

BRIGHT LIGHT COMES TO A DARK PLACE

May 1, 2016 John 1:1-3 by Bob Branch
Believing Into Life, Part 1

- An **Epic story**...
- **John**: An eyewitness biography of Jesus
“that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” **John 20:31**
- **Prologue**: Introduces main elements that will unfold in the story
- **Know WHO** is working and who is speaking.

MAIN IDEA: God, the creator, has taken on flesh and revealed himself in Jesus, and invites people out of darkness into his light, his story and his life. *Will we see him for who he really is? Will we trust him? Receive him? Will we let him be light in our darkness?*

What does John want us to take away?

1. **The Creator, the Breather of life, has taken breath, stepped in and come close to his wayward and darkened creation.** (See Genesis 1:1)
2. **The concept of the “Word” (*logos*) is used to build a bridge into people’s lives.**
To a **Greco-Roman** *logos* is “**reason**” force/purpose behind the entire universe.
To **Jewish folks** *logos* is OT **Wisdom** personified
“wisdom cries out”

“Word” also means **God is communicating**

“Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God.” **1 Peter 3:18** NLT

“you will call him Jesus (God-saves), for he will save his people from their sins.” **Matthew 1:21** ESV

3. **Jesus is the Light that shines into darkness and penetrates it.**

¹ Spiritual blindness, ² Failure to understand God, ³ Evil, ⁴ Fumbling about, not knowing the way to go.

“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given...” **Isaiah 9:2, 6**

- **Darkness of rebellion** (Ps. 14:1; 53:1)
- **Darkness of sin**
- **Darkness of our past**
- **Darkness of addiction**
- **Darkness of legalism**
- **Darkness of do-as-you-please**
- **Darkness of hiding**