



Sunday, December 12, 2021
Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to John 1:1-5, 14-18

C.S. Lewis once wrote, “The central miracle asserted by Christians is the Incarnation. They say that God became Man. Every other miracle prepares for this, or exhibits this, or results from this... There is no question in Christianity of arbitrary interferences just scattered about. It relates not a series of disconnected raids on Nature but the various steps of a strategically coherent invasion—an invasion which intends complete conquest and ‘occupation.’”

Lewis, ever the wordsmith, articulates here the clear intention of Christ coming to earth. Christ’s coming was about “complete conquest and occupation.” The puzzling thing to us is how that conquest would take place. Our instincts would point us to a political or military victory. But Christ came in humility. His on-going conquest is not about establishing a regime in the midst of a fallen world, but redeeming people who would love Him wholeheartedly and worship Him, as Pliny acknowledge, “as though He is a God.” It is the best news in the world that Jesus is fully God and fully man, come to save and to conquer as only He could.

Context

This section at the beginning of John’s Gospel is also known as the “prologue.” This section introduces the main themes that will be unpacked throughout the book as John has carefully chosen and arranged the true stories of Jesus. But it is important for us to know from the outset, that everything we read about Jesus saying and doing is done with the backdrop that He is fully God, co-equal in power, honor, and glory. He never relinquished His divinity to take on His humanity, and so He would perfectly reveal God to us and perfectly atone for our sins.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read John 1:1-18

“The Grand Miracle”

The Word was one with God (v. 1)

The Word came from God (v. 14)

The Word reveals God (v. 18)

