

John 1; John 1 and Genesis 1 & 2

February 14, 2008

Group One: Breakdown the narrative of John 1 (through v.18) and explain for each stage:

What is significant in each stage? (you determine that)

What is significant in the transitions from one stage to the next?

Be specific - note passage numbers and words.

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- Word is important-old testament
 - Light/darkness-dark doesn't overcome
 - Transition of "word" to "him", "him" to "life", "life" to "light", "light" to "dark"
 - John wasn't light (Jesus was), but John could testify and was witness
 - World-people
 - Children: born of god, people are Jesus' people but not yet children of God until they believe in Him
 - Jesus became human and lived among us
 - Goes from general to specific, elaborates at end, puts it into context, actually says "Jesus Christ, only son of God"
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Group Two: What is meant by the gospel's use of (the) 'Word'? (Source: John 1, and as you find)

Come up with more than three explanations with textual support.

Be specific - note passage numbers and words.

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- The "word" is like another meaning of "God", **word=God** (John 1:1-3)
 - He (word) was in the beginning with God, **Word=He** (John 1:2)
 - "And the word became flesh", **Word=flesh of mankind** (John 1:14)
 - "The (word) lived among us, and we have seen his glory", **Word=Jesus** (John 1:14)
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Group Three: Find parallels, connections, references, etc. (Sources: John Ch.1 and Genesis Ch. 2)

Be specific - note passage numbers and words.

Offer reason/s for what you find

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- John 1
 - All is created by God (John 1:3-5)
 - "Flesh"-God's gift of son, Jesus (John 1:13-14)
 - Children of God (John 1:12-13)
 - Genesis 2
 - Parallel, all is created by God (Genesis 2:2-3)
 - "Flesh"-Creation of man (Genesis 2:23-24)
 - Children of Adam (Genesis 2:7)
 - Hard to find similarities because John:1 is God's introduction of his gift of his son Jesus to the world and Genesis is simply a creation story
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Group Four: Find parallels, connections, references, etc. (Sources: John Ch.1 and Genesis Ch. 1)

Be specific - note passage numbers and words.

Offer reason/s for what you find

- John 1 and Genesis 1
 - Began with “in the beginning”
 - Similar style, structure (narrative writing)
 - Light/dark references (John 1:5, Genesis 1:5)
 - Water symbolism (John 1:26, Genesis 1:6)
 - Creation of humans (John 1:12, Genesis 1:27)
 - The “word” (John 1:1, all of Genesis 1)
 - All things were created through God (John 1, Genesis)
 - Flesh (John 1:14, Genesis 1:21)
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Group Five: Compare and contrast: What is similar what is different? (Source: Gen 1 & 2)

Focus on these four criteria:

- creation (the acts of, assessment, sequence, purpose, etc.)

- mankind (how mankind is created, purpose of mankind, etc.)

- God language (how is God discussed, name/s, attributes, etc.)

- Textual character (look at text character in each chapter, hint: look for telling words and narrative structure)

Offer two explanations for the sequence of Gen 1 and Gen 2 (what would happen if the chapters were reversed?)

- Genesis 1
 - Called “God”
 - Structured
 - Mainly story of Earth’s creation
 - Days 1-6
 - Darkness, water, land, animals, humans
 - Mankind to rule creatures
 - Focus more on God
 - God created, said “let there be...”, proclamation of the word of God, command
 - Genesis 2
 - Called “Lord God”
 - Story like
 - Man created woman from his rib
 - Order: Dry, water, man, the animals (because man is lonely)
 - Focus more on man
 - God formed, planted, made, fashions from...
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