

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for July 5-6, 2003

Dale Whitehead

"The Word and God"

John 1:1-2

The Apostle John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, a member of Christ's inner circle, wrote the fourth gospel.

The Apostle John wrote the fourth gospel in order that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and be saved.

For us to deny the deity of Christ is to reject the Christ of the Bible and to reject the Christ of the Bible is to reject the gospel, making it impossible for us to be saved.

Jesus is referred to as the Word because Jesus reveals God to mankind (John 1:18).

We learn what makes Jesus so qualified in communicating God to man in the Gospel's introduction.

Jesus is qualified in communicating God to man because of what John tells us about the Word and God in John 1:1-2.

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

When John says "In the beginning" he is linking the Word to the first creative act of God and the beginning of time (Genesis 1:1).

John is not satisfied in his introductory phrase in simply linking Christ with God at the beginning of time, he also wants to link Christ with God before time.

The verb "was" is a durative imperfect which reaches back indefinitely beyond the instant of the beginning. It could be translated "In the beginning was continuing the Word.

Jesus is linked with God both in time and eternity by the phrase "In the beginning was the Word."

The Word is linked with God relationally by the phrase "and the Word was with God." The preposition "with" conveys the idea of nearness, along with a sense of movement toward God.

We learn that Christ was linked with God because He was God.

Accepting the deity of Christ by faith is not the last step in appreciating the greatness and magnificence of Christ, it is actually a part of the first step.