

Jesus Christ Is God Almighty

Sunday, January 22nd, 1989

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) The same was in the beginning with God. (3) All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. (4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men. (5) And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. (6) There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. (7) The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. (8) He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. (9) That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. (10) He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. (11) He came unto his own, and his own received him not. (12) But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: (13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (14) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Today's subject is: "JESUS CHRIST IS GOD ALMIGHTY." If you want to follow along in the message, turn to John 1. Each Book of the Bible seems to have a prominent and a dominate theme. Each individual Book seems to have a particular theme. The theme of the Gospel of John is the Deity of Jesus Christ.

John opens his Gospel in John 1: verse 1 by immediately presenting Jesus Christ not as the Son of Man, as Luke presents Him. He does not present Him as King of the Jews as Matthew seems to present Him, and not as the Suffering Servant as we find in the Book of Mark. John presents the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternal, co-equal Son of Almighty God. That is what I am going to talk to you about today and that is our subject, "JESUS CHRIST IS GOD ALMIGHTY."

Most all of the remarks that I will be making in this message are taken from this Bible Class Commentary that I wrote in 1987. It has 212 pages and is called the Bible Class Commentary on John. Most everything that I will be saying this morning is taken from this particular Bible Study book.

In the very first verse of John 1, John says; "*In the beginning was the Word.*" In the beginning of time is what we are talking about here, in the beginning of creation, or as Moses wrote, "*In the beginning, God.*"

Jesus Christ is not from the beginning. Jesus Christ is in the beginning; *“In the beginning was the Word.”* Jesus Christ is not in time. Time is in Him. Do you see what I am saying? He is not in time. Time is in Him, *“In the beginning.”*

Start back as far as you can imagine, not as far as you can date, but as far as you can imagine. I am talking back around the eons of eternity. *“He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”*

In fact, He said in John 17:5; in that great High Priestly prayer to the Father, He said; *“Glorify Me with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was.”* That is the way that he begins this Book; *“In the beginning was the Word.”*

Why is Jesus Christ called the Word of God? Have you ever thought about that? Have you ever asked it? Has anyone ever told you that *“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God and the Word was made flesh.”* John keeps calling Him the *“Word of God.”* Why is He called the Word of God?

Well, let me tell you. What is a word? A word is an expression of a thought. A word is a revelation of a thought. In other words, you would never know who I am if we didn't announce, *“Now, you will read a sermon by Henry Mahan.”* How did he say it? He said it in words.

You will never know what I am thinking. What I am doing is giving you words. This is what I am thinking and this is what I am saying. You know what I'm thinking, because I am telling you what I'm thinking in words.

Jesus Christ is the *“Word of God.”* It is God revealing Himself, God revealing His thoughts, God revealing His purpose and plan in Jesus Christ. He is called the *“Word of God. No man hath seen God at any time. The Son hath revealed Him or declared Him.”* Do you see that? He hath declared the Father.

Jesus Christ is God's final Spokesman. In Hebrews 1:1 and 2 it says, *“God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake to our fathers by the prophets. Hath, in these last days spoken to us by His Son.”* He is the *“Word of God.”* God has spoken.

Jesus Christ is God's whole alphabet. In Revelation 1:8, He says; *“I am Alpha.”* That is the first word in the Greek alphabet. *“I am Omega.”* That is the last word. Alpha and Omega is the beginning and the end. God's whole alphabet is in Jesus Christ. Do you see that? He is the *“Word of God.”*

In the beginning, before time and before creation and before the world was the Word. The Word is an expression of God, the revelation of God and the declaration of God. You can't know God except through His Word. *"Christ is the Word of God."*

Why does John say that He was with God? *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God."* Well now, listen; Jesus Christ is One of the Holy Trinity. I know that the word Trinity is not in the Bible but the idea is. The Lord our God is one God, yet He is three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I can't explain that I just know it is so. For He said this when God would create the world, God said; *"Let us make man."* He didn't say, "Let Me make man." He said, *"Let us make man."*

In First John 5:7, the Scripture says; *"There are Three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit."* When our Lord sent His disciples out to preach He told them to, *"Make disciples and baptize them in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit."*

You see, creation is ascribed to the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. In Malachi 2:10 it says, *"Have we not one Father who created us?"* In Colossians 1 the Lord says, *"All things were made by Him in heaven, earth, visible and invisible."* Job 33:4 it says, *"One Spirit gave me breath and created me."*

So, there is no denying. It would be foolish to do so. You might say, "But I can't understand the Trinity." Do we have three Gods? No, we have One God. God is revealed as the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit; One God but the Three in One. *"He was with God. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God (or is God)."* He is God and the Word is God.

