

## The Spirit of Truth & the Glory of Christ

### 1. Praise God for the Holy Spirit!

- **He is a divine person:** receive, know & worship Him (in a Trinitarian way)
- **He is the Helper (advocate, counselor):** be encouraged, exhorted & empowered
- **He is the Spirit of Truth** (see the chart on the back page): believe the self-disclosed revelation of God in Jesus Christ

### 2. Be Captivatingly-Transformed by Christ's Glory thru the Spirit!

- **The Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ:** have we seen His glory & do we live accordingly?
- **Guard against a Spirit-less Trinity:** the Father, the Son and the Holy Bible
- **Guard against an "experience-driven" or "me-centered" pursuit of the Spirit:** by seeking a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled life

## "Knowing Jesus & Being Captivated by His Glory"

*An Excursus on John's Prologue (Intro) & the Revelation of Jesus Christ*

**Summary:** "Supremely, the Prologue summarizes how the 'Word' which was with God in the very beginning came into the sphere of time, history, tangibility – in other words, how the Son of God was sent into the world to become the Jesus of history, so that the glory and grace of God might be uniquely and perfectly disclosed. The rest of the book is nothing other than an expansion of this theme" (*The Gospel According to John*, D.A. Carson, 111). **Note:** the chart below is adapted from D.A. Carson & J.A.T. Robinson. John 1:1-18 (the prologue) introduces & summarizes the rest of the book.

| <u>The Revelation of Jesus Christ</u>     | <u>1:1 – 1:18</u> | <u>1:19 – 21:25</u>  |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the pre-existent Word/Son              | 1:1-2             | 17:5                 |
| 2. in him was life                        | 1:4               | 5:26; 17:2; 20:31    |
| 3. the life is light                      | 1:4               | 8:12                 |
| 4. the light is rejected by the darkness  | 1:5               | 3:19; 13:30          |
| 5. the light is not conquered by darkness | 1:5               | 12:35; 21:3ff        |
| 6. the light is coming into the world     | 1:9               | 3:19; 12:46          |
| 7. Christ is not received by his own      | 1:11              | 4:44; 19:15          |
| 8. born of God and not of flesh           | 1:13              | 3:6; 8:41f           |
| 9. seeing his glory                       | 1:14              | 12:41; 16:14; 17:1ff |
| 10. the 'one and only' (begotten) Son     | 1:14, 18          | 3:16; 17:1ff         |
| 11. truth in Jesus Christ                 | 1:17              | 14:6; 16:13ff; 18:37 |
| 12. no-one has seen God                   | 1:18              | 6:46; 20:29          |

(except the one who comes from God's side)

**The Glory & Goodness of Jesus Christ:** "Anyone who has been involved in bringing the gospel to people who have never heard of it before can testify to what this means in practice. God has disclosed himself in Christ Jesus in great glory and goodness: there is something so utterly attractive about him that people turn away from what held them before, drawn to his glory and goodness. I remember a Pakistani Muslim, reading and rereading John's gospel, pondering all that was embraced when the Prologue insists that Christ Jesus, the Word-made-flesh, was "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). I recall the conversion of an Iranian who, having stolen a Gideon Bible from a hotel room, read and reread the Gospels, utterly captured by this person Jesus. God calls his people "by his own glory and goodness," manifested supremely in the glory and goodness of his Son" (*Becoming Conversant with the Emerging Church*, D.A. Carson, p. 224).