

# John 1:9-18



## Passage:

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

## Notable People:

- Jesus (the Word/Logos/Light)
- “People” – The nation of Israel
- John the Baptist

## Notable Places:

- Cosmos – The whole world, not just Israel or the Jews.

## Cross References:

- NT Use of the OT: Exodus 33:20, Isaiah 49:6,
- Shared Figurative Language: John 1:1, John 3:16-18, John 1:5, Colossians 1:15, 2:9, Ephesians 1:23, 3:19
- Key Word Usage: 1 John 3:1, 4:9, Matthew 3:11, 21:38

## Key Words:

- **One & Only** (μονογενής, monogenes) v.14,18 – Denotes uniqueness and type/kind
- **Grace** (χάρις, charis) v.14, 16, 17 – grace or favor
- **World** (κόσμος, kosmos) v.9,10 – the created cosmos/universe, specifically earth
- **Flesh** (σάρξ, sarx) v.13,14- flesh, body, specifically a physical body of the same kind as man

## Notable Language:

- God as Father (1:14, 18) – Shows a relationship between God and the Son within the Trinity but also communicates relationship to the reading audience.
- Jesus as a higher status (1:15) – John the Baptist’s proclamation of Christ rank higher than that of a prophet.
- People as Children (1:12) – those who believe in Christ have the RIGHT to become children of God.

## Notable Context:

- **God as Father** – Concept and belief of God to communicate Him as acting like a human father
- **Incarnation** – The embodiment of God into an earthly form. Roman emperors and other heads of state throughout history have been thought to be incarnations of a deity.
- **The Law** – Given to Israel through Moses, regulated all aspects of life for Israel and carried punishment for disobedience.

## Before:

- John’s prologue to his Gospel account giving context to the origin of Jesus as the eternal Logos (or Knowledge) of God who was with God and who is also God (Trinity Doctrine).

## After:

- The Testimony of John the Baptist (v.19-34)
  - John’s First Witness (1:19-28)
  - John’s Second Witness (1:29-34)
- The First Disciplines of Jesus (1:35-51)

## Main Idea:

John’s presentation in this passage clearly states that Salvation, that is light which will undo the darkness of sin, has come into the world and will provide the means to overcome the darkness. This Light, that is Christ Jesus, is God and is the perfect representation of God both in grace and truth but also in Law, which was given to Israel through Moses.