

IN THE BEGINNING GOD....
GENESIS 1:1

Intro: As we begin a new year, I would like to bring to your attention to four very important words in the Christian's life...Gen 1:1 "In the beginning, God..."

- I. The beginning began with God _____ there
- II. The God, who was present in the beginning, is far _____ to everything and everyone
- A. Psalm 104:24-*Oh Lord how manifold are thy works. In wisdom hast thou made them all. The earth is full of thy riches.*
- B. Psalm 40:5-*Many, oh Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to usward. They cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee. If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.*
- C. Jeremiah 10:12-*It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding he has stretched out the heavens.*
- D. "God is the Creator of all things. From the outset in the Book of Genesis, the focus of the strong light of revelation turns upon the Almighty. He is the Beginning, the Cause, the Source of all that is. He brought into being all the things and the persons that were to fit into his plan for the ages. All the matter necessary for his later working, he miraculously created." {Pfeiffer, C. F. 1962. *The Wycliffe Bible Commentary: Old Testament*. Moody Press: Chicago}
- III. In his superior plan, God created man to rule _____ the earth **Genesis 1:26-28**
- IV. Man _____ that God's plan was not as good as his own, therefore he disobeyed God. **Genesis 2:15- 17; 3:6**
"At the beginning of the human race the conception was that Adam was to be master over everything but himself. He was to have dominion over the life on the earth and in the air and in the sea, but he was not to have dominion over himself, God was to have dominion over him. The temptation came on this line: "Disobey, and you will become as God." Man took dominion over himself and thereby lost his lordship over everything else." {Chambers, O. 1958; 2002. *The Place of Help*. Marshall Morgan and Scott}
- V. God in his superiority developed an avenue for sinful man to _____ the damnation placed upon himself by his unwillingness to obey God's command. That avenue of escape is Jesus Christ.
- A. **I John 1:1-10** (*The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*)
1. We must recognize that we are a sinner _____ in spiritual darkness **Vs 5-6**
 2. The cleansing that comes from the Blood of Christ _____ who we are and the way we live **Vs 7**
 3. If we choose to _____ God's command, we remain in spiritual darkness **Vs 8, 10**
 4. If we choose to _____ God's command, we will be cleansed from our sin and removed from spiritual darkness to walk in spiritual light **Vs 9**
- B. As we began our Christian experience by putting Christ first, so we must _____ him first at all times in our life. **I John 2:12-17**
1. _____ believers of all ages are included in these thoughts inspired by God and written by John **Vs 12-14**
 2. The command concerning the believer's relationship with the world
 - a. Love **not** the world-*Gk: ἀγαπάω*, English: ag-a-pah'-o, it means to take a deep caring interest in something; it denotes a _____ choice originating in the will and personality of the one making it, and is demonstrated by their actions {AMG Comprehensive Dictionary of the NT Words}

- b. The description of all that is in the world Vs 15-17a
- (1) **The lust of the flesh**-that which is attracted to the _____
flesh Romans 6:19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
 - (2) **The lust of the eyes**-that which is attracted to the _____
eye Mt 6:22-23 *The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!*
 - (3) **The pride of life**-boasting which finds its root in a _____,
arrogance, an inflated sense of one's worth or importance
- c. The description of all that is in the world found its _____ in
Genesis 3:1-6
- d. The _____ to dealing with the world successfully 1 John 2:17b

Conclusion: **In the beginning God...** When you began your relationship with Christ, you realized God was the most _____ being at that moment. Is he _____ the most important being in your life even though you have been saved for a while? In 2020 may He rule our thoughts, words and actions, because if He does not, we are headed rapidly toward _____ in this new year and decade!