

VICTORY HOUR

Rev. Wanda Bolton-Davis
February 2-3, 2010

INTRODUCTION

John Chapter 1

The book of John (1:1) opens with a striking parallel to Genesis 1:1, “In the beginning...”. John not only reveals that the Word existed before creation, but he clearly displays the creative power of the spoken (logos) Word. John also gives a close connection between life and light. In the physical world life is dependent on light. This can also be transferred to the spiritual world. John the Baptist comes on the scene pointing the way to Jesus Christ. As his ministry stirs the Jew’s ancient hope of the Messiah’s appearance, John is mistaken for the coming King. The chapter closes out with a model for discipleship, as we see Jesus’ first disciples begin the journey of following Him. There are many “golden nuggets” in this chapter. Pray and ask God what principles He would have you to grasp to transform your life today.

1) The Word Became Flesh (v. 1-5)

- a. Christ is Eternal
 - i. In/before the beginning
- b. Christ is the Word
 - i. Spoken (*Logos*) Word
- c. Christ is Deity
 - i. He is God
- d. Christ is Sole Creator
 - i. All things are made by Him
- e. Christ is Life & Light
 - i. Darkness did not understand Him

Question to Ponder: God’s spoken Word still has creative power today. Are you speaking God’s Word over your situation?

2) The Ministry of John the Baptist (v. 6-9)

- a. His Mandate
 - i. Sent by God
- b. His Mission
 - i. He came to testify concerning the Light
- c. His Motive
 - i. He came as a witness

Question to Ponder: What mandate has God given you? Are you pointing the way to Jesus Christ?

3) Jesus, the Light of the world (v. 10-14)

- a. The Rejection
 - i. His own did not receive Him
- b. The Reception
 - i. Those who received Him gained the right to become children of God
- c. The Regeneration
 - i. Those who believed were born again in the Spirit
- d. The Incarnation
 - i. The Word (Jesus) became flesh to dwell among us

Question to Ponder: Have you received or rejected Jesus? Are you living in darkness or are you walking in the light?

4) The Witness of John (v. 15-18)

- a. The Pronouncement of John
 - i. "This is the one..."
- b. The Preexistence of Christ
 - i. He comes after me
 - ii. He has surpassed me
 - iii. He was before me
- c. The Preeminence of Christ
 - i. He is grace and truth
 - ii. He is one with God

Question to Ponder: Are you giving God all the glory in your life?

5) John Gives an Answer to the Priest and Levites (v. 19-34)

- a. John's answer
 - i. He knew who he was not
 - ii. He knew who he was
- b. John's assignment
 - i. He knew what he was to say
 - ii. He knew what he was to do
- c. John's Affirmation
 - i. He knew who Jesus was

Question to Ponder: How will you answer those who question who you are and what you do? Who does the spotlight point to?

6) The First Disciples of Jesus (35-51)

- a. A Model of Discipleship
 - i. Andrew and John follow Jesus
 - ii. Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus
 - 1. Jesus changes Simon's name
 - iii. Jesus calls Phillip
 - iv. Phillip brought Nathaniel to Jesus

Question to ponder: Who are you following? Who are you leading to Christ?