



In the beginning  
was the Word...

*Who is He? Why does He matter?*







These words were written  
by someone who lived  
with Jesus for three years...  
his name was John.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

# The God who made everything

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John introduces us to 'the Word':

- Twice he tells us that the Word was already there 'in the beginning!' (**vv. 1, 2**)
- So the Word existed before time, before the beginning... in short, the Word is eternal.

But who or what is the Word?

- The Word is God. (**v. 1**)
- The Word is a person (called Him). (**v. 3**)
- He made absolutely everything, no exceptions.

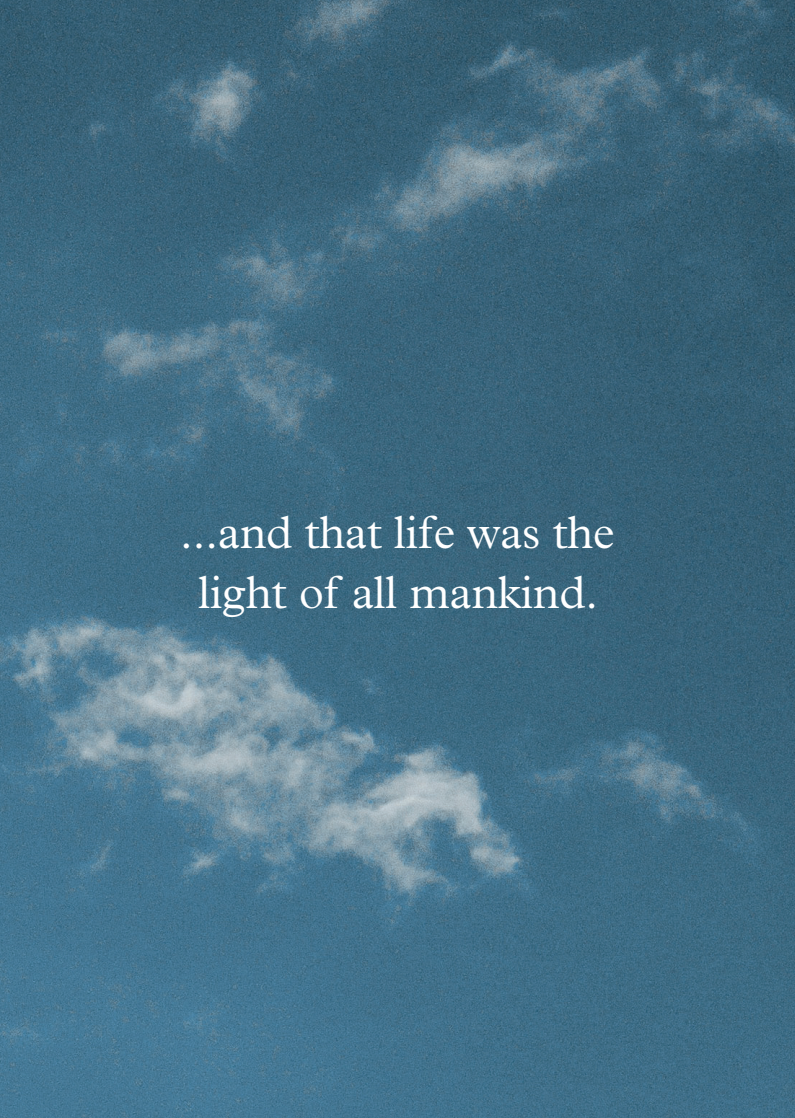
*Already we're being introduced to the Creator!*

But John's claims for the Word go even further...

A photograph of a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds. The clouds are most prominent in the lower-left and lower-right corners, while the upper portion of the sky is a deep, uniform blue. The text "In him was life..." is centered in the middle of the image in a white, serif font.

In him was life...



A deep blue sky with scattered white clouds. The clouds are wispy and vary in density, with some appearing as soft, white streaks and others as more defined, fluffy patches. The overall tone is a rich, slightly dark blue, suggesting a clear but slightly overcast day.

...and that life was the  
light of all mankind.

<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 it.



# Life and light

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But what difference does the Word make for life?

- As Creator, the Word is the source of all life... (v. 4)
- ...and He is the source of understanding (light) for all people.

The darkness in our world can't stop Him bringing life and light to mankind. (v. 5)

For 2,000 years His message has been going out across our world unchanged. In fact...

*The light of the Word continues to shine today.*

**Life:** In John's book, the word usually means spiritual life – eternal life that starts now and lasts forever.