

“Born ... of God”

Intro: John declares the divine and eternal nature of _____ by declaring that the Word has always been, has always been with God and has _____ always been _____.

A. He is the light (or the _____) of men, for through Him all mankind has gained physical life and can gain _____ life! But now, here is the problem: the Light (Jesus) has shown in the dark sin-laden world, but the dark sin-blinded world did not comprehend (believe) in Him and therefore, has _____ the eternal life that is found in Him and Him alone.

B. This is the _____ for which John wrote this book: as a testimony that we might see the light, comprehending that Jesus is the Christ and in _____, that we would gain true and everlasting life in Him.

I. A man was _____ from God.

A. This _____ was a man, _____.

B. He was “_____ from God.” The word “sent” is very closely related to the word “apostle” and as the context proves, it means that this man was “sent from God” on a definite mission to “bear _____ of the light (Jesus).”

C. From the evidence we know without question that this particular man named _____ was none other than John _____.

1. By the divine and direct intervention of God, John the Baptist was born, named, empowered with the Holy Spirit, and sent as a _____ to testify that the Messiah was coming soon.

D. God sent John the Baptist to bear _____ of the coming _____.

1. God’s purpose in sending John the Baptizer to “bear _____ of [Christ Jesus] the light” was “that all might _____ through him.”

2. As John preached repentance and told the people that there was One coming who was mightier than he, he was _____ their _____ and minds to receive and believe that Jesus is the Christ! John was sent to plow up the fallow ground of their hearts to ready them to receive the seed of truth that there would be a harvest of _____!

E. John the Baptist was not *the* Light, but he came that he might bear witness of _____ Light!

II. The true _____ (Jesus Christ) _____ into the world.

A. The _____ came into the world for, John 1:14 says, “the Word _____.” (Cf. Isa. 7:14; Luke 1:30-35, 2:7, 11; Romans 1:1-4, Phil 2:6-7; 1 John 4:2)

B. The true _____ “_____ every man.”

1. 1 Jn. 4:9 says, “By this the love of _____ was _____ in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.” Through the coming of the Christ, God (His being, nature, moral purity, truth, and love) is illumined (revealed) before all so as to _____ all mankind. (CF. John 1:18)

2. In John 15:22 Christ expressed that because He came and spoke, the world is _____ excuse for their sin. Because Christ has enlightened every man to God, mankind is without _____.

C. "Those who were His own _____ Him" for they did not comprehend the Light. (Cf. Romans 10:16-21)

1. Even though Christ has enlightened all to God, not all have believed for even though "the Light has come into the world, men _____ the _____ rather than the Light for their deeds were evil." "This is the judgement" for which men will be _____!

III. _____ then, can we be _____?

A. As many as _____ Him He gave the right to become _____ of God!

1. The word "received" means to "acknowledge, _____, and instruction."

2. The word "gave" means "to _____ of one's own accord and with good will." As in the giving of a good gift or the _____ of a special privilege.

3. The word "right" means "_____, authority, _____, capability."

B. "Even to those who _____ in His name."

1. To "believe" is to have "faith, full trust and confidence" to the point that the one who believes _____ in accordance to his _____.

2. To believe "in His _____" is to believe everything about Christ Jesus (His _____, His deity, all His claims, and to acknowledge Him as Savior and Lord), and to obediently _____ after Him in all things!

C. Receiving and _____ the Light (Christ Jesus) is not a matter of being born into a particular bloodline, nor a matter of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but it is a matter of being _____ of _____! (Cf. John 3:1-21)

1. Beloved, our ability to receive and believe comes by the _____ regenerate _____ of the Spirit of God. Titus 3:4-7 NIV says, "But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 _____, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal _____."

Conclusion: To receive and believe, men must _____ human dependence, casting off all confidence in their lineage, flesh, ability, works, and desire, and in humility bow before the throne of grace, and _____ the _____ who saves by grace, that by His grace we might see and comprehend Light. And as He so graciously grants it to us, we will receive and _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and believing you will _____ in His name."