

The Gospel According to John

“Responding to the Eternal Word”

John 1:1-13



John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God. All things came
into being through Him, and apart from Him
nothing came into being that has come into being.
In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.
The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not comprehend it.



John 1:6-11

There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.

He came as a witness, to testify about the Light,
so that all might believe through him.

He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.

There was the true Light which, coming into the world,
enlightens every man. He was in the world,
and the world was made through Him,
and the world did not know Him. He came to His own,
and those who were His own did not receive Him.



John 1:12-13

But as many as received Him,
to them He gave the right to become children of God,
even to those who believe in His name, who were born,
not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man,
but of God.



Main Idea

In his Gospel, John holds out the eternal Word to the world and then shows us both how the world should and how it does respond to Him.

Responding to the Eternal Word

What is John's Gospel about?



What is this Gospel about: a Prologue

It is about the eternal Word
come into the world.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.



John 1:1

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In the beginning was the Word,

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John 1:1

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John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word,

and the Word was with God, and **the Word** was God.

John 1:14

And **the Word** became flesh and dwelt among us.



The Word is what concerns John

1 John 1:1

What was from the beginning,
what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with our hands,
concerning the Word of Life.



But why use the word “Word”?

Genesis 1:3

Then God said, “Let there be light”;
and there was light.”

**Jesus is the creative
Word of God made visible!**



But why use the word “Word”?

Deuteronomy 4:12

Then the LORD spoke to you from the midst of the fire;
you heard the sound of words,
but you saw no form — only a voice.

**Jesus is the mind of God
made visible!**



But why use the word “Word”?

Deuteronomy 4:13

So He declared to you His covenant
which He commanded you to perform,
that is, the Ten Commandments [*the Ten Words*];
and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

**Jesus is the commandment
of God made visible!**



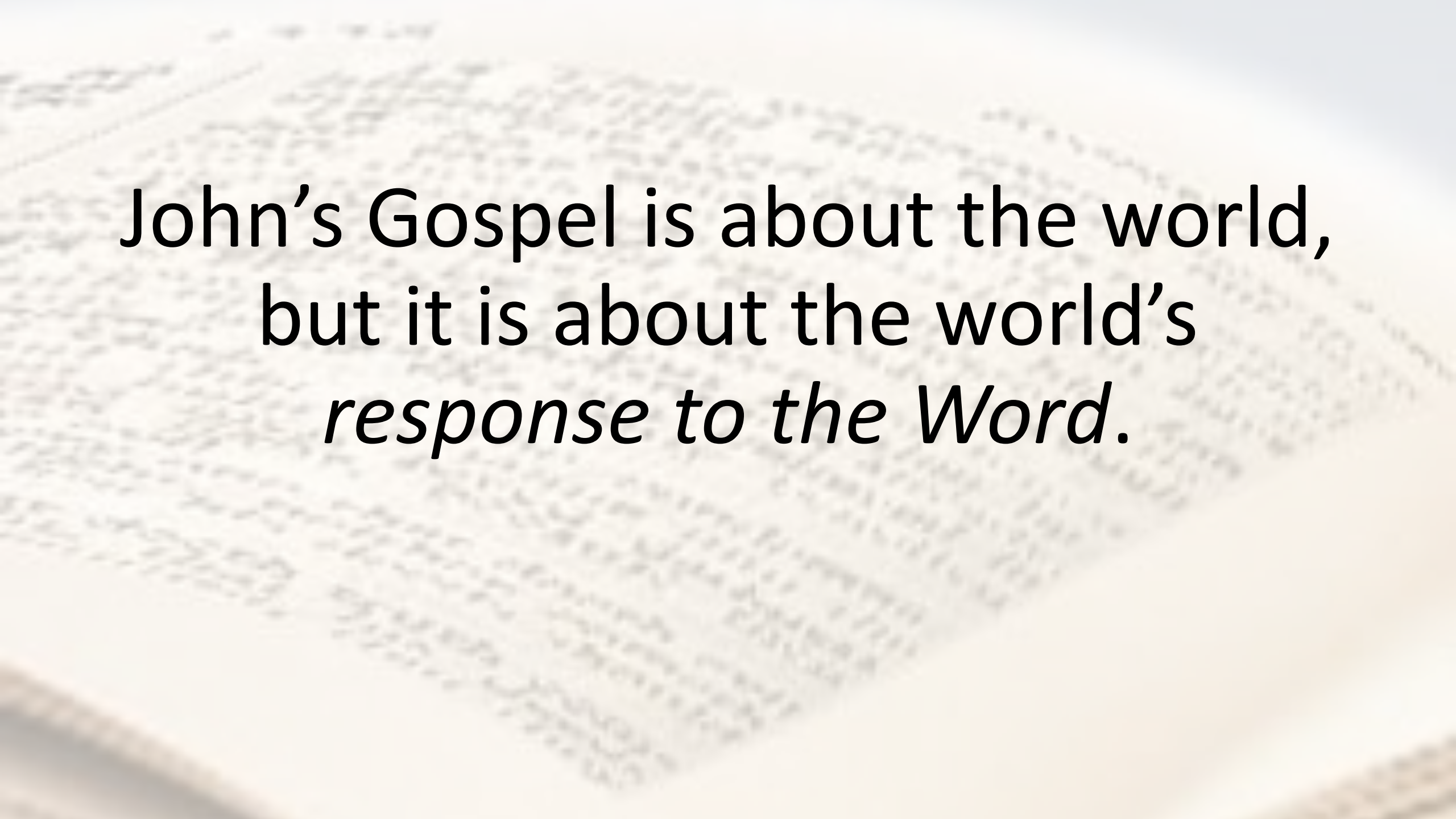
John's Gospel is about Jesus,
the eternal Word come into the world.

