

John 1

New American Standard Bible

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him not even one thing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind. 5 And the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not grasp it.

The Witness John the Baptist

6 A man came, one sent from God, and his 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.

9 This was the true Light that, coming into the world, enlightens every person. 10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, and yet the world did not know Him.

11 He came to His own, and His own people did not accept 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 a man, but of God.

The Word Made Flesh

14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testified about Him and called out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who is coming after me has proved to be my superior, because He existed before me.'" 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time; God the only Son, who is in the arms of the Father, He has explained Him.

The Testimony of John the Baptist

19 This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites to him from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 And he confessed and did not deny; and this is what he confessed: "I am not the Christ." 21 And so they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."

22 Then they said to him, "Who are you? Tell us, so that we may give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said, "I am THE VOICE OF ONE CALLING OUT IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE THE WAY OF THE LORD STRAIGHT,' as Isaiah

the prophet said.”

24 And the messengers had been sent from the Pharisees. 25 They asked him, and said to him, “Why then are you baptizing, if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” 26 John answered them, saying, “I baptize in water, but among you stands One whom you do not know. 27 It is He who comes after me, of whom I am not worthy even to untie the strap of His sandal.” 28 These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing people.

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is He in behalf of whom I said, ‘After me is coming a Man who has proved to be my superior, because He existed before me.’ 31 And I did not recognize Him, but so that He would be revealed to Israel, I came baptizing in water.” 32 And John testified, saying, “I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.

33 And I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, ‘He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

Jesus’ Public Ministry; First Converts

35 Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and *said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” 37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, “What are you seeking?” They said to Him, “Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are You staying?”

39 He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” So they came and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day; it was about the tenth hour. 40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which translated means Christ). 42 He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

43 The next day He decided to go to Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him, “Follow Me.” 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses wrote in the Law, and the prophets also wrote: Jesus the son of Joseph, from Nazareth!”

46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good be from Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite, in whom there is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." 49 Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel!"

50 Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." 51 And He *said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Pauls comments

1. John describes what was there before the beginning of humanity and creation.
2. All there was in existence before anything of carnality.
3. Everything was made by God speaking into being, it was His word spoken that brought creation about.
4. John describes what existed before God started to speak, he says, 'darkness' and God spoke and there was light, and the light brought life.
5. Having established the foundation of all things, John introduces us to John the Baptist.
6. John the Baptist message was, repent of your sins and believe in the light.
7. He warned them that he came to testify about the light and that he was not the light himself, but that he was a testimony of the light.
8. Referring to Jesus he says, 'He is the true light that enlightens humanity'.
9. Jesus Christ came into the world that he had made in the beginning, despite the fact that the world would not know Him.
10. Speaking of Jesus he says, 'He gave those who received Him and His message, the right to become children of God.'
11. What is it to be born of God.
12. Having been the word in the beginning, He now had become the word that had become flesh - the Son of God.
13. Jesus Christ knew who He was, and He knew where He had come from, but did He always know?

14. John is very happy to elevate Jesus, for he knew Jesus had existed before John in the beginning.
15. What does the term 'grace upon grace' John refers to mean?
16. John reminds us of the two covenants God had made, one being the law, the other grace.
17. John is saying, Jesus is the revelation of God the Father.
18. It was the religious that found it had to accept what John the Baptist was saying.
19. When your enemy tries to undermine you, they bring into question who you say you are. The religious say to John 'who are you John the Baptist'?
20. John's description of himself is the fulfilment of a prophecy that was spoken by Elijah years before.
21. The religious want John the Baptist to justify himself to him, but if God is for us, who can be against us?
22. John the Baptist's baptism, is a baptism of repentance, but Jesus Christ's baptism, is a baptism of the Holy Spirit and power.
23. How do you think John felt when he saw Jesus Christ coming towards him asking to be baptised?
24. John the Baptist prophesied as to what Jesus had come to do.
25. Why is the Holy Spirit depicted as a dove?
26. The Old Testament people experienced the Holy Spirit coming upon them, but with Jesus it was different as the dove remained upon Him.
27. It was John the Baptist who called Jesus the Son of God.
28. 'The lamb of God' refers back to Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac and the fulfilment of the ultimate sacrifice for sinfulness.
29. Why did Jesus Christ ask those who were following Him, 'what do you seek'?
30. And why did those who were following Him ask Jesus Christ 'where are you staying'?
31. When you meet the real Jesus Christ, you too will not be able to leave.
32. 'Had Philip found the Messiah', the Christ, indicating that Jesus was lost and he needed to be found?
33. Why did Jesus change Peter's name to Simon?
34. Why did Nathaniel say 'can anything good come out of Nazareth'?
35. As they all saw Jesus Christ they became convinced.
36. Jesus operated in the word of Knowledge, he said 'I saw you, when Philip said to you'. This simple word of knowledge convinced Nathaniel that Jesus was the Messiah.
37. Jesus response to Nathaniel is 760your convinced by this? You are about to go on the biggest dipper of your life, where you will see much more than this!