

*Mystery Solved*  
*I AM...Getting To Know The God of the Bible*  
*Kenny Luck*

INTRO

- LEARNING ABOUT THE GOD OF THE BIBLE?
- WHAT YOU WOULD THINK HE WOULD BE GENERALLY SPEAKING
- MYSTERIOUS/POWERFUL CREATOR OF ALL THINGS
- HIS SELF EXISTENCE
- HIS SOVERIEGNTY + POWER
- HIS UNFATHOMABLE WISDOM
- HIS OVERWHELMING LOVE THAT ENABLES US TO BE VICTORIOUS IN ALL THINGS
- GOD OF THE BIBLE ...REVEALS HIS ATTRIBUTES SO THAT ...WE CAN KNOW, EXPERIENCE, AND ENCOUNTER HIM AS HE TRULY IS
- COOLEST THINGS WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE GOD OF THE BIBLE IS THIS: EVERY ATTRIBUTE SHAPES/EMPOWERS/COMPLIMENTS EVERY OTHER ATTRIBUTE
- ETERNAL/INFINITE + HE IS LOVE ...COMBINE THEM AND WE HAVE A GOD WHO HAS AN INFINITE SUPPLY OF LOVE THAT CAN REACH AND INVADE ANY LIFE AT ANY TIME IN ANY SPACE IN ANY MEASURE IN ANY SPACE ON THE PLANET
- WHOA!

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MAKE NO MISTAKE ... THESE ARE BIG THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD ... THEY ARE ACCURATE THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD ...BUT IF WE ARE HONEST THERE STILL REMAINS AN ELEMENT OF MYSTERY...AND IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE TALK ABOUT THAT TOO ...

MYSTERY IS NECESSARY WHEN YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT GOD - OTHERWISE HE WOULD BE LESS THAN GOD

MYSTERY IS NECESSARY WHEN YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT GOD – OTHERWISE YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO TRUST GOD

MYSTERY IS NECESSARY WHEN YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT GOD – OTHERWISE WE WOULDN'T NEED GOD

GOD – BY THE SIMPLE NATURE OF HIS PERSON, HIS MAJESTY OF HIS POSITION, AND BY THE MAGNITUDE OF HIS ATTRIBUTES – WILL ALWAYS REMAIN BEYOND US ...

BUT... WHEN YOU WANT YOUR CREATED ONES TO KNOW, FEEL, AND SENSE YOU DEEPLY... YOU HAVE TO GIVE THEM A DEEPER LEVEL OF CLARITY INTO YOURSELF THAT THEY CAN CONNECT WITH  
HOW DO YOU GO FROM MYSTERY WHICH IS DEFINED AS ...

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*mystery (n): a truth that one can know only by revelation and cannot fully understand*

TO CLARITY WHICH IS DEFINED AS ...

*clarity (n): the quality of or state of being easily known, seen and understood*

GOOGLE IT → NOW YOU KNOW → CLOUDINESS TO CLARITY (FOR PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE)

HOW DOES INVISIBLE BECOME VISIBLE?

TWITTER → THOUGHTS (INVISIBLE) → CLOTHED THEM WITH WORDS → THEY BECOME VISIBLE

IN THIS JOURNEY ...GETTING TO KNOW THE GOD OF THE BIBLE WE HAVE BEEN ON A SIMILAR ... GOOGLING THE OLD TESTAMENT AND ACQUIRING SOME CRITICAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GOD/HIS ATTRIBUTES ... BUT NOW GOING TO MAKE A TRANSITION FROM KNOWLEDGE ABOUT TO THE VISIBILITY OF GOD...

THE THOUGHT OF GOD → CLOTHED IN A "WORD" AND BECOMING VISIBLE

JESUS MAKES KNOWN WHAT WE WOULD HAVE NEVER HAVE KNOWN ON OUR OWN...

JOHN CHAPTER 1 IN THE NEW TESTAMENT TAKES SEEKERS OF GOD

- FROM FOGGINESS ABOUT GOD TO THE FACT OF HIS EXISTENCE...
- FROM MYSTERY ABOUT TO CLARITY ...
- FROM AN INVISIBLE TO VISIBLE ...
- UNKNOWNABLE AND ETHEREAL TO KNOWABLE AND PERSONAL

AS WE PUNCTUATE THIS SERIES ON "I AM: GETTING TO KNOW THE GOD OF THE BIBLE" ...

