

First Sunday of Advent 2024

“The Mind-blowing Greatness of the One Who Came to Save Us”

Text: John 1:1-5

I. Introduction

II. The greatness of Jesus Christ

1. He is the Word (v. 1).

2. He has always existed (vs. 1a, 2).

3. He was always in perfect fellowship with the Father (v. 1b).

4. He has always been God (v. 1c).

5. He is the agent of God’s creation (v. 3).

6. He has always been the only remedy for spiritual death (v. 4).

7. He has always been the only remedy for spiritual darkness (v. 5).

III. Conclusion – a final word

QUOTES

1. John MacArthur:

- *To the Greeks, then, John presented Jesus as the personification and embodiment of the logos. Unlike the Greek concept, however, Jesus was not an impersonal source, force, principle or emanation. In Him, the true logos who was God became a man – a concept foreign to Greek thought.*
- *John presented Jesus to his Jewish readers as the incarnation of divine power and revelation... As the incarnate Word, Jesus Christ is God's final word to mankind.*

2. Kent Hughes:

- *The preposition "with" bears the idea of nearness, along with a sense of movement toward God. That is to say, there has always existed the deepest equality and intimacy in the Holy Trinity.*
- *The simple sentence of verse 1 is the most compact and pulsating theological statement in all of Scripture.*

3. A. W. Pink:

In this book we are shown that the one who was heralded by the angels to the Bethlehem shepherds, who walked this earth for thirty-three years, who was crucified at Calvary, who rose in triumph from the grave, and who forty days later departed from these scenes, was none other than the Lord of Glory... [and] the effect of contemplating [this] must be to bow our hearts in worship before 'the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.'

4. James M. Boice:

This is the question. Is Jesus only a man? If he is, you can afford to forget him. Or is he God? If he is God, then he demands your belief and your total allegiance. Do you believe that Jesus is God? You should be able to say with doubting Thomas, in the story that is really the spiritual climax of the fourth Gospel, "My Lord and my God." To draw back from making that confession is to perish. To believe it is to enter into eternal life.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

- **Ps. 40:16; Ps. 145:3**
- **Col. 2:2-3; Heb. 1:1-3**
- **Col. 1:17; John 8:48-59**
- **1 Tim. 1:15; Matt. 1:21**
- **Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; 1 Cor. 8:6**
- **John 10:10; John 11:25; John 14:6; John 20:30-31; Col. 3:4**
- **Is. 9:1-7; John 8:12; John 12:46**