

Jesus the Source of Life and Light

John 1:3-5

3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

Last week we saw how John exalted Jesus by telling us that everything that came into being came into being through Him and that absolutely nothing that came into being came into being except by Jesus Christ.

But making the elements does not bring them to life. I read this week that some scientists think that life began, came from nothing not once, but millions or even trillions of times here on earth. I also read that some scientists think that life formed in comets, the frozen incubators of the universe rather than on earth, but with a collision with the earth life began.

The truth is that even with all our knowledge and technology we do not know for sure when life began nor can we replicate it. Even the most simple forms of life are highly complex, beyond Darwin's wildest dreams.

If life is so easily begun that it began millions of times in the past, how come it is that not even the most knowledgeable scientist with the most sophisticated technology cannot form even one cell of living matter.

In the documentary Expelled, narrated by Ben Stein, we see a glimpse of the reason why scientists cannot replicate a living cell.

Lets see what John is telling us here.

- I. In him was life.
 - A. Jesus is the source of life, the intelligent designer who has the power of life.
 - 1. Jesus said that "as the Father had life in himself, so he gave to the Son to have life in himself" John 5:26
 - 2. The life-giving powers of the Christ as incarnate Logos.
 - a. The healing of the impotent man (ch. 5.),
 - b. The raising of the dead Lazarus (ch. 11.),
 - c. In his resurrection life (ch. 20., 21.), he proclaimed his absolute and final victory over death
 - B. But more importantly Jesus is the source of spiritual life.
 - 1. When God created man He made him more than just another animal.
 - 2. He created man in His own image.

3. He imparted a spiritual existence that the animal creation does not participate in.

C. What John is here trying to teach us is that Jesus is the only source of eternal life, spiritual life with God forever.

1. Therefore, the expression, in him was life, is not to be understood of life natural, but of that life eternal which he revealed to the world, 2 Timothy 1:10, to which he taught the way, John 14:6, which he promised to believers, John 10:28, which he purchased for them, John 6:51, 53, 54, which he is appointed to give them, John 17:2, and to which he will raise them up, John 5:29, because he hath the life in himself, John 5:26. Adam Clarke
 - a. 2 Tim. 1:10 but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,
 - b. John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
 - c. John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.
 - d. John 17:1b Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, 2 "as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.
 - e. 1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.
 - f. John 3:15 "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
2. For as the Father hath life in himself, so hath he given to the Son to have life in him self," John 5:26; "He giveth life unto the world," John 6:33; "I am the resurrection and the life," John 11:25; "This is the true God and eternal life," John 5:20. See also 1 John 1:1-2; 5:11; Acts 3:15; Col. 3:4. The meaning is: that he is the source or the fountain of both natural and spiritual life. Of course he has the attributes of God.

II. The life was the light of men

- A. “‘Light’ is that by which we see objects distinctly. The light of the sun enables us to discern the form, the distance, the magnitude, and the relation of objects, and prevents the perplexities and dangers which result from a state of darkness.” Barnes
 - B. There is a natural contrast with life and death and light and darkness.
 - 1. Light and life are both representative of Jesus.
 - 2. Darkness and death are representative of evil.
 - 3. There is a constant struggle between darkness and light as there is between life and death.
 - C. It is interesting that life brings light and not the other way around.
 - 1. The eternal life that God gives to His people gives them a light.
 - 2. Jesus brings us the Gospel which brings us light
 - 3. 2Co 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.
 - 4. 2Ti 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:
- III. But you do not need to understand the mechanics of it, just have faith in Him.
- A. John 3:9 Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? 11 "Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. 12 "If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
 - B. If we cannot understand the physical world which we experience every day, how can we ever hope to grasp a full understanding of eternal life that we can have through Jesus Christ.
 - 1. Just know this. Life is through Jesus Christ.
 - 2. 1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.