

# Jesus: The One and Only

John 1.1-18

January 19, 2020

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## Introduction

- What was John's purpose in writing this gospel?
- Jesus is referred to as the one and only in this passage

## Explanation of the Text: the passage declares that Jesus is...

1. Established in eternity –
  - What was the Logos?
  - Pre-existent; co-existent; self-existent – Tony Evans
2. Manifest in creation
  - This teaching is also found in Colossians 1:16–17 and Hebrews 1:2.<sup>1</sup>
3. Corroborated by a witness
  - It is a strange fact that in the Fourth Gospel every reference to John the Baptist is a reference of depreciation. There is an explanation for that. John was a prophetic voice; for 400 years the voice of prophecy had been silent, and in John it spoke again. It seems that certain people were so fascinated by John that they gave him a higher place than he ought to have had.<sup>2</sup>

4. Revealed through relationship
  - The **world**
  - The doctrine of adoption
  - Regeneration / salvation – the act of God vs. human free will
5. Present with his people
  - God literally “tabernacled” among us.
6. Purveyor of grace
  - *NIV*: “one blessing after another”
  - *KJV*: “grace for grace”
  - *LB*: “blessing upon blessing heaped upon us”
  - *NLT*: “one gracious blessing after another”<sup>3</sup>
7. Radiates the glory of God
  - If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. - Archbishop J. H. Bernard of Dublin<sup>4</sup>;
  - [John 14:9](#) : [Isa 9:6](#); [Jn 1:14](#); [12:45](#); [2Co 4:4](#); [Php 2:6](#); [Col 1:15](#); [Heb 1:3](#)

## Implications of the passage

1. God is a person
  - a. Vs 1-2 make it clear that God is more than a mystical, ethereal energy force
  - b. 1John 4.2

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<sup>1</sup> Kruse, C. G. (2003). [John: an introduction and commentary](#) (Vol. 4, p. 64). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

<sup>2</sup> Barclay, W. (2001). [The Gospel of John](#) (Rev. and updated., Vol. 1, p. 58). Edinburgh: Saint Andrew Press.

<sup>3</sup> Gangel, K. O. (2000). [John](#) (Vol. 4, p. 14). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

<sup>4</sup> Barclay, W. (2001). [The Gospel of John](#) (Rev. and updated., Vol. 1, p. 86). Edinburgh: Saint Andrew Press.

2. God is present with His people
  - a. Incarnation
  - b. Immanuel – God with us
  
3. God is knowable
  - a. The demons sure knew who Jesus was -- Mark 1.24
  
  - b. John 5.39-40 – the Jewish Leaders couldn't figure it out
  - c. But the disciples knew – Matthew 16.13-17
  - d. Matthew 7.23 – away from me, you evil doers

## **Conclusion**

- God is not an impersonal form of energy coursing through the universe; he is the personal, present, perfect, knowable, eternal, triune, creator, sustainer, gracious, glorious life-giving saviour of the world.
  
- God's love for us as its manifest is his presence with us. This "Logos" is not some impersonal universal energy but the living, loving God of the universe, who created the universe, and chose to dwell among us to save us so that we can enjoy his presence forever.