

John 1:1-18

v7 – witness	(noun)	a person who has seen something first-hand; a person present at an event
v7 – testify	(verb)	to declare to others what you have seen or witnessed; to speak to support that something is true
v7 – believe	(verb)	accept something as true; be convinced of the truth
v10 – recognise	(verb)	know who someone is; accept or approve someone
v13 – natural descent	(phrase)	biological origin; natural beginnings
v14 – dwelling	(noun)	a place where someone lives
v14 – glory	(noun)	magnificence; beauty; greatness
v14 – grace	(noun)	the mercy and kindness of God
v15 – cried	(verb)	announced publicly
v15 – surpassed	(verb)	became greater than; became superior to
v16 – fullness	(noun)	the state of being complete
v17 – law	(noun)	God’s rules for his people to live by
v17 – Moses	(noun)	the man who (under God) led God’s people out of Egypt, through the desert and to the Promised Land (see Exodus)

John 1:1-18 (New International Reader’s Version)

In the beginning, the Word was already there. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ All things were made through him. Nothing that has been made was made without him. ⁴ Life was in him, and that life was the light for all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness. But the darkness has not overcome the light.

⁶ There was a man sent from God. His name was John. ⁷ He came to be a witness about that light. He was a witness so that all people might believe. ⁸ John himself was not the light. He came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ The Word was in the world. And the world was made through him. But the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own. But his own people did not accept him. ¹² Some people did accept him and did believe in his name. He gave them the right to become children of God. ¹³ To be a child of God has nothing to do with human parents. Children of God are not born because of human choice or because a husband wants them to be born. They are born because of what God does.

¹⁴ The Word became a human being. He made his home with us. We have seen his glory. It is the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father. And the Word was full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ John was a witness about the Word. John cried out and said, “This was the one I was talking about. I said, ‘He who comes after me is more important than I am. He is more important because he existed before I was born.’ ” ¹⁶ God is full of grace. From him we have all received grace in place of the grace already given. ¹⁷ In the past, God gave us grace through the law of Moses. Now, grace and truth come to us through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. But the One and Only is God and is at the Father’s side. The one at the Father’s side has shown us what God is like.