

Who Was Jesus Before His Human Birth?

John 1:1-2 [NIV] *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.”*

John introduces Jesus Christ as “*the Word*”.

Why was this?

Christianity began in a Jewish world.

To begin with all its members were Jews.

But within 30 years of Jesus’ death, Christianity had travelled all over Asia Minor and Greece and the vast majority of Christians had a Greek background.

Both backgrounds had a similar concept of “*the Word*”, it being more than a sound but was active, independent and actually did things.

With such an introduction to Jesus Christ both groups with different cultures were able to accept Jesus Christ.

John tells us several things about “*the Word*”.

The Word is Jesus

John 1:14 [NIV] *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

The Word already existed before any physical world was created

Jesus was **not** part of the physical creation.

The Word was **not** part of the world which came into being in time, the Word was part of eternity, and was there with God before time and the world began.

This means one very significant thing – if the Word was God and there with God as part of the eternal scheme of things, then **God was always like Jesus Christ.**

The Word was with God

What does this mean?

It means that always there has been the closest and most intimate connection between the Word and God. So only Jesus will ever be able to tell us what God is like, what is His will, and what His love, heart and mind are like.

The Word was God

Not just like God but the same character, quality, essence and being, **identical with God.**

Jesus and Jesus alone can reveal to humans all that God was and always will be, and all that God feels towards and desires for all human beings.

John 1:3 [NIV] *“Through him [Jesus Christ the Word] all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”*

Jesus was the agent through whom all the physical universe was made

Genesis 1:1, 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26 all of the verses begin with “*God said*” including the creation of human beings.

The Word, Jesus Christ at work within the original physical creation of the universe.

Ephesians 3:9 [NIV] *“and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, **who created all things.**”*

Colossians 1:16 [NIV] *“For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things were created by him and for him.**”*

Hebrews 1:3 [NIV] *“**The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.** After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.”*

Jesus now sustains all that is created.

Jesus as Creator gave physical life to human beings also brings eternal life

John 1:4 [NIV] *“**In him was life, and that life was the light of men.**”*

John's gospel message about our Saviour Jesus Christ begins with Him being the source of life and ends with the same statement.

John 20:31 [NIV] *“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may **have life in his name.**”*

John 1:9 [NIV] *“**The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.**”*

Jesus is the light and revealing wisdom of God

Jesus Created light at the beginning and brings the spiritual light to all created human beings.

John 12:46 [NIV] *“**I have come into the world as a light, so that no-one who believes in me should stay in darkness.**”*

Jesus the Creator of light came to this world to bring light to **all** humanity.

What all this tells us is that Jesus the original creator of the physical world came to this world in human form to make possible the second part of human creation.

Genesis 1:26 *“Then God said [the Word!] let us make man in our **image in our likeness...**”*

Genesis 1:27 *“So God created man in His own **image**, in the **image** of God He created Him, male and female He created them.”* **No** “likeness” at this time.

Jesus is now in the process of creating the “likeness” which was **not** created in the beginning.

The “likeness” is the very character of God which can only be “created” through an ongoing intimate relationship with God Himself, an ongoing relationship with Jesus who is God in every way.

Jesus as the second person in the One Triune God was part of the means to create human beings in God’s likeness, chosen before any physical creation

1 Peter 1:18-21 [NIV] *“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. **He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.** Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.”*

2 Timothy 1:9 [NIV] *“who has saved us and called us to a holy life, not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in **Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,**”*

Titus 1:2 [NIV] *“a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised **before the beginning of time,**”*

Revelation 13:8 [NIV] *“All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast, all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was **slain from the creation of the world.**”*

Jesus Christ [the anointed One] existed in eternity and was the One who would reveal God’s love to all humanity through His sacrificial death on the cross, as the God/man, to reconcile us to Him as our Creator God.

We should be eternally grateful for that act of love.