

MONDAY

The *Word* Made Flesh

- Savior identified = title Messiah/Christ = both mean “Anointed One”
- Savior identified = Jesus = name given at His birth
- John starts Gospel = w/ neither title/name = called Jesus WORD

John 1:1 ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- Original Greek = two terms for WORD = LOGOS/Rhema = here/LOGOS
- Various Greek philosophers used “LOGOS” = refer to idea of logic/reason = ethereal/abstract concept
- For John = LOGOS = revelation of all truth Word of God
 - complete summation of God’s truth/wisdom/will
- For John = JESUS = complete revelation of God’s love/ salvation plan
- For John = LOGOS = PERSON

John 1:2–3 ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

- Jesus = eternal God = w/o beginning / end
- Eternal God who hears/speaks/interacts w/His people
- Jesus= CREATOR GOD = spoke things into existence by His Word

Colossians 1:15–17 ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** over all creation. ¹⁶For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

- While “firstborn” in Scripture can indicate order of birth

- in terms of covenant = firstborn refers to position of preeminence; **Exodus 4:22–23** you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD: “Israel is My son, My firstborn. So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me . . .’”
- Lord called Israel His firstborn = Israel was not first nation/ but Lord designated nation as His firstborn son of = everlasting covenant
- ranking them first in covenant relationship = as preeminent covenant son of God.

John 1:14 And the Word became 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.

- Eternal 2nd Person of Godhead /humbled Himself to take on our flesh
- By becoming one of us = entering our time/space to redeem us
- Set us free from bondage of sin
- “Dwelt among us” = means to pitch a tent
- Alluding to **Exodus 25:8** = God told Israelites to make sanctuary = tent structure = so that He could dwell in their midst
- Jesus = divine covenant Son of God = stepped into human flesh, veiling His glory so that people could come in contact w/ Him
- Becoming human so that He could be our Substitute = sacrifice

Philippians 2:6–8 ⁶who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

- Eternal Creator God= pledged Himself to be “Lamb slain from foundation of earth” (Revelation 13:8)
- John calls Him = only begotten = covenant term

- “Begotten” = in Scripture can refer to sired
- Covenant language = “Begotten” means chosen for covenant purpose

Deuteronomy 32:18 = Moses told Israel, “Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful, and have forgotten the God who fathered you”

- **Faith Chapter** = Isaac called Abraham’s “only begotten son” — meaning *unique, one-of-a-kind son of promise*
- who = rightful heir to covenant blessings

Hebrews 11:17–19 ¹⁷By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” ¹⁹concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

- Some mistakenly say Jesus was issued forth from bosom on Father, perceiving Him as inferior to the Father.
- Misguided concept based on single Scripture, **John 1:18** “The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father”
- “In the bosom” simply suggests = eternal union of love that exists in deepest intimacy of continual fellowship between Person of Jesus Christ and member of the Godhead who is known as His *Father*. (Other translations, such as the NIV, translate this phrase as “is in closest relationship with the Father” or similar.)
- Speaking of Christ, Paul says, **Colossians 2:9** “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily”
- He possesses every attribute of God—including His eternal nature.
- There was never time / when He did not exist = because He is God
- Only time He was issued forth = or *birthed* = was when He came from womb of Mary.

Dwell on the implications of what John has written here. God Himself, the Creator, became a human being, one of us, and lived here among us. (We haven't even gotten yet to His dying for us!) What does this tell us about the reality of God's love for humanity? Why should we draw so much comfort from this amazing truth