

## (2) Pre-incarnation Work of Christ (Jn. 1:1-18)

1. The Gospel of John begins with an “In the beginning” that precedes the Gen. 1:1 “In the beginning” (Jn. 1:1-5).
  - a. “The Word” ὁ λόγος ho logos is a title for God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - b. “Was” in the imperfect tense (ἦν) expresses continuous action in the past—reflecting the eternal nature of God the Son (v.1a).
    - 1) His work with (before the face of) God the Father (v.1b).
    - 2) His very essence as God (v.1c).
    - 3) His unique position before God the Father (v.2).
  - c. God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, ὁ λόγος was the primary Member of Trinity to accomplish the creation (Jn. 1:3,10; Col. 1:16).
  - d. God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, ὁ λόγος was the Member of Trinity who furnished the light of life to the realm of humanity (Jn. 1:4; 5:26; 14:6).
  - e. The light of the gospel of the glory of Jesus Christ is Sovereign over the realm of darkness that attempts to blind the eyes of the unbelieving (Jn. 1:5; 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 4:4).
2. John summarizes the entire gospel as the witness to the Light followed by the Light (Jn. 1:6-13).
  - a. A faithful witness to the Light is designed to produce faith in the Light (vv.6-8).
  - b. Jesus Christ is the true Light, which provides for the universal offer of salvation (vv.9-13).
3. John summarized the work-assignment of the Word (Jn. 1:14-18).
  - a. “The Word became flesh” indicates the kenosis of Jesus Christ to come and identify with our weakness (v.14a).
  - b. The fullness of His ministry was not the condemnation of the Law, but the freedom of grace and truth (v.14b,17).
  - c. The Lord taught and explained grace and truth through the revelation of God the Father (v.18). The exegesis of God the Father explains the Paterological nature of John’s Gospel—particularly the revelation of God the Father to the world (Jn. 2-12) and the explanation of God the Father to the Apostles (Jn. 13-17).