

The Word with God

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Sermon Questions

Introduction

1. [True/False] The word “Trinity” means three united in one (tri-unity or triune).
2. The eternal and incomprehensible God is known through _____.
3. It is arrogant to reject God because he exceeds our _____.
4. If we want to know God, where do we turn? _____

Exposition

5. [True/False] “In the beginning” describes God in timeless eternity before creation.
6. [True/False] The Word (logos) is a reference to Greek philosophy and the divine reason implicit in the cosmos.
7. The “word” is used in the Old Testament to refer God’s act in creation, _____, and in God’s plan of salvation.
8. The Word is (1) God’s agent; (2) God himself; or (3) both.
9. [True/False] The Word is not “a god” but is God *qualitatively*, sharing the quality and attributes of God.

Theological Reflections

10. Use the words “immanent,” “economic,” “relation,” and “essence” to fill in the blanks:
 - i. The _____ Trinity describes the role of Father, Son, and Spirit in the plan of salvation.
 - ii. The _____ Trinity describes who God is, in himself, apart from creation or salvation.
 - iii. The words “...with God” speak of a shared _____.
 - iv. The words “...was God” speak of a shared _____.
11. How could the Jews embrace this? They encountered _____.

Discussion/Meditation Questions

1. Have you fallen into the trap of treating God as a theological puzzle that needs to be rationally solved? How does God's progressive revelation of himself through the Bible help us to know him?
2. Why is it so important to understand God rightly? Why has the church gone to great lengths in the past to set down truth in creeds and confessions?
3. Describe the economic and immanent Trinity in your own words. How important is it for us to distinguish between them?
4. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon? Share this with another brother or sister in the fellowship.

Extras for the Children

What song did you enjoy the most today? _____

What did you learn about God today? _____

What words did you not know today? _____

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon.