



EXPLORE THE BIBLE[®]

The Gospel of John Sermon Series

Supports Session 1: In the Beginning

Sermon Title: “The One Who Makes God Known” (John 1:14-18)

Connection to Session 1

John is describing the identity of Jesus. In this text he shows how Jesus came to earth to reveal the divine glory of God. This text explains the nature of Jesus’s incarnation.

Introduction/Opening

There are some today who say that the church no longer needs to teach doctrine because doctrine is unimportant and boring. However, if we do not understand the important doctrine of the incarnation taught in John 1:1-18, we do not understand who Jesus is and how He can save us from our sins.

Outline

1. The Word Became Flesh (1:14)

- a) Jesus came to earth and took on all human flesh. This means he was fully human. Jesus stepped down into human history and took on actual human flesh and blood.
- b) The idea of gods coming down to earth would not have been foreign to many in the Roman Empire. However, it would have been unthinkable to say that any deity would fully become a man.
- c) Jesus took on human flesh, in order to save us. If He was not fully man, then we would not be able to be cleansed from our sins.

2. The Word Dwelt (1:14)

- a) The word for “dwelt” (σκηνώω) carries with it the idea of the tabernacle from the Old Testament where God dwelt among His people.
- b) The tabernacle was the visible representation of where God’s presence dwelt on earth, it was where Israel went to meet God.
- c) In the past, God’s presence was symbolized as dwelling in the temple, however, through Christ, God has taken up residence among His people.

3. The Word Reveals God’s Glory (1:14)

- a) John says, “We observed his glory, glory as the one and only Son from the Father...” This is likely an allusion to the glory of God that dwelt in the tabernacle and temple.

b) In Exodus 33:18-23, Moses asked to see God's glory. However, God says that if he does, he will die. God gave Israel a plan to build a tabernacle where His dwelling place would be among His people.

c) Have you seen the glory of God revealed in Jesus Christ?

4. The Word Brought Grace and Truth (1:14,16-17)

a) Grace is a reference to God's steadfast love and faithfulness. John was showing us how, in the law, God revealed His righteous character. Jesus is God's revelation of both grace and truth.

b) The old was passing away and the new has come in Jesus.

5. The Word Has Revealed God (1:18)

a) The only way for anyone to know God is by believing in Jesus Christ.

b) Have you come to trust and believe in God's revelation of Himself through Jesus Christ?

Conclusion

Jesus's incarnation gives us hope and purpose in this life. Jesus came to earth, took on human flesh as one of us. He suffered and died as one of us. This is incredibly good news for sinners because this is the only message that saves. We have hope because Jesus has made a way for sinners to know and be loved by God. Jesus's incarnation also gives us purpose while on earth. We are to live for His glory and share this great doctrine of the incarnation with the world.

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