

## The Word became Flesh

### 1<sup>st</sup> Advent - In the Beginning

#### John 1:1-3

#### Christmas - What is it all about?

Love - indeed, Christ came to die

Good will - of course - announced by the Angels

Giving - for sure - God gave His Son

But what does it mean? How are we to understand His coming?

What difference do it make in our lives today?

#### *The Word became Flesh - God became a man!*

#### I. In the Beginning

Reference to **Genesis 1:1**

Meaning before creation God was already in existence

Reference to the beginning of time through Creation

**John 1:1** - Reference to beginning of Christ's work on Earth

**Was** also before creation - already in existence

God said let "US" make man in "OUR" image **Genesis 1:26**

**The Word** - the expression of thought, desire, meaning in communication - the manifestation of concept made real

##### A. Understood in the world at that time

**Greek philosophy** - a meditating principle - Plato

**Jewish Scripture** - the personification of God's revelation

**In Old Testament** - *Psalms 33:6 By the word of*

*the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.*

*Isaiah 48:13 It was my hand that laid the foundations of the earth, my right hand that spread out the heavens above. When I call out the stars, they all appear in order.*

**Here** - God's perfect revelation of Himself

*Colossians 1:15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*

*Colossians 2:9 For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.*

Four times in the New Testament **John 1:1, 14; I John 1:1 and**

**Revelation 19:13** - is Christ referred to as the Word of God

#### II. The Word was with God

This speaks of co-existence but at the same time distinction of person

Christ was with God from eternity to eternity

He was with God in creation and in the sustaining of the world

**Therefore** - Christ was not created

He is not different or inferior to God the Father

He is distinct from God but inseparable from Him

#### III. The Word was God

Correct translation from Greek (definite but not indefinite article)

**Not** He was the God - no definite article

This would mean no real distinction between the Father and the Son

**Not** He was a God - not a possibility here (no use of a certain - tis)

This would mean that God is not one but many

**BUT** He was God - thus fully and unambiguously deity and distinct from the Father

#### IV. He was in the beginning with God

Here the emphasis is on Christ as a person

He = This person, one - not just a power or spirit

#### V. He was the Agent of Creation

**In the Beginning** - All things were made - literally "became"

God spoke - the Word - and creation became

**Still today** - Apart from Him nothing came into being that **is today existing** - He created and He holds all together.

#### Summary

1. The Word - Christ - existed for all eternity

2. He is one with the Father but at the same time distinct in person

3. He was the agent of creation and is the agent of existence

4. He is fully God - not inferior or different than God the Father

5. He is the full image of God - the final Word of revelation

*Hebrews 1:2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.*

*John 14:7-9 If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you?"*

**What does it mean to us?**

**Through Christ we can understand the Word of God to us**

This was John's express purpose

*John 20:30-31 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

**Jesus is the Alpha - A and the Omega - Z and all the words formed about God are best seen in Him.**

**Jesus is truly God and His sacrifice for sin is therefore valid**

**Jesus was in existence before the world and creation and is still in existence and praying for us**