

Word Made Flesh

There is no traditional Christmas story about the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of John.

- ☐ No mention of Mary and Joseph
- ☐ No manger, no magi, no multitude of angels appearing in the sky!
- ☐ No little drummer boy, no Santa, no Rudolph.

But there IS a Christmas Story in the Gospel of John, in fact John gives us the story of Christmas and the **purpose of Christmas all throughout his book**.

The Message of Christmas and the Glory of Christmas is found in One Key Verse to the entire Gospel of John:

John 1:14 KJV *And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and **we beheld his glory**, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

Another tidbit of truth John calls **Miracles of Christ = SIGNS**.

John 2 Jesus' first Miracle, Water into Wine --- **John 2:11 NIV** *What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the **first of the signs** through which he **revealed his glory**; and his disciples **believed** in him.*

John's Version of the Christmas Story --- John Chapter One

John. 1:1-4 ESV *"In the **beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God". **2 He** was in the **beginning** with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men.*

v. 10-13 *He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to his own, and his own people did not **receive** him. **12** But to all **who did receive him, who believed in his name**, he gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

The Key Verse and the Foundation of John's Christmas Message...

14 *And the **Word became flesh** and **dwelt among us**, (Merry Christmas Everybody) and **we have seen his glory**, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. **15** (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because **he was before me**.'") **16** For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. **17** For the law was given through Moses; **grace and truth came through Jesus Christ**. **18** No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, **he has made him known**.*

Jesus made flesh, made God known.

Jesus made flesh, made God knowable.

This is the Glory of the Christmas Message!

3 TRUTHS WE MUST **RECEIVE** AND **BELIEVE** ABOUT JESUS:

Jesus is the Word – the Greek Word used here is Logos and here it indicates 3 things: revelation – authority - creative power.

1) The Word brings Revelation.

..In the beginning was the Word... the Word was God and the Word Became Flesh and revealed God to us!

2) The Word indicates Authority.

Jn 18:6 NASV So when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.

****Note:** the "He" in italics indicates that word is not in the manuscripts. **This was an expression of the eternal I AM God and the authority of those words** coming out of the mouth of Son knocked them to the ground.

Therefore He **again asked them**, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus the Nazarene."

3) The Word Possesses Creative Power.

Hebrews 1:1-3 ESV "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, **2** but in these last days he has **spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also **he created the world**. **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...**"

Col 1:15-17 NIV The Son is the **image of the invisible God**, the firstborn over all creation. **16 For in him all things were created...** **17** He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

John 1:10-18 ESV He was in the world, and **the world was made through him**, yet the world did not know him. **11 He came to his own**, and his own people did not receive him. **12 But to all who did receive him**, who **believed in his name**, **he gave the right to become children of God**, **13 who were born (rebirth)**, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

There is no one like Jesus. Only His words are life-giving words.

In **John 6**, Jesus gave a strong message about fully surrendering your life to His Lordship. Unless you eat of my flesh and drink of my blood you can have no part of me. They struggled to receive the hard words... **6:63 NIV** *The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are **full of the Spirit and life**.*

66-69 From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. **67** "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. **68** Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the **words of eternal life**. **69** We have come **to believe and to know** that you are the Holy One of God."

Eight days later, John says Jesus walked into the locked room... look at what happened...

John 20:27-29 ESV Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." **28** Thomas answered him, "**My Lord and my God!**" **29** Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

v. 30,31 NIV Jesus performed many other **signs** in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. **31** But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God

Parents tell your children --- Friends tell your friends ---

This is the PURPOSE of Christmas and this is the PROMISE of Christmas that **Jesus was God Made Flesh and by believing in Him you may have life in His name**. Will you receive it today and surrender to the WORD?