
Series: A Christmas Surprise
The Surprise Answer to an Age Old Question

John 1:1-14 (NIV)

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

³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

⁶There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

1. CHRIST CAME IN THE MIDST OF THE DARKNESS.

v. 5 "The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it."

- The world was dark in its understanding.

John 3:19 (NIV)

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

- Jesus came in the middle of the night as a light to pierce the darkness.
- There are those all around us who remain in darkness.

2. CHRIST WAS BORN TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

v. 4-5a "In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness..."

v. 9 "The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world."

John 8:12 (NIV)

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

1 John 1:5 (NIV)

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

- Christ brings light to the sin in our lives.
- Christ brings light to give us new understanding.
- Christ brings light to reveal eternal life for us.
- Christ brings light to allow us to be bearers of light.

3. CHRIST WAS THE ULTIMATE SURPRISE CHRISTMAS GIFT.

v. 14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."

- The incarnation of Christ reveals the mystery of both the nature and persons of God.
- God's surprise gift to mankind was to send a Savior that would experience everything we would, yet without sin.
- God's greatest gift was to give the best he had for us.