

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for July 12-13, 2003**

**Dale Whitehead**

**"And the Word Was God"**

**John 1:1-2**

What makes Jesus qualified to reveal God to man?

What we learn about the Word and God in John 1:1-2 makes Jesus qualified.

We learned that the Word like God was eternal.

We learned that the relationship between the Word and God throughout eternity was close.

We learned that the Word was God.

How can we prepare ourselves for a dialogue with a Jehovah Witness about the best translation of the last phrase of John 1:1?

2 John 9-11 prohibits Christians from assisting false teachers in spreading their doctrinal errors, but it does not prohibit Christians from seeking to evangelize them.

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We need to be prepared to engage them in the kind of dialogue that would honor the Lord (2 Timothy 2:24-25).

We need to be familiar with grammatical issues involved in the translation of the last phrase of John 1:1.

If John wanted to say that Jesus was godlike he could have and should have used the Greek adjective (THEIOS) which can be understood in this way.

No standard Greek lexicon offers "divine" (or in this case "godlike") as a possible meaning of THEIOS, the Greek word for God.

The last phrase of John 1:1 is a copulative sentence.

A copulative sentence is simply a sentence that is joined together by the verb "to be."

In Greek, one distinguishes the subject of a copulative sentence from the predicate nominative by which the noun has an article in front of it.

John placed the definite article before the noun "word" and not before the noun "God" to indicate which noun was the subject and which was the predicate.

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If you feel inadequate to effectively dialogue with Jehovah Witnesses on this or any other biblical topic be prepared to simply share your testimony.