

## The Unveiling of God's Eternal Purpose

### John 1

#### I. The Gospel of John—a supplement to the synoptic Gospels showing Christ's deity

**John 1:1, 2, 14** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God... <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh...

**Colossians 2:9** For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

#### II. The Gospel of John—a book of life and building

**John 1:4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**John 10:10** ...I have come that they may have life and may have it abundantly.

**John 3:29-30** He who has the bride is the bridegroom... <sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I must decrease.

#### III. John chapter one spans time from eternity past to eternity future

**Psalm 90:2** Before the mountains were brought forth, and before You gave birth to the earth and the world, indeed from eternity to eternity, You are God.

**Ephesians 3:11** According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

**Malachi 3:6** For I, Jehovah, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

**John 1:1, 51** In the beginning was the Word... <sup>51</sup> And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

**Revelation 21:2** And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

#### IV. John chapter one uses six signs to show us the way God accomplishes His eternal purpose

**John 2:11** This beginning of signs Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed into Him.

##### A. The Word

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**John 1:18** No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

**John 14:9** Jesus said to him, Have I been so long a time with you, and you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how is it that you say, Show us the Father?

## B. The tabernacle

**John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

**Colossians 2:9** For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

**Psalms 90:1** O Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**John 14:3, 20** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will receive you to Myself, so that where I am you also may be...<sup>20</sup> In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

## C. The Lamb

**John 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

**Romans 5:12** Therefore just as through one man sin entered into the world, and through sin, death; and thus death passed on to all men because all have sinned—

**Revelation 22:14** Blessed are those who wash their robes that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter by the gates into the city.

## D. The dove

**John 1:32** And John testified, saying, I beheld the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He abode upon Him.

**1 Corinthians 15:45** ...the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.

**John 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

## E. The stone

**John 1:42** He led him to Jesus. Looking at him, Jesus said, You are Simon, the son of John; you shall be called Cephas (which is interpreted, Peter).

**2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

## F. The house of God

**John 1:51** And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

**Genesis 28:12, 16-17, 19** And he dreamed: There was a ladder set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it...<sup>16</sup> And Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, Surely Jehovah is in this place, and I did not know it. <sup>17</sup> And he was afraid and said, How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven... <sup>19</sup> And he called the name of that place Bethel

## Life's Principle and Life's Purpose

### John 2

#### I. Life's principle—to change death into life

##### A. Christ coming in resurrection to the people in their enjoyment

**John 2:1-2** And the third day a wedding took place in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> And Jesus also was invited, as well as His disciples, to the wedding.

##### B. Their human life running out and their being filled with death

**John 2:3-7** And when the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, They have no wine. <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, Woman, what do I have in this that concerns you? My hour has not yet come. <sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, Whatever He says to you, do. <sup>6</sup> Now there were six stone waterpots lying there, according to the Jews' rite of purification, holding two or three measures each. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

##### C. Christ changing their death into life eternal

**John 2:8-11** And He said to them, Draw some out now and take it to the master of the feast. And they took it to him. <sup>9</sup> And when the master of the feast tasted the water which had become wine and did not know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew, the master of the feast called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> And said to him, Every man sets out the good wine first, and when they have drunk freely, then that which is worse; you have kept the good wine until now. <sup>11</sup> This beginning of signs Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed into Him.

---

#### Life meeting the need of man's every case, and proving the principle of life

1. The need of the moral—life's regenerating (2:23-3:36)
2. The need of the immoral—life's satisfying (4:1-42)
3. The need of the dying—life's healing (4:43-54)
4. The need of the impotent—life's enlivening (5:1-47)
5. The need of the hungry—life's feeding (6:1-71)
6. The need of the thirsty—life's quenching (7:1-52)
7. The need of those under the bondage of sin—life's setting free (7:53-8:59)
8. The need of the blind in religion—life's sight and life's shepherding (9:1-10:42)
9. The need of the dead—life's resurrecting (11:1-57)

#### II. Life's purpose — to build the house of God

##### A. Christ cleansing the temple

**John 2:12-17** After this He went down to Capernaum, He and His mother and His brothers and His disciples; and they remained there not many days. <sup>13</sup> And the Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And He found in the temple those selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers sitting there. <sup>15</sup> And having made a whip out of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, as well as the sheep and the oxen, and He poured out the money of the moneychangers and

overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> And to those who were selling the doves He said, Take these things away from here; do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise. <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, "The zeal of Your house shall devour Me."

## **B. The body of Jesus, the temple, destroyed and raised up in resurrection**

**John 2:18-22** The Jews then answered and said to Him, What sign do You show us, seeing that You do these things? <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. <sup>20</sup> Then the Jews said, This temple was built in forty-six years, and You will raise it up in three days? <sup>21</sup> But He spoke of the temple of His body. <sup>22</sup> When therefore He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

---

**John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

**Colossians 2:9** For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

**1 Corinthians 6:19** Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

**3:16** Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**Ephesians 1:22-23** ...the Church which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

**2:21** In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

**22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

**1 Timothy 3:15** But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

## The Need of the Moral – Life’s Regenerating

### John 3

#### I. Born of the Spirit

Regeneration by the divine Spirit in the human spirit

**John 3:1-9** But there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This one came to Him by night and said to Him, Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him. <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he? <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born anew. <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from and where it goes; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus answered and said to Him, How can these things be?