Only God can reveal God. A man cannot reveal God. God is the only One who can reveal God. The Word is God and God is the Word. The name God is common to all Three persons of the Trinity. There is God the Father. We read about God the Son. He said, *"I and My Father are One."* There is God the Holy Spirit. In John 14, one of the disciples said; *"Show us the Father."* He said, *"He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father."*

In Isaiah 7:14 it talks about *"A virgin shall conceive and bring forth a Son and call His name Emanuel."* What is Emanuel? It means, *"God with us."* Isaiah 9:6 says, *"Unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. The government shall be on His shoulders and*

His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

In Second Corinthians 5:19 says, *“God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself.”* In Second Timothy 3:16, listen to Paul; *“Without controversy great is the mystery of Godliness. God was manifest in human flesh.”* So, Jesus Christ is God Almighty. *“In the beginning was the Word.”* I told you why He is called the Word. *“The Word is with God and the Word is God. All things were made by Him. Without Him was not anything made that was made.”*

This same Word who is God and who is with God created all things. My friends, only God can create. You and I can make things by bringing things together that are already created. Only God can speak something out of nothing. Only God can create. Yet, the whole creation is ascribed to Jesus Christ.

That’s right! I quoted a while ago in Colossians 1, *“By Him were all things created in heaven, in earth, all things visible and invisible, whether they be principalities or power or rulers. All things were created for Him and by Him all things consist.”* Do you know what that means? It means that all things are held together by Jesus Christ. He is the Creator. Jesus Christ is the Creator.

Jesus Christ is not just some messenger; He is God. The fact that He took on Himself the form of a servant, the fact that He was made in the likeness of sinful flesh, the fact that He came into this world, the fact that He suffered on the cross, was buried and rose again in the flesh as a Man, the God-Man, does not lessen the fact that He is God. God condescended to dwell among us. Only God can do what He came to do.

You see, man can suffer. Man cannot satisfy. Man can sin but man cannot obey the law. Man can die, but man cannot give himself life. Christ is all of these things. He is Divine and He is human. He is God and He is man. He obeyed and He bore our sin. He suffered and He satisfied. He died and He arose.

All right, look at verse 4 and watch this carefully; *“In Him was Life,”* (L-i-f-e). In Jesus Christ is Life. Now, the word Life, here, is used in the widest sense of the word. I know that Christ is the resurrection and the Life. He is spiritual Life. But here, all Life is in Him. All Life is for Him, from Him and because of Him. In Him is Life. He is the Life-Giver.

“In Him we live and move and have our being.” He is the fountain of Life in whose hand is the soul and breath of every living creature. That is what Job said in Job 12. *“He is*

the sustainer and taker of Life.” Deuteronomy 32:39 says, “I kill and I make alive. I wound and I heal.”

In Him is Life. *“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. And all things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made.”* In Him was Life. He is the Life. He is the Fountain of Life, the Source of Life, and the Giver of Life. Life is from Him. *“In whose hand is the soul and breath of every living creature.”* That is what He said in Job 12.

Sometime ago, I watched a heart transplant on television. They opened this man’s chest and they got another heart from a victim, a person who had died. They wheeled her heart to the hospital, stored in an ice chest. It was totally lifeless and totally still.

They disconnected this man’s heart and took it out and put the woman’s heart into his body from out of an ice chest. They connected it and it started beating. That heart started beating. One of the doctors asked, “What makes it beat?” He said, “I don’t know.”

I know what makes it beat. That man lying there had life. The woman who died had no life. Her heart didn’t beat but it took her heart that was put in him and it beat. There were no wires attached to it, motor attached to it, no gasoline pumped in it, or no spark plugs. There was nothing. It was just put in that man’s chest, connected it and it started beating. That is life!

What makes a seed grow? When you put a seed into the ground, what makes it grow? The answer is Life. I tell you; Life is from God. We can make all kind of things but we can’t make Life. The doctor couldn’t make that heart beat. He could have held it until dooms-day and it still wouldn’t have beat. You can hook it up to your generators and it still won’t beat.

Put it in that man’s chest, connect it up and he has Life. It will beat. Notice that this verse says, *“In Him is Life and that Life is the Light of men.”* That Life is the Light of revelation. Let me tell you, my friends, the very fact of life, natural life, Life in the widest sense of the word, the Truth of Life, and the Mystery of Life and the Source of Life cannot be denied. God gives Life. Life is, is it not?

How do you know that God is Life? Why do you believe in God, preacher Mahan? There is nowhere else to account for Life but in God; there is no way in this world. I don’t care how much you argue about evolution. You still have to go back to the one-cell animal, amoeba or whatever. You can go back as far as you want to. There may be some

chunk falling off the moon or the sun. You still have to start with Life. Life is from God. *"In Him is Life."* That's just so! There is no question about it.

This Life is the Light of men. That is how we know that there is a God. It is a revelation. This Light of Life shines in our darkness. Here is the sad thing; we don't comprehend it. We don't believe in it.

Look at verse 9; *"This is the Light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world."* But, do we believe God? When a child is born, do the parents believe God? When a doctor takes a child out of the womb of a mother, out of the darkness of the womb, it comes, breathes, and lives.

Does the doctor believe? No, we turn to evolution, we turn to philosophy, we turn to chance and we turn to everything but God. God is Life. Now, wait a minute; hold the phone! This Light of Life is not the only revelation that God has given of Himself. He came into the world in Person.

I want you to take your Bible there, if you have it and turn to John 1:1. I want you to take verse 1, and verse 14, and put them together. Watch this, do you see it there? In verse 1, it says; *"In the beginning was the Word."* That is Jesus Christ, Almighty God. Verse 14 says, *"And the Word was made flesh."* Almighty God became a Man, bone of our bones, flesh of our flesh. That's right! He became flesh.

