

# John 1:1-5



<p><b>Passage:</b></p> <p>1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.</p>	
<p><b>Notable People:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Word” – The third person in the Trinity who became Jesus as human.</li> <li>• God – The creator of all things coexistent with the divine Logos or “word”</li> </ul>	<p><b>Notable Places:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The beginning – Borrowed language from Genesis to signify the time before creation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cross References:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NT Use of the OT: Genesis 1:1, Hebrews 1:2, 1 Corinthians 8:6</li> <li>• Shared Figurative Language: John 1:14, Colossians 1:16, Hebrews 1:2, 1 John 1:1,</li> <li>• Key Word Usage: John 8:12 (Life, Light), Genesis 1:3 (Light, Logos), Psalm 36:9 (Life, Light)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Key Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Word</b> (λογος, logos) v.1 – The divine knowledge of God, the truth, the eternal third person in the Trinity that took on flesh.</li> <li>• <b>Life</b> (ζοε, zoe) v.4 – the transcendent, true spiritual life</li> <li>• <b>God</b> (θεος, theos) v.1-2 – God, in context, the one eternal divine being</li> <li>• <b>Light</b> (φος, phos) v.4,5- Light in contrast to darkness in a transcendent sense</li> </ul>	<p><b>Notable Language:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word as Jesus- (1:1) “the Word”</li> <li>• Light as Salvation (1:4,5) “the light of men”</li> <li>• Jesus as container (1:4) “in him”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Notable Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Darkness</b> – Darkness was often viewed negatively and associated with both physical and spiritual chaos, evil, mischief, and overall negativity.</li> <li>• <b>Life</b> – Life can be understood as either physical or spiritual life.</li> <li>• <b>Light</b> – In contrast to darkness, light is connect with clear vision as well as positive and good things.</li> <li>• <b>Creation</b> – Jewish thought about creation is clearly invoked in these passages with borrowed language from Genesis.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Before:</b></p> <p>Beginning of John’s Gospel account</p> <hr/> <p><b>After:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The witness of John the Baptist (v.6-8)</li> <li>• The Coming Light (v.9-13)</li> <li>• The incarnation and revelation (v.14-18)</li> <li>• The Testimony of John the Baptist (v.19-34)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Main Idea:</b></p> <p>The purpose of John’s Gospel, as stated in 20:21, is to clearly present Jesus as the Son of God and true Savior to all who will believe. John’s introduction to his Gospel presents the origins of Jesus as part of the Godhead (theos), the true knowledge and wisdom of God (logos), the source of true life (zoe), and the light that has come (phos) to undo the curse of sin’s darkness upon mankind.</p>	