

THE TRUE LIGHT

John 1:1–14 · December 14, 2014

“What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?”

THE IDENTITY OF THE TRUE LIGHT (VV. 1–5)

- He is eternal: he existed *before* the beginning (vv. 1, 2; cf. v 15).
“O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the Everlasting Light.”
- He is the Word: God’s revelation to man (v. 1; cf. v. 18).
“Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him!”
“Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.”
- He is God (v. 1; cf. vv. 14, 18).
“Christ the Babe is Lord of all”
- He is the Creator of the universe (v. 3).
*“Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood mankind hath bought.”*
- He is the Giver of life (v. 4).
- He is the true Light—the Savior—of the world (vv. 4–5).
“Son of God, love’s pure light”
“Hail the Sun of Righteousness: light and life to all He brings”

THE WITNESS, JOHN THE BAPTIST (VV. 6–8)

- Sent by God as a witness
- He called the world to *believe* in Jesus

THE MINISTRY OF THE TRUE LIGHT (VV. 9–14)

- His Identity (vv. 9–10): the Creator, God himself, yet unknown to the world.
*“’Twas in a humble manger that Jesus Christ was born;
The God of all creation became a child that morn.”*
- His Reception (vv. 11–13): rejected by his creation, but received by those who believe.
*“Gentle Mary laid her child, lowly in a manger;
there He lay, the Undeclared, to the world a stranger.”*
*“Thou camest, O Lord, with the living Word that should set thy people free;
But with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn they bore thee to Calvary.”*
“God and sinners reconciled!”
- His Ministry (v. 14): demonstrating God’s glory and showing God’s grace.
*“Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel!”*