)). Second, the Baptist was uniquely sent from God because his conception and birth were miraculous, since his parents were old and had never had children ([Luke 1:7, 36](#)). Third, the angel of the Lord came from heaven to tell Zacharias that he and Elizabeth would have a son who would be the herald of the Messiah ([Luke 1:8-17](#)). Fourth, the Holy Spirit filled Zacharias to prophesy concerning John ([Luke 1:67-79](#)). Fifth, the Baptist was sent from the Lord at the divinely appointed time to begin his public ministry ([Luke 1:80](#)).

John was the first true prophet ([Matt. 14:5](#); [21:26](#)) to appear in Israel in 400 years, and his bold, confrontational preaching created a sensation. [Mark 1:5](#) describes his enormous impact by reporting how *"all the country of Judea was going out to him, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins"* (cf. [Matt. 3:5-6](#)). He was to prepare the hearts of the people for the Messiah; therefore, he fearlessly confronted sin and called for repentance: *"Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'"* ([Matt. 3:1](#)). John even rebuked Herod,

John the Baptist was the greatest man who had ever lived up to his time, as Jesus affirmed: *"Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptist!"* ([Matt. 11:11](#)). He was the greatest man because God chose him to perform the most important task to that point in human history—being the forerunner of the Messiah. He was the first to announce publicly that Jesus was the Savior ([John 1:29](#)).

The legal terms **witness** (*marturia*) and **testify** (*manureō*) are words related to fact, not opinion, as in a courtroom setting. The terms are used predominantly in the New Testament by the apostle John (77 out of their 113 occurrences are in John's gospel, epistles, or Revelation).

**John** is properly called the Baptist because he was sent by God to baptize repentant sinners in preparation for the Messiah's coming ([1:31](#)). Yet the purpose of all he did was to bear witness to Jesus ([1:15](#), [23](#), [29](#), [32](#), [34](#), [36](#); [5:33](#), [36](#)), so **that all might believe through him.**

**VIDEO:**    Adopt the Badia

### #3: Confronted by Jesus (vv.9-13)

#### *“Christ’s Invitation”*

*“All receive revelation... only the elect receive redemption.” - JDP*

How do you know who’s who???

(Spurgeon: “if they had yellow stripes...”)

Jesus said: *“You will know them by their fruit.”*

There are only 2 responses when confronted by Jesus:

1. **REJECT** Him... vv.9-11 *dead fruit*
2. **RECEIVE** Him...vv.12-13 *living fruit*

vv.9-11 = Those who **REJECT** Christ in Confrontation

**9** *There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.*

General Revelation...

Common (vs. saving) grace...

Visible vs. Invisible Church!

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

- the world's Creator was not known by the world's creatures (v.10)

**NIV... The nature of the world...** John uncovers the character of the world (a place of darkness) and discloses how the world reacts whenever it is penetrated by the light. John's worldview is strictly dualistic: The forces of light and darkness, good and evil, God and Satan are arrayed against one another to such a degree that there can be no compromise. No intermingling. No association....

**11** *He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.*

- \* "He came" =
  - Intentional
  - Initiative
  - Inspirational

**KEY:** The 1<sup>st</sup> "*His own*" is in the **neuter**; the 2<sup>nd</sup> is **personal**.

- \* "to His own"
  - His creation/creatures
  - His chosen/community
  - His church/Church

\* "...did not receive Him"  
His physical people  
His spiritual people  
Visible/ invisible c/Church

**Rejection of Christ:** Like their ancestors, the Israelites of Jesus' day stiffened their necks ([Deut. 10:16](#); [2 Kings 17:14](#); [Neh. 9:29](#); [Jer. 7:26](#); [17:23](#)) and rejected Him despite the clear testimony of the Old Testament Scriptures ([John 5:39](#)). Instead of repenting of their sin and accepting Him as their Messiah, they screamed, "Crucify Him!... Israel's rejection and collaboration in the murder of her Messiah was a common theme in apostolic preaching.

