

**Title:** The Word Made Flesh

**Passage:** John 1:1-9

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Summary:

How John proves Jesus is God - Incarnation: The Word Made Flesh

I. Jesus is the Creator God

II. Jesus is the Life-Giving God

III. Jesus is the Light of the world

IV. Jesus had witnesses to prove His identity

Key Truths:

- Doctrine of the Incarnation: God made man; God in the person of Jesus
- The Incarnation makes it possible for Jesus to die on our behalf. Otherwise, Jesus' sacrifice would mean nothing, the death would have been like any other.
- The Incarnation makes it possible for us to come to God.

Application:

- If not a Christian, study the life of Jesus. Read the Gospels in the Bible.
- If a Christian, study the doctrine of the Incarnation. Read the Gospels with a non-Christian; allow God's Word to change lives.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- Explain in your own words why did the Word become flesh and live among us?
- What insights can you gain from seeing Jesus as God's Word?
- What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?

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**Introduction**

Jesus is God

- Contrast: survey showed 43% of polled Evangelicals did not believe Jesus was God.
- Doctrine of incarnation: God made man
  - God in the person of Jesus
- Key, fundamental belief
  - If Jesus was not God, then
    - We are still in our sins.
    - We do not believe Jesus' words
- It is a mystery but does not mean it cannot be true or is a contradiction.
  - Instead it means we cannot fully understand it now.
- John 1: key passage to understand the reason for Christmas.

**Passage:**

John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

**EXPOSITION****Context of Passage:**

Gospel of John

- last gospel written.
- Written by one of the disciples of Jesus who was also half-brother of Jesus.
- John's intentions in writing was to show Jesus was fully God and fully man.

John 20:30-31

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**Overview**

How John proves Jesus is God: The Word Made Flesh

I. Jesus is the Creator God

II. Jesus is the Life-Giving God

III. Jesus is the Light of the world

IV. Jesus had witnesses to prove His identity

**I. JESUS IS THE CREATOR GOD**

John 1:1

***In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.***

**A. Eternal: "in the beginning was the Word"**

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

- Only the Bible shows that God has been there from the very beginning.

### John 1:2

He was in the beginning with God.

### Mark 1:1-3 (first gospel written)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,”

- quotes Isaiah, which was written 700 years.

### Matthew 1:1

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

- Points Jesus to David

### Luke 3:38

the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

- Points Jesus to Adam

### John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- Points Jesus to the very beginning.

### *Word*

- Term: "Logos"
- Referred to both the spoken and unspoken word still in the mind.
- Implication: there must be a Being out there that was the origin of all things.
- Here, John makes clear that Jesus was at the beginning.

### **B. With full personhood: "and the Word was with God"**

### **C. With full deity: "the Word was God"**

- Contrast: some have alleged that Jesus was made God by humans or that Jesus was made "a" God.
- Other places in John's Gospel which made clear that Jesus was fully God:
  - John 8:58, 6:35, 8:12, 10:9, 10:11, etc.

### John 8:58

Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.”

John 6:35

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

John 8:12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 10:9

I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

John 10:11

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 18:6

When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.

Additional points that Jesus is God:

- Different Greek word used ("theios" vs. "theos")
- Greek grammar used (it would not permit or allow such interpretations that Jesus' deity was not true)
- Verses make clear that it is distinct from God the Father.

***John 1:3***

***All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.***

Colossians 1:16

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

- How did God create things? Through His Word.
  - Who was the Word? Jesus!

Psalms 100:3

Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

- We are God's. We are His.

Psalms 95:5-7

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice,

Genesis 2:7

then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Hebrews 1:3

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

- Jesus is not only the Creator but also the Sustainer.

## **II. JESUS IS THE LIFE-GIVING GOD**

John 1:4

***In him was life, and the life was the light of men.***

- God provided physical life to all things, including you.
- God also provides spiritual life.
  - The only reason you have spiritual life is because of Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

## **III. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

John 1:4-5

***In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.***

- Jesus is the source of light.
- Light always wins. Jesus always has the upper hand.
  - Satan and darkness is not an equal foe.
- When consider any darkness in your life, trust in God and that He has a plan in your life. God will provide light in the morning.

## **IV. JESUS HAD WITNESSES TO PROVE HIS IDENTITY**

John 1:6-8

***There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. John 1:6-8***

***There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.***

#### **APPLICATION**

If not a Christian, study the life of Jesus.

- Jesus lived on earth for 33 years. He can be learned about by reading the Gospels.
  - Read the Gospels repeatedly to understand who Jesus is.

If a Christian, read the Bible with a non-Christian.

- Allow the Bible to touch people's hearts.
- Unleash the Lion of God's Word. It alone changes hearts.

#### Isaiah 55:10-11

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

If a Christian, study the doctrine of the incarnation.

- This makes it possible for Jesus to die on our behalf
  - Otherwise, Jesus' sacrifice would mean nothing.

#### Hebrews 10:4-7

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

- This makes it possible for us to come to God.

#### Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.