

Gospel of John – The Eternal Word
Sermon 1- An Introduction to the Word
John 1:1-14

v1-3 What is apparent right from the start?

Matthew, Mark & Luke start from the perspective of mankind, as an observer on the earth. *Matthew and Luke* begin with the *birth of the promised man*, Jesus the Christ. *Mark begins* when Jesus the man is grown and beginning his ministry.

John' start is different! He begins *in the heavens, in eternity past*, before the universe or even angels were called into being! John begins when there was nothing but the blessed Triune God-head subsisting in fellowship and communion and perfect love.

“In the beginning was the Word...” John begins with God the eternal Word – the Logos.

v3, John makes the stunning claim that everything that exists, the universe, time, the vast galaxies, this solar system, chemistry, physics, mankind, the animal kingdom, love and thinking, all came from the will, the mind and command and power of God, the Word! Jesus is not merely a dead man on a cross, the object of spiritual affections, or the leader of a world religion among many. Jesus Christ is your creator God and as such you are not your own! The rebellion of mankind is the scandal of the universe, and the reason for Word of God to be made flesh. (v14)



v4-5, Key concept: Your very life, breath, your very existence owe themselves to the will and command of the eternal Word!

I get it! Matthew, Mark and Luke are the “**Synoptic**” gospels. That is, they substantially view the same scenes in the life and ministry of Jesus, but from a different angle. 45% of Matt, 76% of Mark, & 41% of Luke are shared scenes. **John shares only 10%, so 90% of John is unique!**

The purpose of John's gospel: ch 20:30-31

- John wrote so that those who read would believe the real facts about who Jesus Christ is, would entrust their souls to him, and in so doing, receive eternal life from him! John hopes we'll follow Jesus with him.

Key verses: 1:1, 3:3 & 16, 8: 10-11, 8:31-32, 14:6, 20:31