

The Gospel According to John

11-15-08

1. Last week we completed a study of John the writer of the Gospel of John, 1st John, 2nd John, 3rd John and Revelation. We then completed an introduction to the Gospel of John.

2. Before I begin the exegesis of the Gospel of John, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.

Exegesis of the Book of John

KJV

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

NIV

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 He was with God in the beginning.

Joh 1:3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

1. Let's first exegete verse one:

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, Εν αρχη ειμι ο λογος, ...

1. **En Arche Eimi Ho Logos** is better translated "In the beginning before time was the Lord Jesus existed ..."

2. The word **Arche** is used to translate **Reshith** in the Septuagint. Both words **Reshith** in the Hebrew and **Arche** in the Koine Greek mean a beginning "before anything was." Both **Arche** and **Reshith** are preceded by the prepositions **En** and **Be** respectively.

Gen 1:1 In the beginning (**Be Reshith**) God created the heaven and the earth.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning (**En Arche**) was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

3. Now for the phrase "and the word was with God."

AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD και ο λογος ειμι προς Θεος

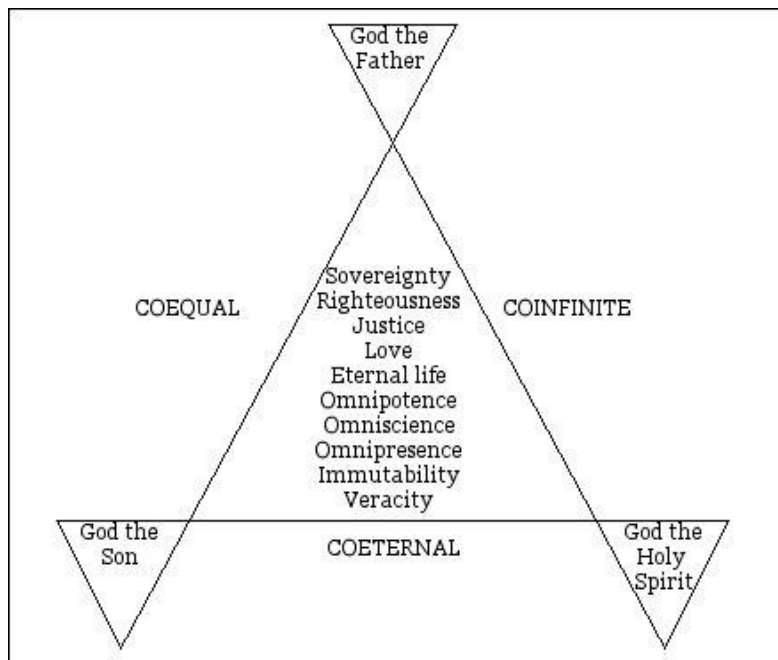
1. **Kai Ho Logos Eimi Pros Theos** is better translated “and the Lord Jesus Christ in eternity past was with God ...”
2. The verb **Eimi** is an imperfect and thus “The Word was continuously with God in the past.”
3. Now let’s see what we have so far: “In eternity past before anything was Jesus Christ was with God ...”
4. We know the word **Logos** is a reference to Jesus Christ because of Joh 1:14.
Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
5. Now for the phrase “and the word was God.”

AND THE WORD WAS GOD **και ο λογος ειμι θεος**

1. **Kai Ho Logos Eimi Theos** is better translated “and Jesus Christ was God.”
2. **Eimi** is again in the imperfect tense indicating “Christ was God continuously in eternity past.”
3. Now let’s see how the entire verse has been translated:

Expanded Translation

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word and that Word was Jesus Christ; and the Word was in eternity-past with God, in fact that Word was not only with God but He was God.



4. Now let’s exegete verse two of the Gospel of John.

KJV-New Sentence

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

THE SAME WAS IN THE BEGINNING ΟΥΤΟΣ ΕΙΜΙ ΕΝ ΑΡΧΗ

1. **Houtos Eimi En Arche** is better “This same Jesus was continuously in eternity past always ...”
2. **Houtos** is the near demonstrative pronoun followed by the verb **Eimi** parsed as a 3rd person singular imperfect active indicative and the noun **Arche** declined as a locative singular.
3. **Eimi** is again in the imperfect tense and **Arche** is again the object of the preposition **En**.

