

The Word Became Flesh

Scripture: Jn 1:1-5, 10-14

David Yeh, 18 Dec 2016

1. Jesus is the source of everything V1-5

a) Jesus is the source of time V1-V2

John 1:1–2 (NIV) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning.”

In this scripture we see that Jesus existed right from the beginning, before the world was made; before the universe was made Jesus existed. He was with God, he was equal with God, he himself was God.

Philippians 2:6 ⁶Who, **being in very nature God**, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

“being in very nature God”, He is the almighty God.

He is the God who made a covenant with Abraham. He is the God who was with Jacob the night Jacob wrestled with him. God blessed Jacob and changed his name from **Jacob** (grasp, one who follows on another's heels; supplanter) to **Israel** (as a prince he had power with God and prevailed). He is the God who strengthened Joshua. The night before Joshua faced the great battle with Jericho, God gave him the battle strategy. He is the God who was with Daniel's three friends when they were thrown into the blazing fiery furnace. The king of Babylon saw a fourth person in the flames and said “...the fourth person is like a son of God.”

Jesus existed before creation and has been with us all through history. Even now he is here, through the Holy Spirit he is here. He is everywhere with us and all the time. He is here ready to touch you.

b) Jesus is the source of creation V3

John 1:3 (NIV) “Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”

Through him the universe and the world were made. There is nothing that exists (whether seen or unseen) that was not made by God.

In Genesis 1 we see that God created heaven and earth. How did he make the universe?

V3 God spoke. “He said” the Word, and everything was made.

He spoke and the Word created the sea, with all the living animals in it.

He spoke and the Word created the mountains and all the riches in them – diamonds, sapphire, jade and precious stones. Since he can create things from nothing, is anything too difficult for him? And are the needs or problems you face too big for Him?

Dear friends, what are you lacking? Are you in financial difficulty? Are you battling ill health? Are you in need of a partner? God can create things from nothing.

Example One morning I had a little argument with my late wife, Katherine, because she wanted to invite a large number of people to our place for lunch. It would cost nearly NT\$3000. It was not easy because at the end of every month we were almost in deficit. We didn't spend money on luxury goods. But as I was writing a sermon on how

God can make things from nothing, the Lord spoke to me asking: "Have I ever failed you when you had a special need? Have I not always provided for you?" Then I was set free.

Do you have burden that you find hard to carry? Bring it to God. He is the source of every thing.

c) Jesus is the source of life and light V4-5

John 1:4 "In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind."

Jesus is the life. The 'life' referred to here is not physical life as when we think of "a living person", but rather it is referring to spiritual life, to someone who has the living hope, who has found the meaning to life. Without life there is no light. Without Jesus there is no life, no hope. Without this spiritual life we are living in darkness, we don't know where we are going, what we are living for – and in darkness we are full of fear, disease and death.

John 14:6 ⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Jesus will give you hope and show you the way. In Jesus we find there is meaning to life.

John 1:5 "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Light's nature is to shine and dispel **darkness**. **Light** (Jesus) will invade the dominion of **darkness**. Satan is the ruler in the dominion of darkness, and he and his subjects resist the light. However they are unable to overcome its power. The Word will be victorious in spite of opposition.

Illustration: The gospel spread greatly around the world in the first five centuries, but in the middle of European history, God's Word was hidden from the people. It was only those like monks or priests who had studied Greek or Hebrew or Latin that had access to the Bible. Ordinary people could not read the Bible for themselves because it had not yet been translated into their mother-tongue. Europe started going through the so-called 'Dark Ages'. When God's Word was hidden, the people were in darkness. There was no revelation nor wisdom, no law nor justice. People were without hope and were filled with fear. Civilization did not improve, instead it went backward.

It was when God's Word became commonly spread through the reformation by Martin Luther in 1517, that Europe's Renaissance "rebirth" period arrived and made Europe the richest, and most powerful continent in the world. Although the Renaissance started in Italy and it's philosophy was based on humanism (which emphasizes the worth of the individual), God blessed Europe because they believed in God and his Word. The Light had come to them.

