

Sermon Title: "Jesus, the Conquering, Life-Giving Light" Scripture: John 1:4-8 Pastor Chris Fritz

Introduction

I. Jesus, the Eternal Word

1) Jesus has existed from eternity past.

2) Jesus has existed from eternity past in fellowship with the Father and with the Spirit.

3) Jesus is in fact God.

The Bible is very clear, there is ONE God and only one God:

Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10-11; 44:6; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 Timothy 2:5; Rev 22:12-13 -

4) All things that exist have been created through, and because of, <u>Jesus</u>.

This is hugely important in answering some of life's biggest questions:

- Who am I? Why am I here?
- Does my life have any meaning?
- What's the purpose of my life?

Colossians 1:16 - "...all things were created through Him and for Him."

Note: See all things in relationship to <u>Jesus</u> and you will see them as they truly are.

5) There has never been <u>anything</u> created that wasn't created by Jesus.

6) Jesus, as "the Word", is the perfect, the ultimate, <u>communication</u> and revelation of God.

Why didn't John write, "In the beginning was the Action or Emotion/Passion or Thought"?

John 14:9 - "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father."

Hebrews 1:1-2a - "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son..."

II. Jesus, the Conquering, Life-Giving Light

Question #1 - What does it mean that Jesus is light and life?

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 -

Question #2 - What couldn't the darkness do?

Question #3 - Why does John the Apostle bother to introduce John the Baptist?

1) John the Baptist's Perplexing Mission

Note: You don't need to announce "light" to people who can already <u>see</u>. Everyone who can see, immediately perceives and recognizes light when it is present.

John 12:35-36 -

2) John the Baptist's Profound Ministry

Luke 1:80 -

3) John the Baptist's Plain Manner

4) John the Baptist's Precise Mandate

John 3:25-30; 2 Corinthians 5:20 -

Take Home Questions for Further Study...

1) How does John 1:1-3 help us to understand and see the truthfulness of the Trinity?

2) Why does John emphasize that Jesus created all things? What error/heresy is John striving to refute and avoid?

3) What is one reason why Jesus is called "the Word"? Why is it insufficient to call Him "the Action", "the Emotion/Passion", or "the Thought"?

4) Why is it ridiculous to debate and argue about who/what God is like? How can we know for certainly who/what God is like?

5) In what way is Jesus "light" and "life"? What does Jesus do as the "light" and "life"?

6) What was the purpose & point of John the Baptist's ministry? Why was it necessary?

7) How is our work/ministry similar and different from that of John the Baptist's?