MESSAGE NOTES

SEPTEMBER 10/13, 2020 COME AND SEE | THE SURPASSING GREATNESS OF JESUS JOHN 1:1-18

BIG IDEA

from God.

The surpassing greatness of Jesus is seen in the fact that he is God's eternal Son-divine and human, the Creator and Savior of all.

BACKGRO	OUND INFO	
• Gospel r	neans "good news"	
• Belief is	not John's ultimate goal–it's in Chri	st!
Author:		
John, an	d his brother James, were fisherman.	
Jesus ha	d 12 disciples and John was in Jesus' inner circle along v	with Peter and James.
• John wa	s Jesus' closest friend, the "beloved" disciple.	
Date/Audier	nce:	
Scholars	place the date of writing in the late first century/early see	cond.
promise	vriting primarily, but not exclusively, to a Jewish audience d Savior, God's Messiah. The clue is his gospel assumes a cle to Passover, Manna, Jacob's well, etc.).	
Purpose: "Bu	ut these are written that you may believe that	
	, and that by believing you may have life in His na	ame." John 20:31
OVERVIEW	v	
JOHN 1-5: J	esus is God–the eternal creator of life	
Jesus is	Divine (verse 1) - the Word was God	
	Eternal (verse 2) - with God in the beginning	
	Creator (verse 3) - through Him all things were made	
	Source of Spiritual Life (verse 4) - the light of all manking	nd
• God has		, through His
	(), and through Jesus, the	

$^{\prime\prime}$ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and	of
His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word." Hebrews 1:3	

JOHN 6-8: John the Baptist-the forerunner and witness of Christ

JOHN 9-13: Jesus is our Savior who makes us God's children/family through faith

- John says Jesus wasn't recognized as God's Savior and because of that they didn't welcome or receive Him by faith.
- But to those who believed they become children of God!
 - o John is clear that we become God's children, we aren't all born into his family.
 - o Also, it's not something that we can pull off–like we decide to do it or will to do it. No, it's a work that God does.
 - o It's not genetics, it's not anything we can pull off, our parents can't decide this. It's an act of God, all His doing. (cf Ephesians 2:8-9)

JOHN 14-18: Jesus is Human-God "with skin on"-full of grace and truth

- Dwelling is the word for tabernacle, which was the portable dwelling (tent) of God in the Old Testament.
- John's not saying there was no grace in the laws of the Old Testament written by Moses. He's saying there wasn't the full revelation of God's grace expressed in Christ.

REVIEW

- Jesus is both God and man.
- Jesus is human, a person of history, yet eternally existent.
- People in Jesus' day didn't recognize or receive Him even though many were looking for the Messiah.
- Verse 12 continues to happen every day—people meet Jesus and place their faith and trust in Him and become children of God.

IMPLICATIONS

- 1. If Jesus is God (that's John's claim), then what Jesus does and says is divine activity. Jesus' words and deeds are God's words and deeds! We are learning about God here to the end that we become children of God, experience a personal relationship with God.
- 2. Jesus' divinity reminds us He is not like us, hence can do for us what we can't for ourselves—make us right before God. Jesus' humanity reminds us that He understands us and has been tempted in every way that we have and yet He is without sin. He's our sympathetic high priest, or go between (us and God).
- 3. Verse 5 says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome (or understood) it." There is no darkness that you are facing—in your own heart or out in this world—that is greater than Jesus. Let His light shine on the darkness!

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- 1. Will you take up John's invitation to explore Jesus-to Come and See?
 - a. For some this is an invitation to examine the claims of Christ for the first time. John's not saying check out this good man who was a great teacher, he's saying far more: check out God's Son—the creator and Savior of all, Divine and at the same time human, the word who makes God known.
 - b. For some of us the invitation is to believe in Jesus. You've recognized him but not yet welcomed him into your life by placing your trust in Him.
 - c. For others it's to grow deeper in our faith as we continue to trust in Jesus.
- 2. Who in your sphere of influence–family, friends, colleagues at work or school, neighbors, etc.– need to hear about the surpassing greatness of Jesus? What would it look like to give evidence of Jesus' greatness in our lives? What is God asking you to do to show a watching world that Jesus is great?