Jesus - the Creator of the World

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:1-5)

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"It's All About Jesus!"
-South Hills Church 2017 Theme
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"Did my hearers encounter a larger vision of Christ and his supremacy, and were they gripped by stronger reasons to put their hope more fully in Him, than they had before we came together?" -John Bunyan

"Believe" - over 100 times in John's gospel.

1. Jesus is the Living God.

"In the beginning was the Word"

"Word," Greek "Logos" - revelation of God's essence and thoughts. "the Word was God"

"With" - intimate fellowship; oneness; (literally) "face-to-face." Pre-Existence of Christ

- "Before Abraham was, I am." (John 8:58)
- "Isaiah...saw His glory and spoke of Him." (John 12:41)

- "And now, Father, glorify Me in Your own presence with the glory that I had with You before the world existed." (John 17:5)

"and the Word was God."

Jesus Possessed All the Attributes of God

- Did not become God.
- Was not appointed God.
- 100% God and 100% man.

"He was in the beginning with God." (John 1:2)

"The Mighty God..." (Isa. 9:6)

"In Jesus Christ the reality of God entered into the reality of this world." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Do you see Jesus as The Living God?

2. Jesus is life.

"Ours is a frustrated age..."

"There is only one Being who can satisfy the last aching abyss of the human heart and that is the Lord Jesus Christ." -Oswald Chambers

There is one name that will swing open the gates of Heaven - it's the name of Jesus!

Why?

Jesus is the Source of Life!

Jesus is the Giver of Life!

Jesus is the Author of Life!

Jesus is the door to Life!

"All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made." (3)

The source of all physical life - both visible and invisible.

The source of all spiritual life - "I have come to give life..." (John 10:10)

Everything had a beginning except God.

Everything that has life has God as the source of life.

"In Him was life..." (4a)

"ours is a frustrated age, not because people can't get what they want, but because what they want is not worth having."

3. Jesus is light.

"...to open their eyes and to turn them from darkness to light." (Acts 26:18)

"...that life was the light of men." (4b)

"Light"

- Truth; understanding; spiritual insight.
- Moral or holy perspective.
- "God is light" (John 1:5)

"The light shines in the darkness," (5)

Darkness

- Spiritual ignorance.
- Moral impurity.
- Blinded by Satan and his kingdom of darkness. (2 Cor. 4:4)

The "Darkness" Kingdom

- The lies of Satan rule.
- The attitudes of discouragement spread.
- The choices for rebellion, division and distance from God are embraced.

His light breaks through the darkness with truth.

His light brings hope.

His light brings purpose and direction.

"...and the darkness has not overcome it." (5)

"not understood it" (NASB); "not able to extinguish it." (NLT)

"...to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death..." (Luke 1:79)

The light of heaven is the face of Jesus.

The joy of heaven is the presence of Jesus.

The melody of heaven is the name of Jesus.

The harmony of heaven is the praise of Jesus.

The theme of heaven is the work of Jesus.

The employment of heaven is the service of heaven.

The fullness of heaven is Jesus Himself!

Jesus is...

- the Living God so we worship Him!
- the Life so we lean into Him!
- the light so we follow Him!