

A Picture of Jesus

Jn 1:1-14

INTRODUCTION

- A. Individuals view Jesus differently.
- B. Tonight, we want to examine the picture of Jesus John presents at the opening of his gospel.
- C. John presents Jesus as:

LORD, vv 1-4

- A. The Word is eternal, v 1.
 - 1. He was in the beginning.
 - 2. There was never a time when he wasn't.
 - a. Is 9:6.
 - b. Mic 5:2.
- B. The Word has a close relationship with the Father, v 1.
 - 1. He was "with the Father."
 - 2. Because Jesus has this close relationship with the Father, he has revealed the Father.
 - a. Jn 1:18.
 - b. Jn 14:9.
- C. The Word has divine attributes, v 1.
 - 1. The character & substance of Jesus is deity.
 - 2. He is God.
- D. The Word has creative power, vv 3-4.
 - 1. All things were made through him, v 3.
 - a. Absolutely nothing was made without Jesus.
 - b. Jesus played a role in the creation of literally everything.
 - 2. In the Word was life, v 4.
 - a. This refers to Jesus' power to create life.
 - b. All people live physically because of Jesus.
 - 3. Creation is a divine attribute.
 - a. Gn 1:1.
 - b. Heb 11:3.
- E. Many want us to believe that Jesus isn't divine.
 - 1. Yet, these verses are pregnant with his deity.
 - 2. We, therefore, should worship Jesus as divine.

LIGHT, vv 4-9

- A. The life the Word has is the light of men, vv 4-5.
 - 1. This light shines in the darkness, v 5.
 - a. The purpose of light is to point out objects in the darkness.
 - b. As Jesus points out objects in the darkness, he teaches us how to live.
 - 2. This light has not been overcome by the darkness, v 5.
 - a. Jesus is stronger than the darkness.
 - b. The darkness may attempt to overcome this light, but it shall not.
- C. This light had a witness, vv 6-8.

1. This witness was sent from God, v 6.
 - a. This witness had a divine message.
 - b. He wasn't just out in the wilderness saying what he wanted.
 2. He came to testify concerning the light, vv 7-8.
 - a. He did so that all might believe through his testimony, v 7.
 - b. He wasn't the Light himself, but he came to testify to the light, v 8.
 3. We need individuals who testify to the Light.
- D. This Light gives light to all men, v 9.
1. "True" here means "genuine"—The Word is the "genuine" light rather than some false hope.
 2. He gives light to every man—Jesus teaches everyone how to live.

LARGELY UNKNOWN, vv 10-11

- A. The world did not know him, v 10.
1. Even though he made the world & was in the world, the world did not know him.
 - a. Not knowing Jesus means not recognizing him as the Messiah.
 - b. Not recognizing Jesus as the messiah can have disastrous consequences.
 - 1) Because Paul did not know Jesus, he persecuted the church.
 - 2) Because the rulers did not know Jesus, they crucified him (1 Cor 2:8).
 2. Many do not know Jesus today.
 - a. People do not know Jesus in that they refuse to acknowledge him as the Lord of their lives.
 - b. People do not know Jesus in that they give honor to religious leaders.
- B. Even his own people did not accept him, v 11.
1. Jesus was often rejected.
 - a. The people of Nazareth refused to accept him (Lk 4:28-29).
 - b. The Jewish nation refused to accept him (Jn 5:43).
 2. People continue to reject Jesus.

LIFE-GIVER, vv 12-13

- A. To those who accepted him through faith, he gave the power to become children of God, v 12.
1. "Child" denotes a special relationship.
 2. Through Christ, we can have a special, close relationship with God—we can be his children.
- B. These children aren't through natural means.

LIVING FLESH, v 14

- A. Jesus became flesh.
1. He gave up the rights of deity & became a person.
 2. Because he was human, he became sick, hungry, thirsty, tired, etc.
- B. He dwelt among us.
1. He lived as a man.
 2. He experienced the same hurts, etc. that we experience.
- C. Because Jesus was human, he can sympathize with our weaknesses (Heb 4:14-16).