

During Advent season, we are reminded afresh of the incredible truth that God came to us in an unprecedented fashion when he came in the person of the God-man, Jesus Christ. All throughout history God made Himself known in one way or another, providing needed and even helpful "pictures" of who He is, what He's like, and how He prefers to get glory for himself. As gracious and glorious as those "peeks" were, it was like looking in 2d, when Jesus is like experiencing God in 3d. He pops off the pages of Scripture and emerges from out of the "shadows and types" to provide us the greatest revelation of God we would ever experience in this life.

**Text: John 1:1-5; 14-18**

*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.*

*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.*

*15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'")*

*16 And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.*

*17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

*18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.*

**Jesus is affirmed to be absolutely God. (1-5)**

- His preexistence affirms this.
- His communion with God before time began affirms this.
- His role in creation affirms this.
- His life is not dependent on anything outside of himself
- He is man's light source, physically and spiritually speaking.

### **Jesus displays amazing grace. (v. 14)**

- The incarnation (God taking on a human nature) itself is an act of enormous grace.
- Grace is goodness that comes down to people who could never come up.
- God came down in Jesus Christ.
  - It is grace that the One who *is* the source of life would take on (flesh) that which could die.
  - It is grace that The One who needs nothing, is missing nothing, is dependent on nothing, knows all, can do all, rules all...
  - ...Would *become* One would need, depend, grow, learn, live by the rules of the creatures, hunger, thirst, tire!
- It's grace that God would come and "dwell for a while" among sinful humanity.
- He was in the presence of His Father, the Spirit, and angels but came down to be in the presence of lepers, prostitutes, tax collectors--sinners of every stripe.
- He communicated God's desire to provide us access to Him.

### **Jesus displayed that he is truly glorious. (v 15-18)**

- His glory was observable
  - His glory was like the Father's glory
  - His glory was seen in his overflowing display of his grace and truth
  - His glory was seen as being a greater display of grace than in times past.
  - The grace of the gospel of Jesus Christ is even more glorious than the grace of the law which came through Moses
- Jesus is God in 3d. The picture has never been clearer.