**v.11 = Consider John's emotional state while writing....** This is the most heart-breaking of all of John's heart-breaking sentences. John had a hard time writing this Gospel of his. He was not simply writing a book; that might have been fairly easy. But he was telling about a friend of his, the friend of his life, his one dearest Friend. And when he remembers how they treated Him his eyes fill up, and his heart beats till it thumps, and his quill sticks into the paper in sheer reluctance to tell the story.

I think likely in the original manuscript, John's own first copy, the writing was a bit shaky and uneven here. The dew of his wet eyes drops and blurs the words a bit as he puts down, "He came to His own, and... they who were His own... *received... Him... not.*"

**NIV... The nature of the world...** he uncovers the character of the world (a place of darkness) and discloses how the world reacts whenever it is penetrated by the light. John's worldview is strictly dualistic: The forces of light and darkness, good and evil, God and Satan are arrayed against one another to such a degree that there can be no compromise. No intermingling. No association....

**T/S:**            **NIV Overview:** [1:11-12](#) reflect the layout or the emphasis of the Gospel's entire structure: "*He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*"

vv.12-13 Those who **RECEIVE Christ** in Confrontation

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

\*\*\* vv.12-13 \*\*\* Believe & Receive

- **"But"** = stark contrast
  
- **"to ALL who DID receive Him"**

**Inclusivity...** (universal implication vs. application)  
(condition vs. conclusion)

**Certainty...** (who = personal; did = done)

**Actually...** (receive = believe)

**Identity!** (Him=mMm)

**You must “believe & receive”  
Not just His historicity...  
but His holy audacity too! - JDP**

\* "who did receive" =

\*\*\* *Great* **Commandments**

\*\*\* *Great* **Commission**

\*\*\* *Great* **Community/Church**

**NOTE:** Not just Jesus the guy...But Jesus the God!  
And to be safe...  
Not just Jesus the God... but Jesus the guy.  
Such is the HOLY Him...  
the LORD and Savior of Scripture - Amen!

- ***"who believed in His name"***

- *"who"* = again... It is personal
- *"believed"* = "ALL-In"

Salvation/Transformation

NOT

Sanctification/Maturation

- "Biblical believing is one of the biblical conditions to biblical receiving." – JDP

**“BELIEVE” defined:**

“Believe’ means to be persuaded that a thing is true; then to place confidence in it, to trust. And *trust* always contains the idea of *risk*. The heart-meaning always is that you risk something very precious to you, risk it to the point of heart-breaking disaster if your trust proves wrong... **“The trust that risks is the life blood of faith...”**

– Samuel Dickey Gordon

**Illustration:**

- think about childlike faith
- the 1st grade child believes the teacher before he/she learns the lesson.

- ***"in His name"*** = Jesus personified

- ***"He gave"***

- Note: GIFT of Grace!
- Note: Jesus is the gift-Giver!
- Don't ever forget... whatever you give or get that is good is itself a gift of Christ's grace.

- **"the right to become"**

\* **"the right"**

Note: it's not automatic it requires authorization

\*\*\* It's the right to be adopted!

Note: it's a privilege...

\*\*\* This privilege has a price...

it comes at a cost...

the CRUCIFIXION of Christ!

"HIS blood bought OUR blessing." – JDP

\* **"to become" = mMm**

- **"children of God"**

- Whose your Daddy?

think about this privilege...

\*\*\* Eternal ASSURANCE

vs.

Earthly insurance

**Illustration:** we have our home in heave (built on the Rock vs. children of the Devil whose houses are built on sand... with supplies that are dangerously deceptive and ultimately, day by day, disastrously disintegrating. -JDP

\*\*\* Divine AUTHORITY  
vs.  
Demonic anarchy

**“the children of God”**

sent ones  
set apart  
witnesses  
testifiers  
the living  
the lights  
the receivers  
The believers!

