



Who Came? John 1:1-14

Malachi 2:17b NLT, “Where is the God of justice?”

- Where is the God who says He keeps His promises?
- Where is the God who promised to punish evil?
- Where is the God who promised to put everything right?
- Where are you God?

Malachi 2:17b NLT, “Where is the God of justice?”

- This will be the question on many lips at this time of year
 - You say there is peace on earth, but I haven’t seen it
 - You say there is joy, but I haven’t experience it
 - You say you are with us, but I can’t seem to find you
 - Where are you God?

Slide 3

RH5

Where

Randall Harwood, 12/5/2021

God answered Israel through the prophet Malachi

- **Malachi 3:1 NLT**, “I will send my messenger (*John the Baptist*), who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant (*the one who brought the covenant to Moses*), whom you desire (*the one who can explain it to us clearly*), will come,” says the Lord Almighty.”

God answered Israel through the prophet Malachi

- When I come, I will begin the process of putting everything right, and it will begin with you
- I will be the Great Shepherd looking for sheep that have gone astray
- I will be the great High Priest standing in the gap before you and a righteous, holy judge
- I will be the voice of God the Father speaking truth
- I will be the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world

God answered Israel through the prophet Malachi

- 400+ years later He came just as Malachi prophesied
- We celebrate His coming in December
- But the question this morning is, **“Who came?”**

Scripture

- **John 1:1-14 NIV**, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Scripture

- **John 1:1-14 NIV**, 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

Scripture

- **John 1:1-14 NIV**, 9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Scripture

- **John 1:1-14 NIV**, 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Apostle John is answering the question for us this morning, “Who came?”

- John saw and heard everything Jesus said and did
- He was close to Jesus for 3 ½ years, day in, day out
- He heard Jesus say, “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father.”
 - Heard Jesus say, “I and the Father are one.”

Apostle John is answering the question for us this morning, “Who came?”

- Heard Jesus take the wording of the Covenant and clearly define it as the Father intended
- After much thought and observation, he wanted his readers, us to know who came

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- To fully grasp this verse, we need to understand the Greek word behind our English word for Word
- Logos = John used a word that philosophers at the time used to identify both “reason” and “word” in combination
 - The words “thought expressed” is probably the closest English words we have

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- Logos = John used a word that philosophers at the time used to identify both “reason” and “word” in combination
 - It represented the thought “inwardly conceived” and “outwardly expressed” though language
 - Came to be identified with who the person was

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- Logos = John used a word that philosophers at the time used to identify both “reason” and “word” in combination
 - One who could reason (*think*) and express those thoughts using language that could be clearly understood

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- In the beginning was the “thought” and “word” of God
- In other words, Jesus is the “mind of God” and the “word of God” expressed in human form
- “In the beginning” – Jesus is eternal alongside God the Father and God the Spirit

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- **Genesis 1:26 NIV**, 26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- “He was with God in the beginning” - Jesus was with God prior to coming to earth
- The only summation John could make is, “the Word was God” came
- Different in function from the Father and the Spirit

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- The same in essence as the Father and Spirit
 - Essence = the intrinsic nature or indispensable quality of something, especially something abstract, that determines its character

John 1:1-2 NIV, 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

- All three together being God
- Not three Gods, but three together with one thought or mind, one will or desire, one nature or essence
- This is the reason Jesus could say truthfully, “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father.”
- So, who came?
 - God came

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- The one who came is the Creator of all things in existence
- Not just the things here on earth, but everything that is in this vast universe
- Everything in creation passed through the one who came
- There is nothing in this vast universe that did not pass through the one who came

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- **Vs. 4**, “In him was life”
- Three Greek words translated life in New Testament
 - **Bios** used in **Luke 8:14**, “And that which fell into the thorns, these are those who heard and, going away, are utterly choked by anxieties and riches and pleasures of this life, and do not bring any fruit to maturity.”

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- **Vs. 4**, “In him was life”
- Three Greek words translated life in New Testament
 - **Bios** here refers to the life of the physical body
 - The English word biology comes from bios

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- **Vs. 4**, “In him was life”
- Three Greek words translated life in New Testament
 - **Psuche** translated as soul-life in **Matthew 16:25**, “For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it.”

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- **Vs. 4**, “In him was life”
- Three Greek words translated life in New Testament
 - Psuche refers to the psychological life of the human soul, that is, the mind, emotion, and will
 - The English word psychology comes from psuche

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- **Vs. 4**, “In him was life”
- Three Greek words translated life in New Testament
- **Zoe** used in **John 1:4**, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”
 - Zoe refers to the uncreated, eternal life of God, the divine life uniquely possessed by God
 - Jesus does not just give life, He is the life

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- Not only is Jesus the life, He is also the light
 - **Vs. 4**, In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.
 - Notice this is a singular light
 - Light = to shine forth or what gives forth light
 - Means to reveal truth, reveal what is hidden in the darkness

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- Not only is Jesus the life, He is also the light
 - Here in the darkness of our finite understanding
 - **Vs. 5**, The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
 - This light will never be overcome, extinguished, understood, or redefined by what is hidden in the darkness

John 1:3 NIV, 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made

- So, what do we know about the one who came from these verses?
 - He is God
 - He is the Creator
 - But there is one more thing the Apostle John wants his readers to know

Vs. 14, The Word became flesh (*human*) and made his dwelling (*pitched His tent*) among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- Please notice the word, “*became*”
 - You can’t “became” unless you already are or exist
 - He didn’t just come but became what was previously not in creation

Vs. 14, The Word became flesh (*human*) and made his dwelling (*pitched His tent*) among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- Jesus stepped into His creation and became a part of it
- He took upon Himself the limitation of flesh and lived with and within His creation
- Everyone around Him witnessed His glory through His grace and truth that demonstrated He was and is God the Son

Vs. 14, The Word became flesh (*human*) and made his dwelling (*pitched His tent*) among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- The light of the world obscured His glorious light with flesh and allowed mankind to witness His light through fleshly facilities
- Sight and observation, sound and truth spoken, actions that showed His heart and love
- These were all human observable actions

Vs. 14, The Word became flesh (*human*) and made his dwelling (*pitched His tent*) among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- The only time recorded in Scripture where His light was allowed to shine was on the Mount of Transfiguration
- This is the miracle of Christmas
- I'm not sure this verse can ever be fully understood and appreciated

John also tells us why Jesus came

- **Vs. 12-13**, 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.
- So that becoming accepted by God as His child would be made available to all peoples
- Born spiritually of God with the promise of eternity with Him

John also tells us why Jesus came

- The condition is receiving Him who came:
 - Accepting who Jesus is
 - Accepting what Jesus provides
 - Accepting what Jesus has done for you
 - **Vs. 11**, He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. *(those who should have known)*
 - We hear that in their words, “Crucify Him”

John also tells us why Jesus came

- This is what we do when we reject the light of life offered to us by our Creator
- We either say, “Crucify Him!” or “Save me Lord Jesus!”
- So, who came?
 - God came for you and for me



Who Came? John 1:1-14