Jesus created life on earth. He can give life to your soul again. Is your life dead like in the Dark Ages. As stated in John 3, you can be born again. You can experience 'rebirth'. You can start a new life. As light overcomes darkness, where poverty reigns, God's richness comes in; where sickness reigns, healing comes in; where hatred reigns, love begins to reign instead; where confusion reigns, peace now comes to reign; where division reigns, unity reigns instead.

Psalms 119:105 Your Word is a lamp to my feet, a light for my path. God will direct your life. The Word of God is the way. It will give you direction in life and bring real meaning and purpose to your life.

2. Invite the Word into your life V10,V14

John 1:10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

a) By recognizing Jesus is here

John 1:10 (NIV) He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

Jesus came to this world. What the world had longed to see finally happened, but the world didn't recognize Jesus. This is like parents giving an expensive gift to their child only to see the child ruining the gift – like for example giving their child a golden pen, which the child then takes and uses as a dart instead. Jesus made the world, all the things that we enjoy, all the things that sustain our life, yet we don't know him. Just like God is here, he is taking part in our life but we don't recognize him.

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Word, Logos became flesh. The Word, Logos, Son of God became flesh because God loves us. When Jesus came to the world people did not recognize him. Jesus invited people to come to know him but only a handful of people followed him.

How would you feel if your child didn't recognize you as their parent? You give so much, provide their need, are willing to sacrifice your life for your child, but then they don't accept you as their parent. This was the pain Jesus had to carry. Many people miss understood him, even one of his disciples betrayed him and one of his closest disciples denied him three times.

How about the cross? He was crucified by those he had created. But praise the Lord, Jesus was raised from the dead. Through the cross he has washed our sins and through his resurrection he overcame death and the power of darkness. As we see from history, the gospel spread like fire throughout the world.

Today this light is still shining. The Word of God is still speaking to you. This light is still shining through the individual light of Christians, you and me. This light is Logos, Word of God. For some, the light is dim, like a dim candle nearly blown out by the devil. Let the fire of God ignite your life again.

b) By reading God's word

Invite Jesus into your life. He is here, willing to come into your life. Read God's Word, this Logos. The Word of God is willing to come to you. This is why reading the Bible is so important. It is not just black letters on white paper or knowledge to entertain our mind but it is receiving Logos, God himself coming into us.

Mark 13:31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will **never** pass away.

All things will pass away, except the Word of God. Allow the Eternal Word to come into you.

When we read God's Word we are taking in Jesus into our life, and as he comes in, he changes us.

Illustration: Gutter or sewage cleaning, as water rushes through the gutter or sewage it cleans the gutter or sewage

As the Bible says, Jesus is the logos, the word. So when you say you love Jesus you will also love the scripture, God's Word.

Illustration of loving your girl friend you would want to read her letter.

If you say you love God's Word yet don't read the Bible, I really doubt if you love him enough. Revelation 3:20 "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."

Jesus is speaking to us today. He wants to come into our life. He wants to be part of our life.

How much you have Jesus in you depends on how much you have the Logos, the Word in you. In other words, how much you have Jesus in you depends on how much you read and store God's Word in you.

Jesus said "I am the bread of life"

If a person doesn't have food he will be weak and vulnerable to diseases. If we don't have the Bread of Life in us we will be vulnerable to the enemy's attack, easily get angry, depressed, or jealous, easily start slandering others, causing division. The food we eat will be absorbed into our body and become our energy that sustains our life. The Bread of Life we take in becomes energy for our spiritual life. Let us hear God's Word and invite him into our lives, into every part of our body and soul.

"The Word" (Logos) in John 1 is referring to Jesus. Jesus is the total Message—everything that God wants to communicate to man. Logos entered into our suffering and sorrow, and personally experienced our trials and temptations (Heb. 4:15). He lovingly became one of us to pay the penalty for our sins and to conquer death (Heb. 2:14). Because He suffered, He is able to assist us now (v.18). Let the Creator come to you. He is above all things. He is the source of all blessing, the source of the gifts of peace love, and joy.

The Son of God became the Son of Man so that sons of men may become sons and daughters of God