***13*** *who were born, not of blood (i.e. family bloodline) nor of the will of the flesh (i.e. personal choice) nor of the will of man (i.e. man-made religious passage or promise), but of God (a.k.a. “Miraculous grace through the One true Messiah... which will providentially place you on Mission... mMm!”)*

**There are 3 ways by which you cannot become a child of God:**

*1st. "Which were born, not of blood."* That means that even if your parents were two of the best Christians that ever lived, they cannot give you divine life. (i.e. “children of Abraham)

*2nd. "Nor of the will of the flesh."* You cannot simply *make* yourself a Christian by your own will... It is not just by trying to be better, but by letting God make of you a new creature. (ie. no amount of mere want-to or even missional work)

*3rd. "Nor of the will of man."* No one on earth can make you a Christian. People imagine some minister or priest can make Christians of them by baptism or sacraments. But these cannot save you. "You **MUST** be born again." (ie. it's a Miracle vs. man-made)

NOTE: The great truth of election and sovereign grace is here introduced appropriately at the very foundation of John's mention of salvation.

#### #4: **Cured by Jesus** (vv.14-18)

##### *"Christ's Incarnation & Inspiration"*

**14** *And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

See the **Coming Christ...** vv.14-16 (*Grace*)

See the **Curing Christ...** vv.17-18 (*Gospel*)

MacArthur observes:

- vv.14 = the Nature of the Incarnation
- vv.15-16 = the Witnesses to the Incarnation
- vv.17-18 = the Impact of the Incarnation

Keep in mind....

The two attributes most closely connected with salvation are **grace and truth**. Scripture teaches that salvation is wholly by believing God's **truth** in the gospel, by which one receives His saving **grace**.

A vague belief in God apart from the truth about Christ will not result in salvation. As Jesus Himself warned, "Unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins" ([John 8:24](#)). Those who think they are worshiping God, but are ignorant of or reject the fullness of the New Testament teaching about Christ, are deceived, because "he who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him" ([John 5:23](#); cf. [15:23](#)). In his first epistle John affirmed that "whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also" ([1 John 2:23](#); cf. [2 John 9](#)). Those who reject God's full revelation of Himself in Jesus Christ will be eternally lost.

[Verse 14](#) is the most concise biblical statement of the Incarnation, and therefore one of Scripture's most significant verses. The four words with which it begins, **the Word became flesh**, express the reality that in the Incarnation God took on humanity; the infinite became finite; eternity entered time; the invisible became visible (cf. [Col. 1:15](#)); the Creator entered His creation.

**15** John testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'"

**16** For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

This passage is using "commercial language," capitalistic compensation... but NOT when it comes to grace... God's grace begets more of God's grace... the idea is to love, trust, and surrender more and more to receive more and more of God's gracious blessings... Believe & Receive = a constant cleaving to Christ. - JDP

**Grace upon grace... =**

People ask me sometimes if I have ever received "the second blessing." Why, dear friends, it has been nothing but blessing upon blessing now for almost fifty years, as I have been learning more and more of the wondrous fulness of Christ.

- Ironside

- **"for from His fullness"**

Note: He is complete!

Note: He is perfect!

- ***"we receive"***

Jesus is not only the expression of ALL that is good & great... He is also the very SOURCE of all the goodness & grace that the children of God get - Amen!

"we" = personal collective

"receive" = gift of grace...

*"There is no gratitude in God's gospel gift!"* - JDP

- \* ***"grace upon grace"***

Illustration:

Picture the tranquil ripples of a soft babbling brook, with Christ's cross-bought graces soothing your spirit & sprinkling you with the soft serenade of His peace... ahhhhh...

Now contrast that with the thunderous force and overwhelming power at the base of Niagra Falls... HERE, by contrast my friends, is where WE sin-stained saints sit beneath the blood-bought blessings of Christ's gospel graces which are new and renewed day by day! - JDP

**17** *For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.*

## Contrast & Christology are key!

"the Law came thru Moses"

\*\*\* Jesus fulfills the Law

"grace & truth came thru Jesus Christ"

\*\*\* Note: there is a healthy relationship between the Law, grace, & truth...

