***The Glory of the Son: Full of Grace and Truth, John 1:1-18***

**The Greatness of the Word, the One and Only from the Father, John 1:14-18**

**John 1:14-18 “14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testified about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’” 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. 17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.”**

**The Greatness of the Word: Jesus Christ, the One and Only from the Father, possesses the glory of God**

**I. The Glory of God in His Son is seen in His greatness when compared to John the Baptist**

**II. The Glory of God in His Son is seen in His greatness when compared to the Law**

**III. The Glory of God in His Son is seen in His greatness when compared to Moses**

* **Moses gave the Law**
	+ **Jesus Christ completely fulfilled the Law**
* **Moses received the Law as a word from God**
	+ **The Logos is the living word of God**
* **Moses gave the Law from God to the people**
	+ **The Logos is God living among the people**
* **Moses never saw the fullness of the glory of God**
	+ **Jesus Christ**

***The Glory of the Son: Full of Grace and Truth, John 1:1-18***

**The Glory of God as Seen in His One and Only Son, John 1:14-18**

**Scripture Reading and Prayer**

* Schedule for next several weeks: November 20 Lord’s Supper and then Thanksgiving feast in hear together, December 11 and 12 Saturday and Sunday evening, dinner theater, December 24 and 25, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day candlelight service – same service
* I need to make one additional connection with other texts of the Bible, that of John 1 and the prologue to the Gospel with that of the prologue to the first letter of John
* Just to be clear on this John the Baptist is not the writer of John the Gospel or I, II, III John the letters
* John the Baptist came onto the scene a year or two before Jesus Christ began His public ministry
* John the Baptist was a distant relative to Jesus
* He lived about 30 years before he was killed by Herod (the son of Herod the Great) because of his preaching against Herod’s live in girl friend happened to be his brother’s wife
* **Read I John 1:1-10 (Slides)**
* **Read John 1:1-18 (Slides)**

**John 1:14-18 “14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testified about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’” 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. 17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.”**

**The Greatness of the Word: Jesus Christ, the One and Only from the Father, possesses the glory of God (Title Slide)**

* Kids’ assignment – draw Moses receiving the ten commandments, John the Baptist Preaching, Jesus Christ rising again
* **Read John 1:14 (Slide 2)**
* The goal, to see and enjoy the glory of God by exalting His Son Jesus Christ
* There are hindrances to this, sin, selfishness, lust, greed as it is described in I John 1:8-10
* We can understand that, but why does John go from seeing the glory of God in His Son, Jesus Christ to a discussion from John the Baptist and a discussion about the Law and about Moses – the man God gave the Old Testament Law
* This is about seeing the glory of God in Christ and it seems that even a prophet like John the Baptist and a nation founder and liberator like Moses can become a hindrance to seeing this
* However, there are religious hindrances to finding our all satisfying, all encompassing life in Christ
* Religious hindrances like elevating the prophet John the Baptist above the Logos

**I. The Glory of God in His Son is seen in His greatness when compared to John the Baptist**

* **Read John 1:15 (Slide 3)**
* The natural reaction is to get an earthly preacher and elevate that individual to prominence
* It appears there may have been a cult a personality with John the Baptist
* This happens today as well
* The right now conference with Francis Chan
* **Read John 1:16 (Slide 4)**
* In comparing John and Jesus, In John we received a message from God about the coming of Jesus Christ
* In Jesus we experience all the fullness of deity in a human being and in particular, grace upon grace
* So grace and truth are fully seen and experienced in the Son of God, Jesus Christ, but when thinking about Jesus in comparison to John the Baptist, it is grace upon grace or overflowing grace from Jesus that gets the accent

**II. The Glory of God in His Son is seen in His greatness when compared to the Law**

* **Read John 1:17 (Slide 5)**
* First time in the prologue that John identifies Jesus Christ by name
* The law was given, grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ
* The Law didn’t do anything other than reveal the standards of God
* The Law simply made us realize our need for truth and grace
* We possessed no truth within ourselves and we were in need of grace because of the Law’s standards, standards we continually violate
* Here is how Paul describes this in Galatians 4
* **Read Galatians 4:4-5 (Slide 6)**

**III. The Glory of God in His Son is seen in His greatness when compared to Moses**

* **Read John 1:18 (Slide 7)**
* **Moses gave the Law**
	+ **Jesus Christ completely fulfilled the Law**
* **Moses received the Law as a word from God**
	+ **The Logos is the living word of God**
* **Moses gave the Law from God to the people**
	+ **The Logos is God living among the people**
* **Moses never saw the fullness of the glory of God**
	+ **Jesus Christ is the very glory of God on display for all to see**
	+ **He came from the presence of His Father and His life explains that nature of who God is**

**IV. Conclusion: Blank slide**

* Drawing this to a simple conclusion, as John the apostle writes
* This world, and even religious personas in this world, offer alternatives to Christ, but only Jesus Christ can satisfy the souls desire for something eternal, something glorious, something transcendent, something divine
* We can be distracted from the very reason we have been made by both sin and even by good things like preachers and prophets, books and laws
* Are we trusting in how well we can keep a list of dos and don’ts?
* Are we trusting in some personality to keep us spiritually focused?
* The heart check for the moment is this: Is Jesus Christ the all satisfying goal and purpose of your life?