

New Testament Church
The Book of John #1 – John 1:1-14 – The Light of the World
December 28, 2025 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I Why expository preaching and why the Book of John at this time?

- A. Expository preaching brings depth, continuity and helps a congregation study together
 - 1. John reveals Christ as God – (eagle) - “behold your God” (Is. 40:9)
 - a. Matthew reveals Christ as King (lion) – “behold thy King” (Zech. 9:9)
 - b. Mark reveals Christ as Servant (ox) – “behold My Servant” (Is. 40:1)
 - c. Luke reveals Christ as Man – (man/angel) - “behold the Man” (Zech. 6:12)
 - 2. The gospels were confirmed as “four and no more” – Irenaeus wrote in the 2nd century, “It is not possible that the Gospels can be either more or less than the number that number they are... for the cherubim, too, were four-faced, and their faces were images of the dispensation of the Son of God.” - Four colors of the tabernacle door (Purple – Matthew); (Scarlet – Mark); (White – Luke); (Blue – John)
- B. John, the author of this gospel, was previously a disciple of John the Baptist
 - 1. One of the sons of Zebedee (Salome his mother), a fisherman with Simon & Andrew
 - 2. He was, with his brother James, a “son of thunder” – desire to defend truth
 - 3. A part of Jesus’ innermost circle, ***John learned the balance of truth/grace/love...***
 - 4. Authored John, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John, and the book of Revelation
- C. We face a time right now when believers are called to be light in the darkness
 - 1. We are called to be the stability in a time of chaos and increased hatred / violence
 - 2. The Gospel of John is a book that depicts *how to be light in the midst of darkness*

II The Light of the World – John 1:1-14

- A. v. 1-4 – **Creation** and the re-creation (parallel from Genesis 1:1-3 and 1st John 1:1-3)
 - 1. “In the beginning” – ‘we have seen, we have heard, we have touched’ – a greeting
 - 2. Creation “out of nothing” – the Spirit (Ge.), the Word (Son, 1st John) with God - triune
 - 3. Regeneration - God the Word created – see Ps. 33:6 – no matter before God created it
- B. v. 5 – The **theme** of the Gospel of John – ***God is the light that shines in darkness (the fall)*****

 - 1. Darkness does not “understand” the light – cannot comprehend it without help
 - 2. Darkness cannot “extinguish” the light – darkness will never conquer the light!
 - 3. We live in a fallen world – sin/evil/darkness is the default position – only God is light

- C. v. 6-8 – John the Baptist ***prepared the way for people to believe Jesus is the light***
 - 1. Greatest of OT prophets, yet least in the Kingdom (not the light) – often overlooked...
 - 2. **God prepared others to help us see the light, now we can prepare some also!**
- D. v. 9-11 – Jesus is the Light of the **World**
 - 1. Jesus is the true light which lights “everyone” – all advancement is from His influence!
 - 2. The world “knew Him not” (blinded by darkness) and his own “received him not”
- E. v. 12-13 – **Virgin birth and new birth** – both *not of blood, our will, or others, but of God*
 - 1. The virgin birth was the supernatural invading the natural – *Christ in Mary*
 - 2. The new birth is similar – the Spirit of God invading our spirit – *Christ in us!*
- F. v. 14 - The Word became flesh – **the fulness of grace and truth**
 - 1. Jesus is fully God and man, we beheld His glory, the “only begotten of the Father”
 - 2. Full of grace and truth – not either or, nor a mixture, but a balance of both!