We must be careful not to make
the gospel about ourselves or about
the benefits of Christ found in it!

What is this Gospel about?

It is about the eternal Word come into the world.

It is about the world's responses
to this Word.



John's Gospel is about the world,
but it is about the world's
response to the Word.

John shows us responses:

John 1:5 and 9-11

The Light shines in the darkness,
and **the darkness did not comprehend it.**

There was the true Light which, coming into the world,
enlightens every man. He was in the world,
and the world was made through Him,
and **the world did not know Him.** He came to His own,
and **those who were His own did not receive Him.**



John shows us responses:

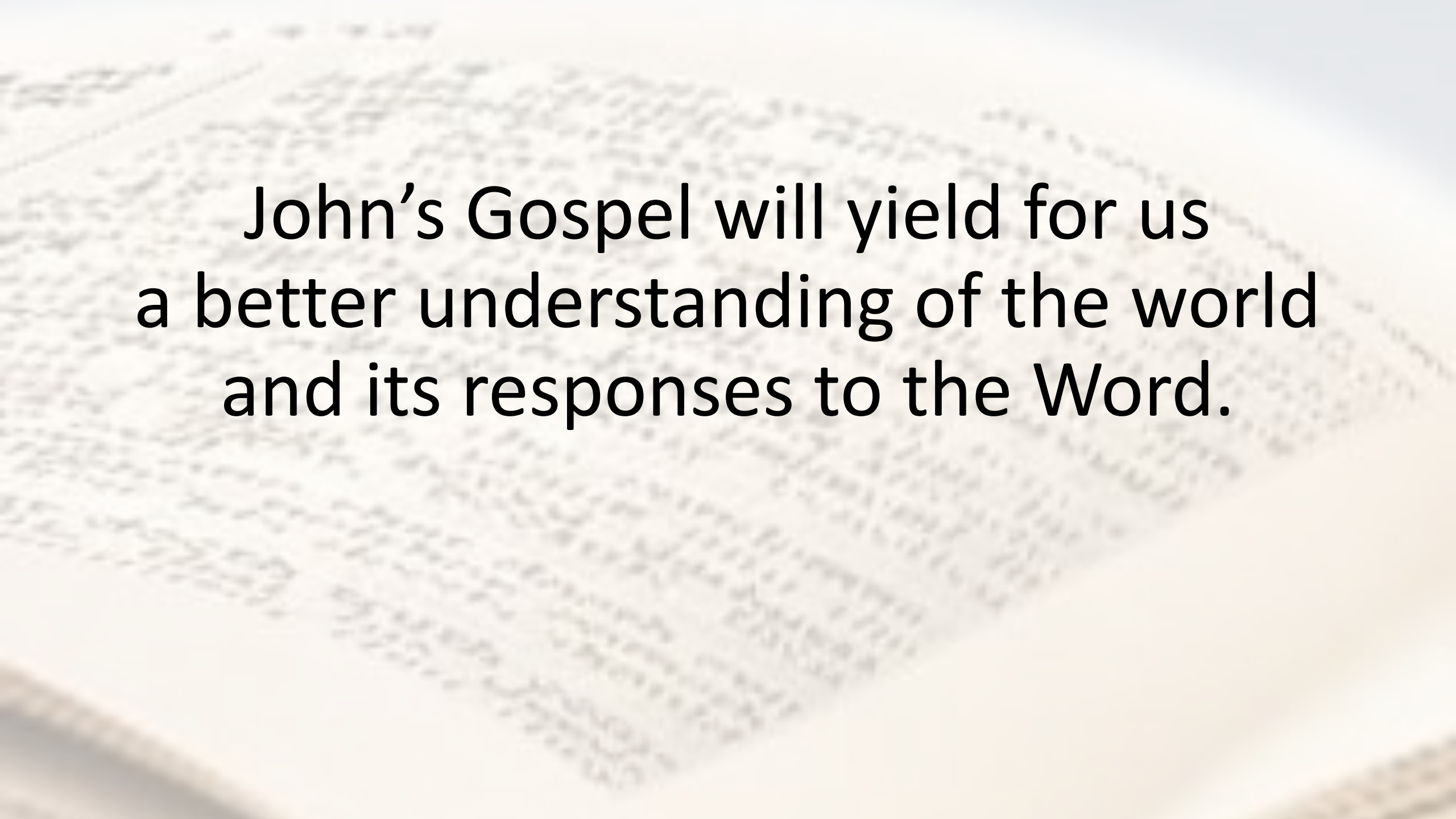
John 7:30-31

So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come. But many of the crowd believed in Him.

John 11:45-46

Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.





John's Gospel will yield for us
a better understanding of the world
and its responses to the Word.

Responding to the Eternal Word

What is John's Gospel about?

Who was this Word come into the world?



John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

This One was in the beginning with God.

Who was *this one*?



Who was this Word?

The Creator of all

John 1:1-2

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.



John 1:1-2

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
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In the beginning was the Word,
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He was in the beginning with God.

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the
heavens and the earth.



John 1:2-3

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through Him,
and apart from Him nothing came into being
that has come into being.



John 1:2-3

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through Him,

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John 1:2-3

He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through Him,

and **apart from Him nothing
came into being**

that has come into being.



John 1:2-3

He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through Him,

and **apart from Him not one thing
came into being**

that has come into being.



John 1:2-3

He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through Him,

and apart from Him not one thing came into being

that *has* come into being.



Who was this Word?