#### II. The bronze serpent

Satan’s evil nature in man’s flesh being judged on the cross through the death of Christ in the form of the serpent that the believers may have eternal life

**John 3:14-18** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> That everyone who believes into Him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. <sup>18</sup> He who believes into Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe has been condemned already, because he has not believed into the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**Numbers 21:5-9** And the people spoke against God and against Moses, Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and there is no water and our soul loathes this light bread. <sup>6</sup> Then Jehovah sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup> And the people came to Moses and said, We have sinned, because we have spoken against Jehovah and against you; pray to Jehovah, that He may take away the serpents from us. So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup> Then Jehovah said to Moses, Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live. <sup>9</sup> And Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on the pole; and if a serpent had bitten any man, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

**Romans 8:3** For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh

**2 Corinthians 5:21** Him who did not know sin He made sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### III. **The bridegroom and bride**

The regenerated people becoming the bride of Christ as His increase

**John 3:29-30** He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. This joy of mine therefore is made full.  
<sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I must decrease.

### IV. **Immeasurable Spirit**

The immeasurable Son of God for man's believing unto eternal life

**John 3:31-34** He who comes from above is above all; he who is from the earth is of the earth and speaks out of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. <sup>32</sup> What He has seen and heard, of this He testifies, and no one receives His testimony. <sup>33</sup> He who receives His testimony has sealed that God is true. <sup>34</sup> For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for He gives the Spirit not by measure.

---

#### **Practice leading someone to the Lord to be regenerated**

1. **John 1:12-13** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name, <sup>13</sup> Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Emphasize believing is receiving, children of God, and begotten of God

2. **John 3:3-5** Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he? <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Emphasize born anew and born of water and the Spirit

3. **Romans 10:9-10** That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> For with the heart there is believing unto righteousness, and with the mouth there is confession unto salvation.

Emphasize Jesus raised from the dead (He is alive now) and confessing Jesus as Lord

#### **Sample prayer:**

**Father God, thank You for creating me.  
Thank You for sending Your son Jesus Christ.  
Lord Jesus, I am a sinner.  
I need You.  
Thank You for dying for me.  
Lord Jesus, forgive me.  
Cleanse me from all my sins.  
I believe You rose from the dead.  
I receive You right now as my Savior and life.  
Come into me! Fill me with Your life!  
Lord Jesus, I give myself to You for Your purpose.**

## The Need of the Immoral – Life’s Satisfying

### John 4

#### I. A Savior, a sinner, a well, and water

**John 4:3-8** He left Judea and went away again into Galilee. <sup>4</sup> And He had to pass through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land that Jacob gave to Joseph his son; <sup>6</sup> And Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from the journey, sat thus by the well; it was about the sixth hour. <sup>7</sup> There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, Give Me something to drink. <sup>8</sup> For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

**Luke 19:10** For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which is lost.

#### II. “This water” vs. the water that Christ will give

**John 4:9-10** The Samaritan woman then said to Him, How is it that You, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, who am a Samaritan woman? (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**John 4:11-14** The woman said to Him, Sir, You have no bucket, and the well is deep; where then do You get this living water? <sup>12</sup> Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank of it himself, as well as his sons and his cattle? <sup>13</sup> Jesus answered and said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again, <sup>14</sup> But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

**John 7:37-38** Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

#### III. The way to take the living water

##### A. Asking Him

**John 4:15** The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water so that I will not thirst nor come here to draw.

##### B. Confessing her sins—the “husbands”

**John 4:16-18** He said to her, Go, call your husband and come here. <sup>17</sup> The woman answered and said, I do not have a husband. Jesus said to her, You have well said, I do not have a husband, <sup>18</sup> For you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.

**Isaiah 59:1-2** No, Jehovah's hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor is His ear so heavy that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have become a separation between you and your God, <sup>2</sup> And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### C. **True worship—contacting God the Spirit with the human spirit**

**John 4:19-24** The woman said to Him, Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, yet you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men must worship. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. <sup>22</sup> You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is of the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

**John 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

**Ephesians 2:22** In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

### D. **Believing that Jesus is the Christ**

**John 4:25-26** The woman said to Him, I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when He comes, He will declare all things to us. <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, I, who speak to you, am He.

## IV. **True satisfaction, a living testimony, and a marvelous harvest**

**John 4:27-29** And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He was speaking with a woman; yet no one said, What are You seeking? or, Why are You speaking with her? <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her waterpot and went away into the city, and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> Come, see a man who told me all that I have done. Is this not the Christ?...

**John 4:31-36** In the meantime, the disciples urged Him, saying, Rabbi, eat. <sup>32</sup> But He said to them, I have food to eat that you do not know about. <sup>33</sup> The disciples therefore said to one another, Has anyone brought Him anything to eat? <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say that there are yet four months and then the harvest comes? Behold, I tell you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are already white for harvest. <sup>36</sup> He who reaps receives wages and gathers fruit unto eternal life, in order that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together...

**John 4:39** And many of the Samaritans from that city believed into Him because of the word of the woman who testified, He told me all that I have done.