\*\*\* "Grace always has & always will originate with Christ." – JDP

\*\*\* Ditto on "truth"

--- see John 14:6

--- "truth in love" =

! Portrait of Jesus

! Passion of...

! Power of...

...the Law was not an instrument of grace. Rather, God granted grace and forgiveness to repentant sinners who violated His holy law, based on what Christ would do to provide atonement. The **Law** saves no one ([Acts 13:38-39](#); [Rom. 3:20-22](#); [8:3](#); [10:4](#); [Gal. 2:16](#); [3:10-12](#); [Phil. 3:9](#); [Heb. 7:18-19](#); [10:1-4](#)); it merely convicts sinners of their inability to keep perfectly God's righteous standards, and condemns them to the eternal punishment of divine justice; and thus reveals their need for the grace of forgiveness.

**18** *No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.*

### Note the High & Heavenly Christology

- ***"no one has ever seen God; (the Father)"***
  - the "AWE" factor of God
  - by contrast & inference then the AWE-factor of Jesus...  
THE Christ
  
- ***"the only God, (the Son) who is at the Father's side"***
  - see trinitarian language
  
  - 2 of 3 persons...
  
  - internally relational
  
  - see unapologetic exclusivity
  
- ***"He (God the Son) has made Him (God the Father) known,"***
  - John 14:6!!!

John explains that when Jesus became flesh and “dwelt” (literally, “pitched his tent” a.k.a. “tabernacled”) in the midst of humanity, men and women saw his glory...

*Jesus is the explanation (the exegesis) of God the Father.*

**Ironside on v.18:**

Have you ever said to yourself, "I wish I knew God better; I wish I understood the mind of God more fully; how God looks at things; how He considers certain matters that perplex me and trouble me?" Let me say this, dear friend, if you would know God better, all you have to do is to get better acquainted with Jesus Christ

The love of God is the love of Jesus, and the hatred of God is the hatred seen in Jesus. Why, you say, does God hate anything? Did Jesus ever hate? Yes; with a perfect hatred God hates sin. He says, "Do not this abominable thing that I hate." He hates all hypocrisy, all uncleanness, all impurity, and Jesus hated all these things perfectly. You and I hate them in measure.

QT: *The anger of Jesus is the anger of God.* - Ironside

## **KEY Theological Explanation:**

Ezekiel had visions of God. Again and again in the Old Testament we have these marvelous scriptures that tell of men beholding God, and yet it says here, "No man hath seen God at any time." What does it mean? It means this: that all of these to which I referred were but theophanies. Men did not actually see God in His essential Being, but He manifested Himself to them—as a man to Abraham, as an angel to Daniel, as a marvelous appearance to Ezekiel. No man has seen Deity at any time. "God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth," and a spirit is not visible to mortal eyes.... When Jesus was here, men in seeing Him did not see Deity. What they did see was a man like themselves, as far as they could tell; but He was not a sinner as they were; He was the Holy One of God. But Deity was enshrined within that Man, for "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." But men could only see His humanity.

## **Summary Review:**

God is still making Himself known to man, but He makes Himself known through those who walk in fellowship with Him. If you are walking in love you are manifesting God.

***God wants YOU to KNOW Him!***

**His name is Jesus!**

Jesus THE Creator God

Jesus THE Calling God

Jesus THE Confronting God

Jesus THE Christ... the Curing God

### **Closing Application:**

**Kent Hughes: C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia...**

This Gospel's continuing effect on Christians is profound because in John's account believers find an ongoing source for expanding their concept of the Savior's greatness.

The serious student of John will find that each time he returns to the Gospel, Christ will be a little bigger—something like Lucy's experience with the lion Aslan (the Christ symbol in C. S. Lewis's *Chronicles of Narnia*) as she again gazed into his large, wise face.

*"Welcome, child," he said.*

*"Aslan," said Lucy, "you're bigger..."*

*"That is because you are older, little one," answered He.*

*"Not because you are (bigger)...?"*

*"(No...) I am not (bigger)..."*

*But every year you grow.... you will find Me bigger."*

## **Let's Pray!**