The Creator of all

The Source of life

John 1:3-4

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

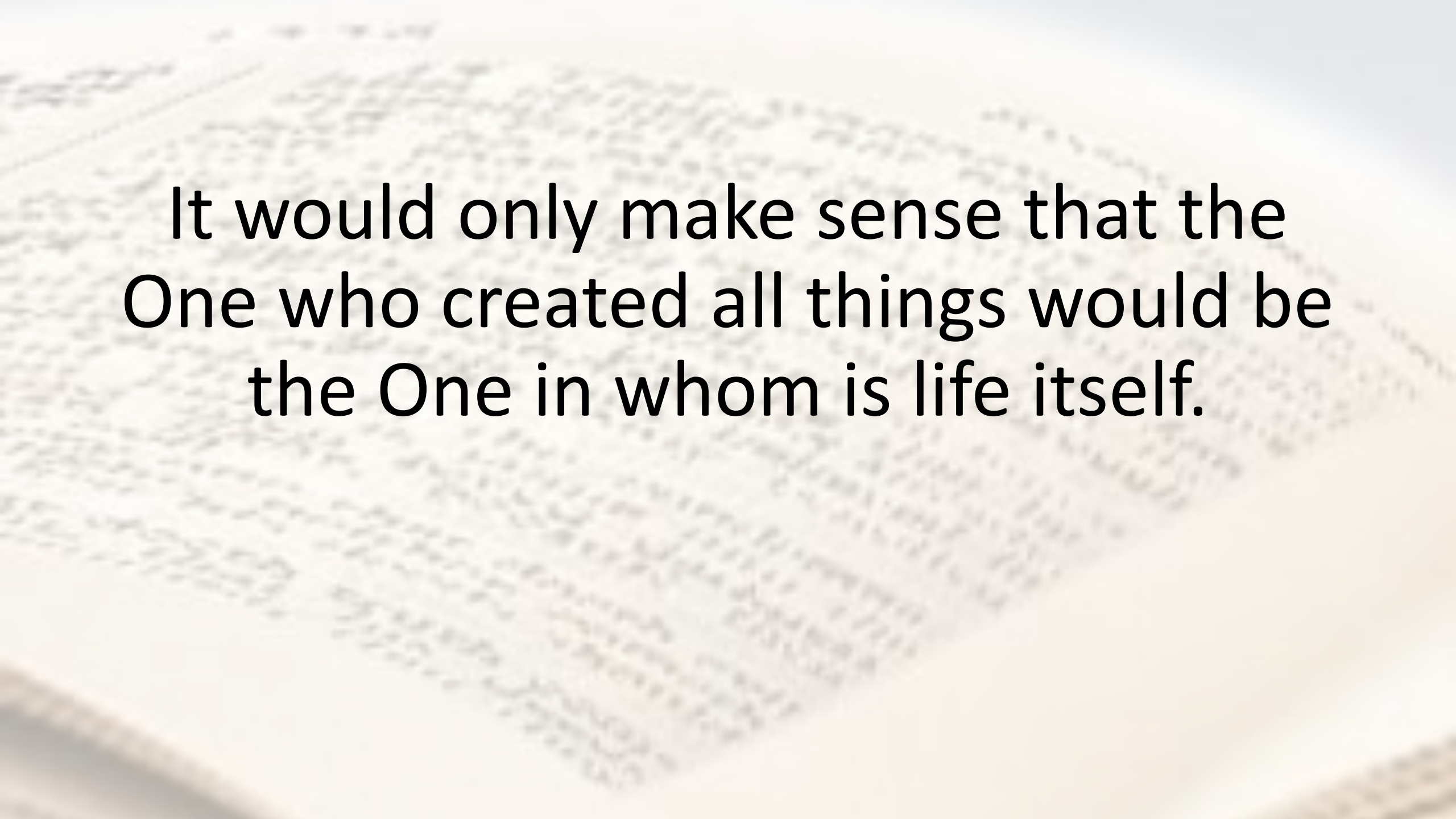


John 1:3-4

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.





It would only make sense that the
One who created all things would be
the One in whom is life itself.

Jesus is life and the source of life!

John 5:26

For just as the Father has life in Himself,
even so He gave to the Son also **to have life in Himself.**



Jesus is life and the source of life!

John 6:47

I am the bread of life.

John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life.

John 14:6

I am the way, and the truth, and the life.



There can be no life apart from
the One who *is* life!

Who was this Word?

The Creator of all

The Source of life

The Light of the world

John 1:1-2

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.
The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not comprehend it.



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In Him was life, and **the life was the Light of men.**

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John 1:1-2

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

The Light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness did not comprehend it.

The Light of the world
has come into the world!



John the Baptist's Testimony

John 1:6-9

There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.

He came as a witness, to testify about the Light,
so that all might believe through him.

He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.

There was the true Light which, coming into the world,
enlightens every man.



John the Baptist's Testimony

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There came a man sent from God, whose name was **John**.

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John 8:12

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying,
“I am the Light of the world;
he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness,
but will have the Light of life.”



Do you want to know the way
through this dark world?

**The way is lit by Christ;
*He is the way!***

Who was this Word?

The Creator of all

The Source of life

The Light of the world

The eternal God

John's crystal-clear, threefold claim!

1: In the beginning was the Word

2: the Word was with God

There are **three persons in the one** true and living
God...



John's crystal-clear, threefold claim!

1: In the beginning was the Word

2: the Word was *with God*

3: **the Word was God**

There are three persons in the one true and living God...



John's crystal-clear, threefold claim!