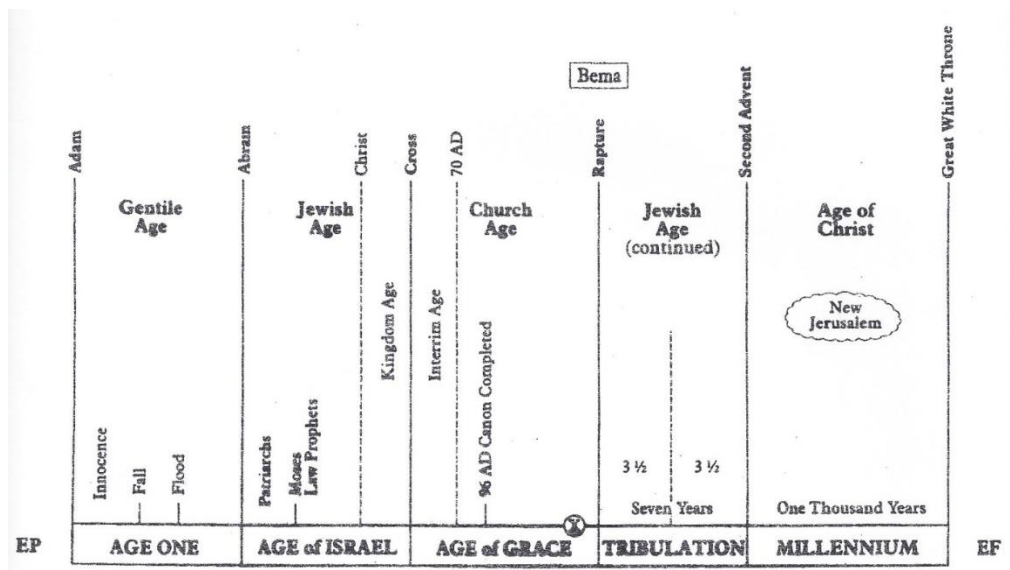
WITH GOD. ΠΡΟΣ ΘΕΟΣ.

1. **Pros Theos** is better “face to face with God.”
2. **Pros** is a preposition followed by the noun **Theos** declined as an accusative singular.
3. Now let’s see how the entire verse two looks in expanded translation:

Expanded Translation

Joh 1:2 From the very beginning before time that Word-Jesus Christ was continuously in eternity past with God.

4. I would call your attention to the EP on our chart. It stands for eternity past-before God invented time for our benefit.



5. Now let’s exegete Joh 1:3.

KJV-New Sentence

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

ALL THINGS WERE MADE Πας γινομαι

1. **Pas Ginomai** is well translated “All things were made ...”
2. **Pas** is an adjective declined as a nominative plural used substantively, followed by the deponent verb **Ginomai** parsed as a 3rd person singular aorist active indicative.
3. Next follows the phrase “by him and without him ...”

BY HIM AND WITHOUT HIM δια αυτος και χωρις αυτος

1. **Dia Autos Kai Choris Autos** is better “through Him and by means of Him and in fact without Him ...”
2. **Dia** is a preposition followed by the pronoun **Autos** declined as a genitive singular and the conjunction **Kai** connecting the adverb **Choris** and the pronoun **Autos** declined as a genitive singular.
3. Literally we have: “All things through and by means of Him became and without Him ...”

WAS NOT ANYTHING MADE γινομαι ουδε ενι

1. **Ginomai Oude Heni** is better translated “there was not even one thing made ...”
2. **Ginomai** is a verb parsed as a 3rd person singular, aorist active indicative followed by the negative adverb **Oude** and **Heni**, the cardinal number one.

THAT WAS MADE. ος γινομαι.

1. **Hos Ginomai** is well translated “that was made.”
2. **Hos** is a relative pronoun followed by the verb **Ginomai** parsed as a 3rd person singular, aorist active indicative.
3. Now let’s see how Joh 1:3 has been translated:

Expanded Translated

Joh 1:3 All things came into being through Him and without him nothing was made that has been made.

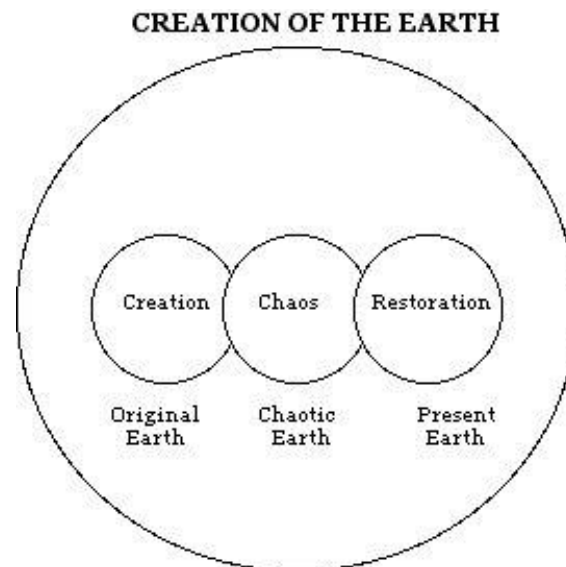
Summary Points

1. God is the creator of all things. From the outset in the book of Genesis, the focus of the creation turns upon Almighty God.

