

1. Jesus Was the Creator of all Creation

Today, we are beginning a new series of topics that will help us to teach our physical and spiritual children about the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. These topics will be taken from the book of John. One of the things that we want to help our children learn to explain to others is how they can know that Jesus is the Son of God and the Creator of the entire creation. That will be the focus of this topic.

The beginning verses of the book of John are very similar to the beginning verses of the book of Genesis. John 1:1-5 says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.” In these verses, we see that Jesus was in the beginning with the Father. Jesus said in John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’” In this verse, John made it clear that Jesus has always existed. Jesus was with God and Jesus is God and was in the beginning with the Father.

We also see that Jesus is called the Word. In verse three, we see that Jesus is the One who created all things. In Genesis 1:1-3, we read, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.” This explains why Jesus is called the Word. He is the member of the Trinity that spoke the words that brought the creation into existence. In fact, everything that was created was the result of the fact that Jesus spoke all of the creation into existence. The Father willed the creation in Genesis 1:1. The Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters in Genesis 1:2. The Son spoke the creation into existence in Genesis 1:3. The entire Trinity was involved in the creation.

We also see the Father exercising the will when He said in Genesis 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’” John 1:3 says that Jesus created all things so that would include the fact that Jesus created man just by speaking the Word. However, Jesus did more than just speak the word to create woman. Genesis 2:22 says, “Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.” In the case of the woman, Jesus created the woman from the rib of Adam. In addition, Jesus also performed the first marriage by bring her to the man.

Jesus is also the source of both life and light. In John 11:25, we read, “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.’” In this verse, Jesus makes it clear that He is the source of both physical and spiritual life. In John 8:12, Jesus said, “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’” Here, we see that Jesus is the source of spiritual light as well as physical light. If we are Christians, we do not need to worry about spiritual

darkness overtaking us again because 1 Thessalonians 5:4 says, “But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.” In 1 Thessalonians 5:2, we see that the Day of the Lord will overtake those who are not Christians. That verse says, “For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.” Christ removes all Christians from spiritual darkness into the spiritual light.

We go on to read that John the Baptist was sent from God to introduce Jesus to the Jews and to the world. John 1:6-9 says, “There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.” We see that the reason why John was sent ahead of Jesus was to bear witness to the fact that Jesus is the Light. The word translated “witness” speaks of one who gives official testimony such as someone who gives witness in a court. The word was also used of the Old Testament prophets because they gave official witness from God about future events. This meant that the ministry of John the Baptist was to give official testimony about Jesus.

Jesus is the One who is the True Light. We see that Jesus is the One who gives light to every person coming into the world. Romans 1:19-20 says, “Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.” Then, Romans 2:14-15 adds, “For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves *their* thoughts accusing or else excusing *them*.” We see in these verses that Jesus gives light both through the creation and also through the conscience.

John 1:10-14 says, “He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” In these verses, we see that Jesus was in the world. In fact, Jesus was the Creator of the world.

As the Creator of the world, Jesus has a very close relationship to the world. We see that Jesus appeared many times throughout the Old Testament as the angel of the Lord or the Lord of hosts. However, the world did not know and recognize Jesus. The word translated “know” means *to perceive, to understand or to come to know*. Many of the times that Jesus appeared in the Old Testament, He was not recognized. Exodus 3:2-3 says, “And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, ‘I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.’” At first, Moses only thought that he was looking at a bush that was not being destroyed. Then, Christ (the Angel of the Lord) said in Exodus 3:6, “Moreover He said, ‘*I am* the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.” It was only then that

Moses realized that the flame that he saw in the bush was an appearance of Christ.

Jesus came to the Jewish people many times throughout the Old Testament. However, most of the people did not receive Him. Isaiah 65:2-3 says, “I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way *that is* not good, according to their own thoughts; a people who provoke Me to anger continually to My face; who sacrifice in gardens, and burn incense on altars of brick.” However, there was always a small group of Jews who were faithful to the Lord. In 1 Kings 19, Elijah thought that he was the only one left that served God. Then, God told Elijah in 1 Kings 19:18, ““Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”” Here, we see that all who did receive God (Jesus) in the Old Testament became the children of God.

They did not become children of God by physical birth. They did not become the children of God because of their own will. They did not become children of God because of the will of any other person. Instead, all of the Old Testament saints became the children of God because that was the will of God. Old Testament saints became children of God by faith. Isaiah 55:2-3 says, “Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you—the sure mercies of David.” Then, Isaiah 55:6-7 promises, “Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.” God has always shown His mercy to those who come to Him by faith.

However, Jesus chose to become the God-man to pay the penalty for sin so that all who come to God by faith can have their sins forgiven. John 1:14 says, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” In John 1:1-3, we see that the Word is the One who created all things. In this verse, we see that Jesus is the One who is the Word and is the Creator of all things. Hebrews 2:14-15 says, “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” When Jesus became a man, He lived with His disciples and taught them. They had the opportunity to see the glory of Jesus. They recognized it as the glory of the Father. They saw that Jesus was full of grace and truth. We want to help our physical and spiritual children understand the fact that Jesus in the God-man and both the Creator of all things and also the One who became a man to pay for sin. May the Lord richly bless you as you help your children understand why Jesus is both the Creator of the entire creation and also the One who became a man to pay the penalty for our sins so that we could be forgiven.