

## Week 4

### JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

John told us that everything that was made (created) was made by Jesus, the Word, and nothing was made without Him. Do you believe God has created the world, as He says, or have you believed in evolution? Can you look at all the complexity of the human body, the beauty of the forest, the mystery of a new born baby, the germination of seeds growing into food and say, "O that was just a big explosion millions of years ago"? Or will you look at a person, who the bible says is created in the image of God, and somehow relate him to an ape or a meaningless blob? Do you think of yourself as just an accident of time with no purpose? Are you without understanding of the amazing love that formed you and planned an abundant life for you? What a terrible mistake. Hebrews 11: 3 says "by faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the Word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible". In other words, by faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we see now did not come from anything that can be seen, He made the world out of nothing, He spoke and it happened.

This is the God I worship, nothing is impossible for Him.

It takes faith to not believe it, it takes more faith than I have to believe creation happened by random explosion or that it all arose from an amoebae in a primeval swamp. The bible is clear on this point, God, through Jesus created the earth and He has a plan for the earth and each and every human created in His image. The bible tells us this over and over from beginning to end.

We have also learned that Jesus is the Light of the world and in Him is Life and that life is the light of men, referring to eternal life. We said that the life of men is different from the life of animals and plants, and Jesus can give eternal life.

John the gospel writer wants us to be sure to notice that Jesus was God and John was a man. This was important because some people were wondering and asking if John the Baptist was the Messiah.

John the Baptist's purpose was to witness, to bear witness of the Light, and to testify, that is tell, that all men might believe.

V9 Jesus was the true light, which lights every man who comes into the world. Friends, Jesus shines sufficiently for the salvation of all mankind, though the majority of men are so blinded by sin, they do not see Him. Jesus has enough power and love to light the lives of everyone, but men love the darkness. Darkness is any attitude of ignorance or wrong belief. Rejecting the truth of God's Word is darkness.

Make no mistake, He came for every man, woman and child.

V10 He came to His own and His own did not receive Him. He came to a people peculiarly His own, the Jewish nation, they did not receive Him or believe Him, but rejected and killed Him. However, the Gentiles are His as well, and He was equally mistreated and rejected by all. These are some of the saddest words in the bible

V12 As many as received Him, that is as many as believed on Him, He gave the power to become the children of God., that is those who believe and acknowledged Him as the Messiah.

To receive Christ is to accept Him with a willing heart and to take Him as our Savior believing and trusting that His death burial and resurrection are all that is required as sacrifice for your sin and what you need to be forgiven by God, not any works of righteousness of your own. Again notice the universality of His coming, it was for anyone or "as many as", also note there is no special merit, gender, race or status required, whosoever will may come.

He gave the power to become the Sons of God; this means He gave them the privilege of adoption into God's family. They became the children of God by faith in Jesus Christ. Friends, please be convinced

that what you commonly hear "O we are all children of God", is not true according to the scripture. No, only those who believe that Jesus is the Christ are given the privilege to be called the children of God. To talk of God being everyone's Father and all people being God's children, while they do not believe on the Son of God, is contrary to scripture it's actually contrary to common sense. He has created everyone but only those to acknowledge Him and ask, are His children. Those are not children of God who have not faith in Jesus. This is not my opinion this is what the bible says.

Notice also that believing and receiving are the same. Instant salvation, undeserved salvation, glorious, eternal salvation to the ones who received Christ.

V14 and the Word became 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.

It is the statement of the incarnation of Jesus, what a marvel that God should become man.

Remember the Word is Jesus, the Word became a person, Jesus, and He chose to live in the world. Can you imagine leaving the glorious beauty and peace of heaven and living on earth as a peasant, in a village like Nazareth, not too different from Loudonville. In order to understand our needs and express His love to us, He became one of us. Whoever heard of a God who would become a man? No other religion makes such a claim, no the gods of religions remain aloof and far off. Not so the living God, the One true God. He became a newborn, born to a young teen age woman in a stable, because there was no room for Him anywhere else.

Do you have room for Jesus in your life or are you crowded and filled with the world, the desires of the flesh. Jesus will come in if you will make room for Him. You can experience adoption into God's family.