

John 1:4-5

*“Introducing Jesus, the Self-Existent, First Cause of the Universe
(pt. 1)*

INTRO- How does “growing in true knowledge of Christ” impact our lives?

Illustration- “Chronicles of Narnia”

If you get Jesus wrong, nothing else you “think, say, or do” really matters (to God the Father).

1 Cor. 16:22; 1 John 2:23; 2 John 1:9-11; John 15:23-24.

John 1:1-5 highlights 5 essential Christological truths

Jesus is:

- 1) The _____ Word of God. *(John 1:1a)*
- 2) The _____ Word of God. *(John 1:1b)*
- 3) The _____ Word of God. *(John 1:1c)*
- 4) The Uncreated _____ of all things. *(John 1:2-3)*
- 5) **The _____, _____.** *(John 1:4a)*
- 6) **The _____ and _____ of men.** *(John 1:4-5)*

Acts 17:16-31-

In what ways does this message impact our worship? Our beliefs/doctrinal convictions? Our evangelism? Our apologetics (as we defend the Christ of Scripture)

For Further Reflection/Application: *We must be doers of God's Word and not merely hearers only.*

We cannot afford to get Jesus Christ wrong. If we get Jesus wrong, nothing else we think, say, or do really matters to God. Read 1 Corinthians 16:22; 1 John 2:23; 2 John 1:9-11; John 15:23-24. Call someone and talk about some of the doctrinal, evangelistic, and apologetical implications that flow out of these verses. Evangelism is related to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8; Romans 10:7-15). Apologetics is related to defending the faith and core truths in a world full of counterfeit Christs, ½ truths, and lies (1 Peter 3:15f; 2 Cor. 10:3-5; Jude 3).

How does the Gospel of John enhance, deepen, and clarify our understanding of the “God-man” Jesus Christ? The Word of God informs/shapes our beliefs and is used to deepen our doctrinal convictions.

How does growing in the true knowledge of Christ impact our lives? Note 2 Peter 3:18; 2 Cor. 3:18. 1 Peter 2:21; Phil. 2:3-10; John 13:34, 15:9-11; 1 Cor. 11:1

Why did I say, “As we grow, Christ will ‘APPEAR’ bigger,” rather than say, “As we grow Christ also grows bigger and bigger?” Hint according to His Divine nature the Son of God is “immutable.” Note Hebrews 13:8; James 1:17; Malachi 3:6; Isaiah 43:10; 46:10; Rom. 11:29.

The Gospel of John, like all of Holy Scripture, affirms “Trinitarian monotheism.” We have talked about the doctrine of the triunity of God over the past many sermons as well as the core doctrine that “God is one.” How would you explain these complementary doctrines to a 10-year-old? What verses would you use to support your instruction/explanation?

What major religions deny, reject and/or distort what John clearly teaches in John 1:1-5 in terms of vital truths related to the Lord Jesus Christ?

Religious liberals often try and ignore or deny the supernatural, the miraculous, and the Divine aspects of the Word of God. Consider Thomas Jefferson's edited “Bible” for example. Why do some people focus exclusively (or almost exclusively) on the true humanity of Christ? What happens if we do not appreciate and accept the eternal Divinity of Christ? That Jesus is God the Son.

John's epic Prologue is of first-rate importance and is uber practical. For example, since Jesus is Divine then He must be worshipped exclusively as God and since He is the Son of God He must be served exclusively as Lord. Christianity's core beliefs impacts how we live our lives. Read the book of Colossians to see how the Lordship of Christ ought to impact everything we think, say, and do (note especially chapters 3-4).

When someone says that God is self-existent or when they mention the “Aseity” of God, what are they communicating? “Aseity” comes from the Latin aseite, meaning literally “of oneself.” Used by God, it denotes that He exists in and of Himself, independent of anything else. He is self-existent... The biblical basis for God's aseity is found in the facts that 1) He existed prior to and independent of creation and that 2) He brought into and sustains in existence everything else that is.” Note Ex. 3:14; Gen. 1:1; John 1:1-5; Rev. 4:11; Heb. 1:2; Acts 17:25-28; Rom. 11:36.

God is eternal and immutable! He is not like us in so many glorious ways. One author adds, “Because of the aseity of God, we can depend upon Him as the independent One who is able to deliver, protect, and keep those who trust in Him. Those whom God has purposed for salvation will come to Christ, and nothing can hinder them: “All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away” (John 6:37). If we understand the biblical doctrine of the aseity of God, we will be kept from the error of thinking that God is finite, that He grows weary, or that He will ever be insufficient to meet our needs (see Psalm 23:1).”

The Gospel of John not only heightens our worship, it also informs and fuels our evangelistic and our apologetical endeavors.

If one refuses to embrace Jesus Christ as Savior, God, and King then they will one day experience God's righteous judgment (Acts 17:16-31; Rev. 20:11-15; John 3:36; Romans 2:4-11).

Related Praise Songs: *Theology fuels Doxology! We dig deeply in order that we may go high in praise!*

- All Creatures of Our God and King- Hymn*
- A Mighty Fortress is our God- Hymn*
- Creation Hymn- Matt Boswell*
- All Praise to Him- Sovereign Grace Music*
- Behold Our God- Sovereign Grace Music*
- All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name- Hymn*
- God the Uncreated One- Matt Boswell and Matt Papa*
- All Glory Be to Christ- Sovereign Grace Music*
- Gloria Patri- Hymn*
- In Christ Alone- the Gettys.*
- Christ Our Glory- Sovereign Grace Music*
- Jesus's There's None Like You- Sovereign Grace Music*
- Jesus Son of God- Chris Tomlin*
- All Hail the Glorious Christ- Sovereign Grace Music*

A Christ-centered sermon from John's Gospel is inherently practical and ought to impact at least one of the five facets of faith:

1) Our Worship	<i>As we see and savor Christ for who He truly is!</i> (John 4:23-24)
2) Our Progressive Sanctification	<i>As we in faith behold His glory, we should become increasingly Christ-like!</i> (2 Cor. 3:18-19; 2 Pet. 1)
3) Our Core Doctrine	<i>As we more firmly embrace the Person, Work, and Words of Christ!</i> (2 Cor. 10-11)
4) Our Apologetics	<i>As we more effectively defend the biblical Jesus in a world full of lies and many counterfeit Christs!</i> (Jude 3-4; 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Cor. 10:3-4)
5) Our Evangelism	<i>As we recount John's mountain of gospel evidence with those who've yet to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ!</i> (Rom. 10:9-14; Col. 4:3-4; John 3:16-36; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:18-21)

All related sermons can be downloaded for free at www.lakecountrybible.org

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