

## Series: The Gospel of John

### Day 2: The Word was with God and is God and life and light to us

#### Prayer

O almighty God, You are the creator of heaven and earth. I confess that so often we begin to doubt when things look so dark and when death threatens. Thank you that we can know You give life, You bring the light that cannot overwhelm the darkness.

Therefore, I pray that this message will reach the one receptive person who You want to change through this. Guide those who already have these truths in their hearts, to send the message to someone they know is still searching. Yes Lord, send it to the one who must see and believe Your glory today and thus receive life, yes eternal life.

Amen.

#### Introduction

Yesterday we started with the Gospel of John and today we want to go further and look at the first nine verses of John 1. In this series we aim to do a short video on each chapter, however chapter 1 is so important that the Spirit lead me to linger a little longer on the first few verses, because it is of core importance. If we have that foundation, we will understand the rest of John much better.

#### In yesterday's teaching...

*30 Now Jesus did many other **signs**  
in the presence of the disciples,  
which are not written in this book;  
31 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. (John 20:30-31)*

Yesterday we said that John tells us about signs and wonders. That is the reason why he writes the book. The reason is that we may believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, that we may have life. John wrote another letter later on – 1 John. There it is written in 1 John 5:13 why he wrote that letter:

*I write these things to you who **believe** in the **name of the Son of God**, that you may know that **you have eternal life**. (1 John 5:13)*

The same message. But in John he calls us to believe and here in 1 John he looks back and speaks about how those who believe already can have assurance of faith. Then we went on

and saw in the first few verses that Jesus is the Word. God's final and decisive message to us and He was there from the beginning.

### **The Word was with God and the Word was God.**

Now we will dig in a little deeper into the same verses and we see the Word was with God and the Word was God.

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

Here we see the being of the Word. He was God. We see it in numerous places in the Bible that Jesus is also described as God. Look at Romans 9:5 for example:

*To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. (Romans 9:5)*

So the the Word, Jesus Christ, is God. Then we also looked at the relationship of the Word to God, because in the second part it was written the Word was with God. He repeats it in verse 2:

*2 He was in the beginning  
with God.*

He wants to make sure we get it: He was with God from the beginning. Not only after He was born, but from the beginning. How can it be that He is God, but He is also with God? He is one Godly being. He is God. But He also reveals Himself in the Bible as 3 persons. In 1 John 5:7-8 it says for example:

*7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. (1 John 5:7-8 ESV)*

*7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one (1 John 5:7 NKJV)*

What a great God that can be God, but can also appear to us as three persons. Then we see the relationship of the Word with the World. We read in verse 3:

*3 All things were made through him,  
and without him  
was not anything made that was made.*

So the relationship to the world? He made everything. He is the creator of everything – of the whole world. Here he wants to make sure you don't misunderstand him, he says: Everything was made through him and without him not anything that was made was made. He makes sure that you don't think that God made him and then he made everything. No,

not anything that exists came to be without him. He was there before anything was made. He was there from the beginning. He is God. He is with God. And He is the creator of everything. Hebrews 1 starts in a similar way. It says:

*1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. (Hebrews 1:1-3)*

*1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,*

He speaks to us through the Word, through the Son.

*whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.*

He is the creator, He made everything.

*3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature,*

When we look at Jesus Christ we see God himself because He is God. The glory of God shines through Him.

*and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. (Hebrews 1:1-3)*

That Word has the power to uphold everything. Everything he made is in His control and even, and especially also, in these times we are living in at the moment.

## **Life and light**

The next few verses go further to tell us about life and light:

*4 In him was life,*

In this Word – in Jesus Christ – life. 1 John explains it to us well:

*10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself...11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. (1 John 5:10-12)*

*4 In him was life,  
and the life was the light of men.*

The theme of light John introduces in the first chapter already. And we find it again later in chapter 8 where he says:

Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* (John 8:12)

After chapter 8 He goes on in chapter 9 and heals a blind man, He takes him from the darkness that he may see again, but He doesn't only heal him from his physical blindness but also from his spiritual blindness later in that chapter. We will get to that on day 9. But here he says:

*The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.*

How amazing is it that during this time we can read an encouragement in every verse that we read. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. And that light came to the world for you and me as well:

*9 The true light, which gives light to everyone,  
was coming into the world.*

## **Conclusion**

Let us conclude:

We see signs and miracles

so that we can believe Jesus is the Christ  
so that we can have life.

We saw the being of the Word is God himself

The Word's relationship with God:

He is with God, and the second person in the trinity

The Word's relationship with the world:

He is their creator, yes, also your Creator

In Him there is eternal life for you

This life is the Light that the darkness cannot overcome it.

So, our theme for today:

**The Word was with God**

**and is God**

**and light to us**

## **Reflection**

Today's passage is again filled with things to learn of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Read the passages again and write down what you learned. What have you learned about man, and yourself?

## **Thanksgiving**

When you reflect on these passages, what thoughts of gratitude is the Holy Spirit stirring up in your heart? Where to does it want to overflow? Write down one, very specific, thing that you are going to do differently during today.

## **Prayer**

I will start with a short prayer and when I say Amen, you can continue praying as the Spirit guides you:

O almighty God, You are the creator of heaven and earth. You sent Your Son, who is God himself, as the Word to be with us. You have given Him all power in heaven and on earth. In Him there is life, yes eternal life. Oh Lord, give us that life! Let the Light shine in our hearts so that the darkness, that is covering the world, cannot overwhelm us.

We ask it in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Word, our Light.

Amen