

# The Fourfold Gospel

Jesus introduced and credentials displayed

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- Luke 1:1-4
  - Many tried to put together a complete narrative of Jesus, His life, His ministry and His death, burial and resurrection, but only those elected by God have survived for us to read
  - Luke's account was compiled from eyewitnesses (apostles and a few others - Acts 1:21-23)
  - The apostles were ministers of the word, not high ranking church dignitaries.
  - Luke, being fitted to write the gospel, was guided to do so in an orderly fashion by the Holy Spirit
  - Luke is writing this gospel as a letter to Theophilus (supposedly a Greek of high official rank) as a fixed written record of the gospel that he was taught.

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- John 1:1-18
  - “In the beginning was the Word” – a term used for Jesus by John
  - “The Word was with God” – not going before or coming after but with Him from the beginning
  - “The Word was God” – not more or less
  - “All things came into being through Him” – Christ was the creator (1 Cor 8:6, Colossians 1:17, Hebrews 1:2) – “and apart from Him not even one thing came into being that has come into being” – God’s word assures us without argument that Jesus was NOT a created being.
  - “In Him was life” - that ability of living by His own power and the ability to give life to the dead – “and the life was the Light of mankind” – from His life we get our intellect and understanding.

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- John 1:1-18
  - “And the light shines in the darkness” – Jesus enlightens and ignorant world – “and the darkness did not grasp it” – the world, unenlightened as it is, did not and will not receive or admit Jesus light.
  - “A man came, one sent from God, and his name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all may believe through him.” – John was sent for US, a MAN created by God for our benefit that we might believe that Jesus was the Messiah.
  - “He was not the Light” – John was not Jesus, but was sent to testify about Jesus – “but he came to testify about the Light”
  - “This was the true Light” - not imperfect or transitory but complete and perfect – “that coming into the world, enlightens every person” – all men are enlightened by Christ to some degree – either by their nature, their conscience, or through biblical revelation.

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- John 1:1-18
  - “He was in the world” – Christ has always been here – invisibly present, renewing and sustaining His creation. – “and the world came into being through Him, and yet the world did not know Him” – All men should recognize Jesus as God through His creation (Romans 1:18-21, Acts 14:16-17)
  - “He came to His own, and His own people did not accept Him” – Jesus came to the Jews, those who were told He would come but they did not accept Him as the Messiah they had been looking forward to for centuries.
  - “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” – Jesus welcomes all, Jew or Gentile. (Galatians 3:26)

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- John 1:1-18
  - “Who were born, not of blood” – Not descended from Abraham, David or any other person in the lineage of Christ – blood is not what makes one a child of God – “nor of the will of the flesh” – we can change us but we can NOT earn grace – “nor of the will of man” - our human will can not lead us to forgiveness – it is of grace – “it is of God” – Only God can make us His children.
  - “And the Word became flesh” – born in Bethlehem of Mary – “and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory” – miracles, signs, wonders, and transfiguration – “as of the only Son from the Father” – glory suited to the Son of God – “full of grace and truth” – Christ did not come to this earth to look regal – He came humbly to show the righteousness, holiness, grace and truth of God to mankind in perfection.

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- John 1:1-18
  - “John ‘testified about Him and called out saying, “This is He whom I have said” – John’s ministry started before Jesus’ ministry - John had been preaching of the one to come – “He who is coming after me has proved to be my superior, because He existed before me.” –Christ was worthy of more honor even though he was born into the world 6 months after John, however Jesus is eternal.
  - “For His fulness we have all received, and grace upon grace” – Jesus was full of grace and all of God’s attributes were found in Him. (Ephesians 3:14-19)
  - “For the Law was given through Moses: grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ” – The old law and its condemnation came through Moses by angels at Mt Sinai (Hebrews 2:, The new covenant and justification came through Jesus (Hebrews 1:1-3)

# Jesus is introduced as God's son

- John 1:1-18
  - “No one has seen God at any time” – No man has physically seen God for He is unseeable (1 Timothy 6:16) - “ God the only Son, who is in the arms of the Father, He has explained Him” – Jesus is our only avenue to view God and Jesus has revealed the Father to us through himself (Colossians 1:15-20)



# Jesus is introduced as God's Son

- Matthew 1:1-17
  - The lineage of Jesus through his earthly father – Joseph
- Luke 3:23-28
  - The lineage of Jesus through his earthly mother - Mary