

# John 1:15-18

## The Text of John 1:15-18:

**John 1:15** - *“John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.”*

- A. John bare witness of Christ (**John 5:33** and **Romans 3:20-24**).
  - 1. Bearing witness of something means you have seen something (**John 3:11**, **Acts 13:26-31**, **Acts 22:14-15**, **Acts 26:16**, and **I John 1:1-3**).
  - 2. John was a prophet (**Luke 7:28**).
  - 3. Prophets had visions from God (**Numbers 12:6** and **II Peter 1:19-21**).
- B. He is preferred before John, because He was before John (**Isaiah 9:6-7** and **John 8:58**).
  - 1. Consider **Micah 5:2** in light of **Matthew 2:1-6**.
  - 2. Christ is before all things (**John 17:5** and **Colossians 1:17**).

**John 1:16** - *“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.”*

- A. His fullness we have received is our being complete in Christ (**Colossians 2:8-10**).
  - 1. The statement “have all we received” shows John the Apostle is writing to those who are in Christ (**Romans 1:5**).
  - 2. We have to be in Christ to be new creatures (**II Corinthians 5:17**).
- B. Consider **Romans 5:15; 17; 21** and **I Corinthians 1:4-5** in understanding “grace for grace”.
  - 1. Christ is the graceful gift that bought grace (**Hebrews 2:9**).
  - 2. We must understand that grace is not our doing (**II Timothy 1:8-9** and **Titus 3:3-8**).

**John 1:17** - *“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”*

- A. Moses gave the law (**Deuteronomy 33:4** and **Acts 28:23**).
  - 1. The law was truth, so this statement is not a denial of that fact (**Psalms 119:142**).
    - a. All of God’s word is the truth (**Psalms 33:4** and **Proverbs 30:5-6**).
    - b. The Law of Moses was the word of God (**Exodus 31:18** and **II Timothy 3:15-17**).
    - c. The Law of Moses was intended to be temporary (**Jeremiah 31:31-34**).
  - 2. The law did not offer grace (**Acts 13:39**).
  - 3. The law served a different purpose (**Galatians 3:19-29**).
- B. Jesus brought grace into the world (**Acts 15:11** and **I John 4:14**).

1. Grace has appeared to all men (**Titus 2:11-14**).
2. Grace came through the truth of the Gospel (**Colossians 1:5-6**).

**John 1:18** - *"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."*

A. No man has seen God (**I John 4:12; 20**).

1. No one could see God and live (**Exodus 33:17-20**).
2. Moses did not see the Lord (**Deuteronomy 4:12**).

B. Jesus is the eyewitness of the Father (**John 6:46**).

1. Jesus has revealed the Father to others (**Matthew 11:27**).
2. We know the Father through the only begotten Son (**John 14:7-9**).