

The Gospel of John:

The Word Became Flesh (John 1:1-18)

The Word of God (v. 1-5)

- “In the beginning”: An allusion to Gen 1:1
 - Not simply the beginning of the story of Jesus’ earthly ministry (Mark 1:1) or His human life (Matt. 1, Luke 1)
 - John starts before Creation itself
- The Word (*logos*)
 - This is a term used by Stoic philosophers & the Jewish philosopher Philo
 - In the OT, the Word of God is used regarding God’s activity in creation, revelation, & salvation
- The Word:
 - Preexists creation
 - Was present with God
 - Is God
 - Is the means of creation
 - Is the source of life
 - Is the light shining to triumph over our dark world

The True Light (v. 6-13)

- God sent a harbinger in the person of John the Baptizer
 - His job was to point people to Jesus so that they might believe in Him (cf. John 20:31)
- And though He is the means of creation, the Author of life
 - Many do not recognize Him because they are trapped in darkness
 - But Some do receive/accept Him
 - To them He gives the right/authority/power (*exousia*) to live as God’s adopted children

The Word Became Flesh (v. 14-18)

- This divine Word:
 - Became human
 - “Pitched His tent” among us: A reference to God’s presence with His people through the Tabernacle
 - Revealing God’s glory
 - Gives every-renewing grace
 - Makes God known to us
- The divine Word is JESUS!

So What?

- Jesus is the divine Word of God who offers us life and light
- Have we accepted and received Him?

Mediation Verse: John 1:12

Next Week’s Scripture: John 1:19-34