- WE ARE MAKING A UNIQUE TRANSITION GOD HIMSELF WANTS US ALL TO MAKE

- TRANSITION GOD'S GENERAL EXISTENCE AND REVELATION TO US OVER TO GOD'S SPECIFIC AND SPECIAL EXPRESSION TO US

*“No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father’s heart. He has revealed God to us.” John 1:18 NLT*

LOOK AT THE PROGRESSION AND PROCESS OF GOD’S SPECIAL AND PERSONAL PROCESS OF REVELATION TO CREATE MAXIMUM CLARITY FOR YOU AND I ...

4 WHAT SEE FIRST IN JOHN CHAPTER 1 IS ...

#### A PEAK INTO ETERNITY (1:1-5)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome<sup>(a)</sup> it.

#### A PROPHET WHO TESTIFIES (1:6-9, 15)

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light... (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”

#### AN INCARNATION OF GOD AMONG MEN (1:9, 14, 18)

<sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world... 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... No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself )God and<sup>(b)</sup> is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

HERE IS THE

- MOST STAGGERING REALITY OF ALL TIME
- MOST FANTASTIC FACT OF ALL TIME
- CONFRONTING MOMENT FOR HUMANITY OF ALL TIME

GOD BECAME MAN

- THE ALMIGHTY ENTERED TIME AND SPACE AS A HELPLESS BABY
- UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING FOR HIMSELF

- GOD COLLIDES WITH BABYHOOD ... PRESENTS HIMSELF IN THE MOST VULNERABLE AND EASY TO EMBRACE WAY
- THIS REALITY/THIS MOMENT IS #1 – OF ALL TIME – IN THE TRIUMPH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION CATEGORY
- YOU CANNOT FIND A MORE UNPLAUSIBLE...UNBELIEVEABLE...VULNERABLE ...OR MEANINGFUL WAY TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO HUMANITY

### AN IMPARTATION OF GOD'S LIFE TO MAN (1:12, 13, 16-17)

“To all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God... Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

MYSTERY SOLVED...WHAT NOW?

THE RELEVANCE FOR ALL PEOPLE

### GOD HAS SPOKEN

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Hebrews 1:1-3

THE REALITY FOR ALL HUMANITY

### GOD EXPECTS A RESPONSE

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you. Titus 2:11-15

TEACH?

- GOD HAS APPEARED IN JESUS CHRIST
- GOD HAS OFFERED SALVATION
- SALVATION CHANGES US
- BETWEEN THE MOMENT OF SALVATION AND THE CULMINATION OF OUR SALAVATION WHEN HE APPEARS ...WE DO GOOD FOR GOD'S GLORY

WHEN THE MYSTERY IS SOLVED FOR YOU ...YOU HAVE A DECISION TO MAKE...  
TO ACCEPT OR REJECT WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED AND ALSO ACCEPT THE  
CONSEQUENCES OF THAT CHOICE...

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO?

*receive (v): interpersonally, to welcome gladly into one's  
presence or companionship*

*believe (v): to consider to be true; to accept the word or  
evidence of something or someone*

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

WHAT DOES GOD WANT HIS PEOPLE TO DO?

*reveal (v): to make something secret or hidden publicly known*

*Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.*

PRAYER OF REPSONSE THAT COMMUNICATES BACK TO GOD THAT WE HAVE  
RECOGNIZED, RECEIVED, AND RESPONDED IN THE WAY HE DESIRES TO HIS  
REVELATION

(SLIDE A)

JESUS – YOU ARE THE REVELATION OF GOD  
JESUS – YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD  
JESUS - YOU ARE THE SALVATION OF GOD  
JESUS – YOU ARE THE WORD OF GOD TO MAN

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#### SLIDE B

I SEE, RECEIVE AND WELCOME YOU INTO MY LIFE AS GOD  
I BELIEVE IN YOU ALONE FOR SALVATION AND THE FORGIVENESS OF SIN  
I BELIEVE IN YOUR NAME AND RECEIVE MY NAME AS YOUR CHILD

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#### SLIDE C

AS THE FAMILY OF GOD WE WIL REVEAL CHRIST TO THE WORLD  
AS THE FAMILY OF GOD WE WILL REPRESENT CHRIST TO THE WORLD  
AS THE FAMILY OF GOD WE WILL REACH THE WORLD WITH YOUR LOVE  
AS THE FAMILY OF GOD WE WILL BE YOUR HANDS AND YOUR FEET TO SERVE  
THOSE YOU CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE.

FILL US WITH YOUR SPIRIT JESUS  
LEAD US BY YOUR SPIRIT JESUS  
CONTROL US THROUGH YOUR SPIRIT NOW

...IN JESUS NAME ... **AMEN!**