All right, verse 1 again; *"And the Word was with God,"* one of the Divine Trinity was with God. Verse 14 says, *"And He dwelt among us."* God actually tabernacled among men. He actually, who was with God, was with us here on this earth. He was bone of our bones, and flesh of our flesh. Look at verse 1 again, *"And the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God"* in every attribute. He is God who created all things.

Now, watch verse 14; *"And we beheld His glory."* We saw Him, we heard Him and we touched Him. We actually saw the Son of God in human flesh. So, this is what I am saying, now listen to me, faith has two parts. This is important. In Hebrews 11:6, it talks about faith and it says, *"Without faith it is impossible to please God. He that cometh to God must believe."*

Why? There are two reasons. *"Without faith it is impossible to please God. He that cometh to God must believe that God is."* Now, that is what I've been talking about the first part of this message. *"God is, in the beginning was God. In Him was Life and that*

Life was the Light of men. That Light shineth in our darkness and we comprehended it not.”

Second, we must believe that God is and that God is the Rewarder, the Blessor of them that believe on Him and seek Him. We are not only shut up to believe God by creation, or believe God by the Light of Life, or believe God by Providence, we have seen Him. He walked among us. *“The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.”*

Read those next five or six verses. *“There was a man sent from God whose name was John. The same came as a witness, to bear witness of that Light.”* He was not that Light but he came to bear witness of that Light. *“Behold the Lamb of God.”*

Not only John, but also the Father bore witness of Him. Read John Chapter 5, the Father said; *“This is My Son in whom I am well pleased.”* The works that He did bore witness of Him. The blind saw, and the deaf heard and the lame walked and the dead lived. Only God can do these things. The Scriptures bear witness of it.

“You search the Scriptures; in them you think you have Life. They are they which testify of Christ.” There is the two-fold revelation. *“He that cometh to God must believe that He is and that He is the Rewarder,”* (Blessor), the fountain of Life to all that believe Him.

Well, what are the results of this revelation? The Light of Life is not comprehended? What about the coming of the Son of God into this world? Read verse 10, *“He was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not.”*

Isaiah wrote about it, he said, *“There is no beauty about Him that we should desire Him. When we saw Him, we hid our faces from Him. He was despised and rejected of men, a Man of Sorrows acquainted with grief.”*

Look at verse 11, He came unto His own tabernacle, His own nation, His own temple, His own days and sacrifices, His own patterns and pictures and His own received Him not. The Light of Life was manifested among men, we comprehend it not.

The Son of Man came in the flesh and we received Him not. Well, has the story ended? Will the purpose of God be defeated? Is there no hope for our race? Is there no hope? In Proverbs 19, it says; *“There are many devices in the heart of men, nevertheless, the council of God shall stand.”*

In Isaiah 46:10, our Lord says; *“My council shall stand; I will do all my pleasure; I have purposed it; I shall also do it.”* Our Lord said, *“All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me. Him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out. My sheep will hear My voice. They will follow Me and I will give them eternal life and they will never perish.”*

Oh yea, heaven will be populated. There will be a people like Christ. God has promised it. The Bridegroom will have a Bride. The marriage table shall be filled. The universe shall echo with His praise. *“There will be a people out of every tribe, kindred, nation and tongue under heaven.”* Oh, yes!

You may say, “Preacher, you just read those eleven verses, *“In Him was Life, the Life was the Light of men and shined in our darkness. We comprehended it not. He came unto His own and His own received Him not. He was in the world and the world knew Him not.”*

But, look at verse 12; *“As many as received Him to them gave He power (the right, the privilege) to become Sons of God even to them that believe on His name.”* There are those, Jew and Gentile, male and female, bond and free, old and young, there are those who hear the gospel and believe it and who receive Christ. Oh yea, they believe on His name. They receive Him. They believe Him, they rest in Him and they come to Him. Oh yes, they do.

The Father gave the Son a people from all eternity. He said, *“They will hear My voice. Other sheep I have which are not of this fold. Them also I must bring. They shall hear My voice and they shall be one fold and one shepherd.”*

Brother Mahan, “What makes these people different from those who received Him not, and the world who knew Him not and the darkness that comprehended Him not?” Look at verse 13, there is no period after verse 12. Verse 12 says, *“But, as many as received Him, to them gave He the power (right, the privilege) to become Sons of God, even to them that believe on His name, which were born.”*

This is the second birth. This is the new birth. They were born *“Not of blood.”* What does that mean? It means that they were not born of heredity, not of their ancestry and not by natural genealogy. This is not a fleshly thing; it is a spiritual birth. *“Not of the will of the flesh.”* It's not of their own will. *“It is not of him that willeth; it is God that showeth mercy.”*

They weren't born of the will of man, that is, somebody else's will. They weren't born of heredity, they weren't born of their own will and they weren't born of somebody else's will; they were born of God.

Those people who receive it, those who are born of God, those who are blessed and born of God. They receive Him and they believe Him. *"God gives them eternal life and they will never perish."*