***“Jesus… the Son… Begotten not Made”***

***Speaker:*** John J Roberts, MLCC

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***Text***: John 1:1-14

**Introduction**

1. ***Jesus is a kind of a big deal… John doesn’t want anyone to miss it.***

* 1. It’s probably helpful to remember that John’s gospel is written in the latter half of the first century. Some say as early as AD 70, others put it as late as AD 95, and it’s probably somewhere between those dates.
		1. Hebrews 13:8, “Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever.”
	2. Here is John’s teaching in a nutshell – Jesus is the word of God made flesh.
		1. Theophany = God appearing in human form. Daniel 3:21-25
		2. But it’s at the incarnation that God is made flesh… that the Word of God takes on human shape…
			1. Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18ff
	3. Jesus is fully God and fully man… but and there are those who have since changed the story…
		1. The Gnostics:
		2. Arianism:
		3. LDS Theology:
			1. LDS theology understands the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit to be three distinct gods.
			2. LDS Theology teaches that Jesus had a beginning.
			3. LDS theology teaches that Jesus was one many other sons of God – one of the others being Lucifer. Ezekiel 28:13-17 speaks of Lucifer as a created.
			4. LDS theology teaches that Jesus was conceived by the Father – an immortal man of flesh and bones – had sexual intercourse with Mary in the natural way.
1. ***John, and the other NT writers, make clear the nature of Christ.***
	1. Jesus Christ is co-eternal and self-existent with God.
	2. Jesus Christ is the image of God and one with God in essential nature.
		1. John 14:8, Colossians 1:15, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Hebrews 1:3
	3. Jesus Christ is the creative expression of God… “God spoke the world into existence… Jesus is the word of God.
		1. Hebrews 1:1-2, Colossians 1:15-17
2. ***Jesus, the second person of the trinity, emptied Himself for our sakes.***
	1. Jesus Christ is our fully-God and fully-man overcomer: Philippians 2:5-8
	2. Isaiah 53:1-6
	3. Christ stepped into the world to face what we face, to overcome it, and then to redeem us. Hebrews 4:14-16, John 3:16
3. ***Conclusion***
	1. John wants us to know… “Jesus is Kind of a big deal… don’t miss HIM!”
		1. I John 1:1-4…

***Questions:***

1. Have you accepted Christ and do you have this life? Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life… no one comes to the father except through me.
2. Are there next steps for you? Faith… Repentance… Confession… Baptism…
3. What questions might you still have? Seek out someone and ask.
4. Is this a message you could condense and speak to others?