1.1 He is the beginning, the cause and the source of all that is. In the creation and later the restoration God brought into being all that fits into His plan for the ages. God miraculously spoke into existence all physical matter necessary for His purposes.

2. With the phrase, "In the beginning (**BERESHITH** in the Hebrew)," Moses, under the inspiration of God the Holy Spirit, takes the reader back before time, into the unfathomable reaches of eternity. He seeks to suggest the state of things before time was.

2.1 Moses under the inspiration of the Spirit gives no hint of a tangible date for this beginning. The creation account reaches back into a "space" before there was a dating of events.



3. The sublime sovereignty of the revelation is based on this one mighty assertion. God did it. Nothing more astounding could be declared: "In the beginning **ELOHIM** created out of absolutely nothing planet Earth and all surrounding celestials, both seen and unseen, known and unknown."

4. **EL** is the usual word for "God" in Hebrew, Aramaic and Arabic. In all three languages it is actually plural in form, but it is used with verbs in the singular. In **ELOHIM** is united all the powers of eternity and infinity, the Beginning, and the end, the Alpha and the Omega.

5. Created (**BARA** in the Hebrew) is a verb used exclusively for an act of God. Man cannot reach up to the powers inherent in this word, for it describes a miracle where undefined perfection was created from absolutely nothing, but by the sovereign, originative power of God. Something absolutely new and original was first brought into being, only to later be scarred and then restored.

6. Let's begin with several basic Scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments.

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Gen 1:2 Now the earth was (**HAYAH** in the Hebrew) formless (**TOHU** in the Hebrew) and empty (**BOHU** in the Hebrew), darkness was over the surface of the deep ...

Isa 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain (**TOHU**), he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

7. Isaiah raises a question re: the proper translation of **Hayah**: a question we will later answer in significant detail.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

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Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made ...

8. The Scriptures direct our attention toward a tiny little planet called Earth and the many created beings that would ultimately live upon it. In the phrase, "In the beginning God created" includes the completed universe as it was known or might come to be known.

9. We once believed our galaxy contained more than 100 billion stars, and that our sun was 150 trillion miles from the center of our galaxy. It was once estimated that the stars numbered 100 quintillion.

9.1 We now know our galaxy is only one of a small cluster of many galaxies, the nearest of which is thirty million light years from us (150 million trillion miles). The candle power of one such galaxy was said to equal that of 400 million suns. Research scientists, by using powerful telescopes, have discovered more than a billion galaxies, and as better telescopes are constructed the number grows.

10. As man looks on this vast creation and compares what he sees with Moses's inspired account of its origin; objective minds cannot help but be filled with awe, reverence, respect, dread and wonder. Now most, and that includes many avid agnostics, agree the Big Bang theory is the best guess as to how the universe began. Let's note how similar this new-found theory is to the ageless theory of Creation by Fiat.

11. When a scientist writes about God his colleagues assume he is over the hill or going bonkers. Ben Stein in his movie (*Expelled*) provides details of how such scientists are ostracized in the scientific community and thus the title of his movie.

12. I want to provide a quote from my *Doctrine of Evolution*—the complete doctrine can be found on our website (www.westbankbiblechurch.com). You will find the doctrine listed under the heading "*Pastor Merritt's Study Books.*"

“As I peruse the latest scientific literature describing the origin of the planet, I am fascinated by what seems to be a sea change. Rather than an evolving origin we find a sharply defined punctilious beginning, i.e., creation began at a certain moment in time. Was the creative agent one of the forces of evolution or was it as the Old Testament says: ‘In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth?’ The essential elements of what is now called the Big Bang theory are similar to what we find in the book of Genesis.

“According to the Big Bang theory, everything began suddenly, with a great flash and a release of energy. Many scientists are unhappy that the world apparently began in this way. Until recently most were more comfortable with the steady state theory of development because it was consistent with the theory of Evolution. The best science now concludes there was a sudden beginning. The Big Bang theory was first postulated in 1912 at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff Arizona, where several galaxies were observed to be moving away from planet Earth at speeds of millions of miles an hour. The new findings were not reported until 1914 at a scientific meeting. From these empirical observations, Dr. Edwin Hubbell developed a new scenario for all beginning.

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