

THE WORD AND GOD
(John 1:1-2)

- I. The meaning of "In the BEGINNING WAS" (John 1:1 *a*)
 - A. "Beginning" does not describe a MOMENT of TIME but refers to a TIMELESS ETERNITY
 - B. "Beginning" includes the sense of BASIC CAUSE
 - 1. There was never a TIME when the Word WAS NOT
 - 2. There was never a THING which did not depend on the Word for its very EXISTENCE
 - C. "Was" communicates a state of EXISTENCE not of BECOMING

- II. The meaning of "the WORD" (John 1:1 *a*)
 - A. The Greeks considered "the Word" the source of CREATION, ORDER, and WISDOM
 - B. The Jews considered "the Word" the PERSONAL expression of the POWER and WILL of God

III. The RELATIONSHIP of the Word and God (John 1:1b-c)

A. The Word was a PERSON

1. Not an ATTRIBUTE OF God
2. Not an EMANATION FROM God

B. The Word was a Person who was DISTINCT FROM God

C. The Word was a Person who was ASSOCIATED WITH God

D. The Word was a Person who was EQUAL TO God

E. The Word was a Person who was IDENTIFIED AS God

1. He was not just "A GOD"
2. He was not just "DIVINE" or "GODLIKE"

IV. Restatement and Summary (John 1:2)

A. The Word is ETERNAL

B. The Word is PRESENT with God and DISTINCT from Him

C. The Word is FULLY GOD