

John 1:1b

“Introducing the Self-existent, Coexistent Son of God”

INTRO- What’s the greatest introduction you have ever heard or read?

Some would say Lincoln’s “Gettysburg Address.” *Four score and seven years ago....*

What makes John’s Prologue (Jn. 1:1-18) so Epic? Timeless? Important? Relevant to you?

John 1:1 establishes 3 Life-Changing Christological truth claims:

The first truth claim about “Jesus, Son of God” highlights:

I) **The _____ Word (John 1:1a).**

AKA- The Son’s _____.

II) **The _____ Word (John 1:1b)**

...and the Word was with God. The Greek reads *καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν,*

How might I apply this doctrinally rich text/sermon to my everyday life?

Worship-Doxology/Prayer/Service-

Evangelism and Apologetics-

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

When the key Christological doctrines that are taught in John 1 came under heavy attack (sometimes by professing believers) the early church often invited church leaders and theologians to such and such a location. These gatherings were/are often called "councils." This sort of thing took place during the New Testament era as well. In Acts 15, a Jerusalem council was called to clarify some key doctrinal matters.

In contemporary times, when the Word of God was under fire by religious Liberals "the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy" was formulated by more than 200 evangelical leaders at a conference in Chicago in October 1978. Similarly, when intersectionality, critical race theory, and the whole "woke church" movement began to infiltrate the evangelical church some faithful men came together to write "the Statement on Social Justice and the Gospel." <https://statementonsocialjustice.com/> We watched a video that unmasked this new threat facing the Church during the SS hour a few weeks ago. (For more on this general subject listen to my introductory sermons on "Doctrine" and "Apologetics").

The Council of Nicaea rightly condemned the heresy of Arius in 325 AD. I will explain more about what Arius' taught, why this teaching was heretical/dangerous, and tell you what false religions today promote similar heresies. For now, let's simply review this ancient creed. All solid churches today build doctrinal walls around the sheep pen in the form of "doctrinal statements." This is typically done in the spirit of Jude 3-4, 1 Timothy 3:15, 2 Cor 10:3-5.

The Nicene Creed (325 AD)

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy universal and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

This book presents a mountain of gospel evidence that demands a saving faith verdict that Jesus is the Divine Messiah and Savior of all who put their trust in Him (Jn. 20:30-31). The first major category of PROOF (evidence) is “The Prologue of all prologues” (Jn. 1:1-18).

What is the key WORD in John 1:1a and what truth does it convey about the Son of God? What is the key WORD in John 1:1b and what truth does it convey about Jesus? What is monotheism? How does John 1:1 support/affirm the doctrine of the Trinity? How does Jn 17:24 perfectly harmonize with Jn 1:1?

“Out of the eternal love that the eternal Father has for the eternal Son and the Holy Spirit came the Divine plan of creation and redemption.” Note 1 John 4:7-11 and Ephesians 1:1-14.

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

Holy, Holy, Holy- Hymn

The Doxology- Hymn

A Triune Prayer

Hear Us Lord- Patrick and Amy Fata <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjiF2yhL95U>

God the Uncreated One- Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

The King in All His Beauty- Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

Jesus’s There’s None Like You- Sovereign Grace Music

Eternal God-

Jesus Son of God- Chris Tomlin

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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