

The Story Part 1 - “We beheld His Glory” (11-30-25)

Main Text: John 1:1-14

John 1:1-14 (ESV)

[1] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. [4] In him was life, and the life was the light of men. [5] The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. [6] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. [7] He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. [8] He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. [9] The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. [10] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. [11] He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. [12] But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, [13] who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. [14] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Introduction: The Christmas Story is The Story of the redemption of creation, through God coming to us!

1) The Word is God - Creator and Giver of Life

John 1:1-2 (ESV)

[1] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God.

Note: The Word is God (Jesus the only begotten Son of God)

John 1:3 (ESV)

All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Note: The Word is Creator God (Creator not created)

John 1:4-5 (ESV)

[4] In him was life, and the life was the light of men. [5] The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Note: The Word (as Creator), is the Giver of Life. Light is an essential component of life, the first created thing.

- John 1 is echoing Genesis 1 on purpose.
- The Christmas Story begins at the very beginning, because it is The Story!

Genesis 1:1-5 (ESV)

[1] In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. [2] The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. [3] And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. [4] And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. [5] God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Note: The Word is Creator God, He is from the very beginning, and He is our life and light.

The Story from the beginning was not just that God created, but that God himself would redeem our mess . . .

1 Peter 1:20 (ESV)

He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you

2) John - sent to prepare the way

John 1:6-8 (ESV)

[6] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. [7] He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. [8] He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

Note: The coming of John the Baptist, the forerunner is an essential part of the Story . . .

John 1:19-23 (ESV)

[19] And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" [20] He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." [21] And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." [22] So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" [23] He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

Isaiah 40:1-8 (ESV)

[1] Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. [2] Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. [3] A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. [4] Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. [5] And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." [6] A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. [7] The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. [8] The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Note: The voice is preparing the way, pointing to the Word of God that will stand forever.

3) Jesus - The Light of the World

John 1:9-13 (ESV)

[9] The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. [10] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. [11] He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. [12] But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, [13] who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Note: The true light has come . . .

- To the world He made
- To the people He prepared
- Yet, the world didn't know Him, and His own people didn't receive Him
- But . . . To those who receive and believe - Children of God, born of God
- The Virgin birth isn't just a cool feature to signify something miraculous - Jesus, born of a woman and of the Holy Spirit, is essential, as we all too must be Born Again. We have all been born of a woman. We all must be born of the Spirit to become Children of God

Conclusion: May we recognize this story is The Story, may our hearts be prepared, and may we receive Him!

John 1:14 (ESV)

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.