

# JOHN

## *John Tells About Jesus, the Son of God*

### Christ Comes to the World

**1** Before the world began, there was the Word.<sup>a</sup> The Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** All things were made through him. Nothing was made without him. **4** In him there was life. That life was light for the people of the world. **5** The Light shines in the darkness. And the darkness has not overpowered the Light.

**6** There was a man named John<sup>b</sup> who was sent by God. **7** He came to tell people about the Light. Through him all people could hear about the Light and believe. **8** John was not the Light, but he came to tell people about the Light. **9** The true Light was coming into the world. The true Light gives light to all.

**10** The Word was in the world. The world was made through him, but the world did not know him. **11** He came to the world that was his own. But his own people did not accept him. **12** But some people did accept him. They believed in him. To them he gave the right to become children of God. **13** They did not become his children in the human way. They were not born because of the desire or wish of some man. They were born of God.

**14** The Word became a man and lived among us. We saw his glory — the glory that belongs to the only Son of the

Father. The Word was full of grace and truth. **15** John told about him. He said, "This is the One I was talking about. I said, 'The One who comes after me is greater than I am. He was living before me'."

**16** The Word was full of grace and truth. From him we all received more and more blessings. **17** The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No man has ever seen God, but God the only Son is very close to the Father.<sup>c</sup> And the Son has shown us what God is like.

### John Tells People About Jesus

**19** The Jews in Jerusalem sent some priests and Levites to John.<sup>d</sup> The Jews sent them to ask, "Who are you?"

**20** John spoke freely and did not refuse to answer. He said clearly, "I am not the Christ."<sup>e</sup>

**21** So they asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"<sup>f</sup>

He answered, "No, I am not Elijah."

Then they asked, "Are you the Prophet?"<sup>g</sup>

He answered, "No, I am not the Prophet."

**22** Then they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to tell those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

**Word** The Greek word is "logos", meaning any kind of communication. It could be translated "message". Here, it means Christ. Christ was the way God told people about himself.

**John** John the Baptist, who preached to people about Christ's coming (Matthew 3, Luke 3).

**but . . . Father** This could be translated, "but the only God is very close to the Father."

Also, some Greek copies say, "but the only Son is very close to the Father."

**Elijah** A man who spoke for God. He lived hundreds of years before Christ.

**Prophet** They probably meant the prophet that God told Moses he would send (Deuteronomy 18:15-19).