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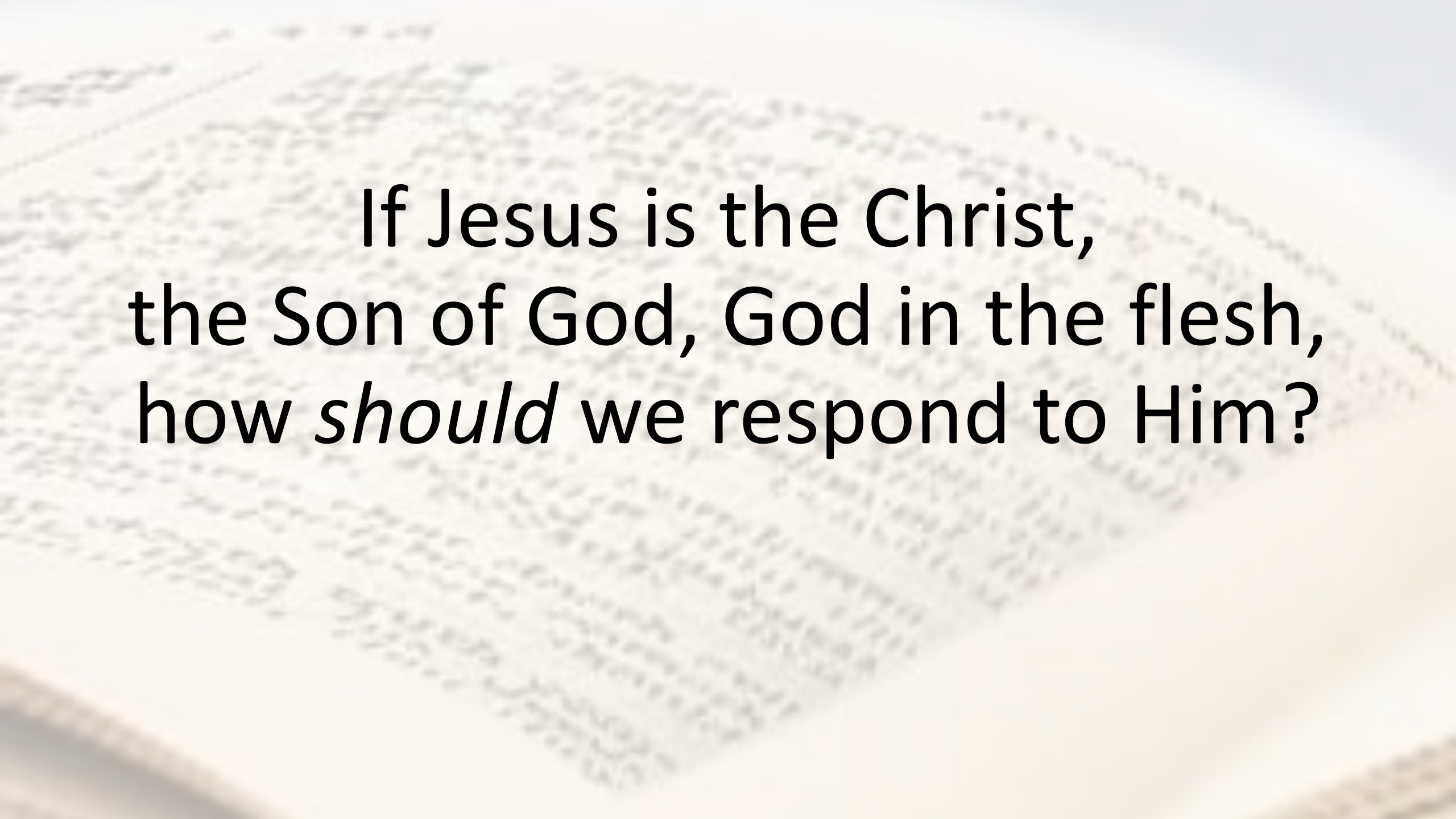
3: **the Word was God**

There are three persons in the one true and living God...

They are the same in substance,

equal in power and glory.





If Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God, God in the flesh,
how *should* we respond to Him?

Responding to the Eternal Word

What is John's Gospel about?

Who was this Word come into the world?

How *does* the world respond to Him?



A general statement about the world

John 1:5

The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not comprehend it.



The world is in darkness

John 1:5

The Light shines in the darkness,
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The world is in darkness

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The Light shines in the darkness,
and **the darkness did not comprehend** it.



The world is in darkness

John 1:5

The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not comprehend it.

[Darkness resists the Light!]



The world is in darkness

John 1:5

The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not comprehend it.

he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.



The world is in darkness

John 1:5

The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not comprehend it.

he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.

[Darkness obscures the Light!]



How does the world respond?

His own *reject* Him

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,
and the world did not know Him. He came to His own,
and those who were His own did not receive Him.



All that is in the world belongs to Him

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and **the world was made through Him,**

and the world did not know Him. He came to His own,
and those who were His own did not receive Him.



His own creatures rejected Him!

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,

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and those who were His own did not receive Him.



John 1:10-11

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and the world did not know Him. **He came to His own,**
and those who were His own did not receive Him.



His own by “flesh” or ethnicity

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,

and the world did not know Him. **He came to His own,**
and those who were His own did not receive Him.



These too rejected Him

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,
and the world did not know Him. He came to His own,

and **those who were His own did not
receive Him.**



The darkened mind rejects
or ignores the Word and refuses
to listen to Him or even
to understand Him.

How does the world respond?

His own reject Him

His own *receive* Him

John 1:12-13

But as many as received Him,
to them He gave the right to become children of God,
even to those who believe in His name,
who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh
nor of the will of man, but of God.

Who are these that receive and believe?



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nor of the will of man, but **of God**.

Who are these that receive and believe?



It is the new birth that makes one
a child of God and that *precedes*
the reception of the Word by faith.

John 1:12-13

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who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh

nor of the will of man, **but of God.**



Those who are His own, God causes
to be born again, and they receive
Him and believe in His name.

Conclusion

What do you believe about
“this one”, this Word?

Are you rejecting, ignoring,
or receiving Him?