

## Resolve to Know Jesus Deeply

John 1:1-4 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

### ❖ Introduction to the Gospel of John

- **John – Very close to Jesus... (calls himself “the disciple whom Jesus loved”) 5x**
  - Rested upon Jesus during the last supper
  - Was at the foot of the cross with Mary as Jesus died...
    - She lived with him from then on... She became a mother to him, as Jesus told him at the cross...
    - Knew him even better through her
  - Part of the inner circle of closest disciples....
  - John REALLY knew Jesus...
- **Purpose of the Book (It is Clear)**
  - John 20:30–31: “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these 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.”
  - The book is written to help people believe on Christ and have eternal life.
  - **John also wrote in his 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle (1 John)**
    - 1 John 1:3-4 <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.
    - I see these things to be of the utmost importance in life, and for John as He writes

### ❖ Basic Teachings – Important Teachings – Difficult Teachings

#### ❖ Original Purpose of this sermon Series: Getting to Know Jesus Better

- **Our Number 1 Purpose in life should Include this**
  - Getting to know Jesus better....
  - In an effort to give all:
    - Glory and Honor and power and might.... To Him...
- **Remember Revelation 4 and 5**

#### ❖ Significance of these verse:

- **The Darkness that has been cast over our World**
- People have lost their way
- You have lost your way
- What is True has been hidden
- What is real is seen as imaginary
- Truth has been turned into Myth
- **Fulfilling Pleasures that come from:.....**
  - Intimately knowing Him
  - Learning of Him through His word
  - Singing praises to Him
  - Serving Him
  - Enjoying His gifts of: (family, friends, food, jobs, our possessions, rest)

- By recognizing they are gifts from the Giver of all good things

➤ **Have Been Replaced by a Perversion of Pleasures**

▪ **Money and things become the object of our affection**

- We hold onto it, and use it for more stuff we will grow tired of

▪ **Sex is creeping in on Men and Women from every angle**

- God created it as good, something to be enjoyed and shared (obviously) with our spouse
- But the gift becomes more important than the giver
- So man wants more of it
- In ways outside of God's design
- The pleasure of sexual fulfillment seems to be right and natural and strong for many
- And mankind is always left wanting more, when sex is used improperly
- !And we feel like this is ok....!
- We have separated sex from: An avenue to intimately know and love the person God has or will give
  - ◆ To... An animal instinct that must be fulfilled

▪ **Relationships**

- A basic God given and natural need
- With other people... a good thing, turns into something we put before God
- That longing to be noticed and understood and made to feel special
- So people put earthly relationships ahead of their relationship with God...
  - ◆ The Most grounded people you will ever meet
    - Have God as their number one Relationship...
    - They are not looking for someone else to satisfy their basic desire for relationship
- Men and Women- who do not get enough attention from spouses, - seek out improper relationships
  - ◆ Children who feel as if they don't get enough attention from their parents... seek it somewhere else

▪ **Pride is seen as a positive**

▪ **Violence is not only in the Forefront, it is:**

- Hero-ized
  - ◆ I made up that word

▪ **Drugs and Alcohol have become our crutches...**

- We desire that "good" "calming" feeling so much...
- That we seek it out in our drug of choice
- Or alcohol
  - ◆ Instead of casting our "cares" and anxieties on Jesus... we cast them on Drugs and Alcohol...
    - In the end... we find they did not go anywhere...

➤ **In a world amazed with the Supernatural and Miraculous**

- Believing in Aliens, and Legends and Ghosts and Psychics

➤ **Truly Supernatural and Miraculous gifts from God**

- Are overlooked
- Or seen as fanciful

➤ **In a World obsessed with Knowing and science**

- It has overlooked the most significant knowledge of all
- And we live for half truths
- And have very little of real knowledge

➤ **That is:**

- Who we really Are

- Who really made us
- What pleases Him
- What makes Him angry
- What are our responsibilities to our Creator are
- How can we be made right with Him

➤ **The Sad Truth:**

- Sin is FUN.... It is enjoyable.... It fulfills a need... even if only momentarily
  - Sin is pleasurable
- Many of these things leave us saying.... So... what is really wrong with it?
- If it makes me feel good... shouldn't it be ok...
- Don't be my morality, and tell me what to do...
- This is how far the world has fallen into a deep darkness

➤ **My desire: Find that in Jesus is true Contentment**

- Is to lead you to a better, more truthful, more fulfilling life....
- Centered on Jesus Christ...
- Because only in Christ is there true Joy, and Contentment, Direction, truth, light, and real life!

➤ **Our Problem: We do not BELIEVE THIS....! This is Foreign to us....**

➤ **IMPORTANT: Take this into consideration**

- *“Sins are not a list of petty irritations drawn up for the sake of a jealous God. They are, rather, a description of the impediments to spiritual growth. We are the ones who suffer if we sin, by forfeiting the development of character and Christlikeness that would have resulted if we had not sinned.”* – Anonymous  
Author quoting Francois Mauriac
- Repeat and Expound
- He goes on to say this: *“Food, drink, sex, recognition, power, wealth - are not spoiled; we are. They are relics of Eden. But our amnesia affects our very ability to determine their proper use.”*

➤ **So, lets take a look at:**

- Knowing Jesus : so we may have Eternal Life
- Knowing Jesus : so light can break into our darkness
- Knowing Jesus : so we can experience Freedom from our Sins...
- Knowing Jesus : so we can experience true joy and contentment...

❖ **Outline for Today: Knowing Jesus in these ways....**

- 1) The Word 2) In the Beginning 3) With God 4) Is God 5) Maker 6) Life 7) Light 8) Overwhelming

❖ **Notice Again How Intensely He starts this gospel**

- John wants you to see Jesus as EVERYTHING... He wants you to be
- Overwhelmed and Amazed and Astonished at this Jesus

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

❖ **Jesus: The Word**

- **The Word is Jesus** – This is clear from the text... It is clear enough for a Pre-Schooler to understand
- My 5 year old son figured that out when I read it to him
- Why does John use “Word” as a synonym for Jesus...
- Scripture in Reference to Jesus being the Word:
- Significance of Jesus being the Word for you

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

❖ Jesus: In the Beginning

- Jude exults in this truth with his great doxology: “To the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, *before all time* and now and forever. Amen” ([Jude 1:25](#)). Paul says in [2 Timothy 1:9](#) that God gave us grace in Christ Jesus “before the times of the ages.”

and the Word was **with God** and the Word was God. He was in the beginning **with God**.

❖ Jesus: With God

and the Word was God.

❖ Jesus: God

All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.

❖ Jesus: Maker

. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

❖ Jesus: Life

- John 5.24, 26
- 1 john 5.11
- John 5.40
- John 10. 10
- John 10.28
- Everybody is dead until they have Jesus Christ

and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

❖ Jesus: Light

- John 8.12
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and the darkness has not overcome it.

❖ Jesus: Overwhelming