

## The Word Became Flesh

John 1:14

Facilitator, Rev. Tesfaye Tamrie

### I. THE BIBLICAL CONTEXTS

- A. **Ruth 4:13-22** "... So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then, he went to her, and the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. ... Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him. The women living there said, 'Naomi has a son.' ***And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.*** This then, is the family line of Perez:

Perez was the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Aminadab, Aminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, **Boaz the father of Obed, Obed the father of Jesse, And Jesse the father of David.**"

- B. **2 Samuel 7:1-17** God promised David saying, "... When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, *I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a home for My Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ... Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before Me, your throne will be established forever.*"

- C. **Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1-16; 12:1-6**

"... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace**. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. ***He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.*** The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this" (Isa. 9:6-7). Amen!

- D. **Matthew 1:1-25 and Luke 1:26-38**

"... **This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about:** His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ... an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, '***Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from the sin.***' All this took place to fulfill what the LORD had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and they will call him Immanuel' – which means, 'God with us.'" ***And so it was!*** This is how God manifested His will and purpose in His Son! And that was how the Son of God who was with God in the **Beginning** became "**flesh**" and lived among mere human beings! ***God lived among men in the Flesh!*** He who was with God in the **Beginning** became "flesh!" He who is from everlasting to everlasting

made Himself “small enough” to fit into the womb of a human body so that He can dwell among us! That is an awesome miracle!

#### E. **John 1:1-3:**

**“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.”** We know from Genesis 1 that God spoke the universe into existence! We know God used His Word to create the Universe! Not only the Word was with God, but the Holy Spirit was with God in the beginning! Hallelujah!

The above Scriptures let us *see* how (a) Jesus Christ who is also **The Word** was with God in the **Beginning** and (b) that Jesus Christ would be **revealed in the Flesh** through David’s *lineage* according to Old Testament *Prophecies*. There are many references to Jesus Christ in the Old Testament including in Psalms (for example, Psalm 2 and Psalm 110). Today, the focus of our lesson is on the *eternal significance* in the amazing revelations – Jesus Christ – **The Word revealed in the Flesh!**

## II. **LESSON # 3: John 1:14 – The Word Became Flesh**

One of the **Ultimate Gifts of God** to the world is that He made the *Invisible visible*: The **Invisible became Visible. The Intangible became Tangible.** The One who is from everlasting to everlasting became accessible to the world in the **Flesh!** Jesus who was with God in the **Beginning was revealed to the world in the Flesh! The One and Only Son** “through [whom] all things were made, without [whom] nothing was made that has been made” became **Flesh and dwelled among humans!** The **Immortal revealed Himself in Mortal Flesh! The Eternal God became Incarnate. The Infinite made Himself Finite!** Just the thought that God who is so beyond our reach, the God who created the Universe, would bring Himself down to our level reveals to us to what length the Lord is willing to go to help us know Him. *This ought to galvanize us into serving Him with zeal and worship Him with reverence in His Church!*

Let us for a moment consider a few things to help us really understand God’s Awesome Power, Infinite Wisdom and Abundant Grace in how the Eternal made Himself small ... how God made what is IMPOSSIBLE for us POSSIBLE for our sake. Let us for a moment reflect on the awesomeness of God in terms of what is impossible for us to do to help us understand the magnitude and significance of what He did:

- Is it *possible* for us to put the **oceans** into a can of Coca Cola and seal it?
- Is it *conceivable* for us to collect all the air around the earth’s atmosphere and store it in a glass container and seal it?  
**Well, that is the kind of thing God did when He revealed Himself to us: in how **Infinity became finite** in His Son when **Eternity became **Flesh** and dwelt among men over two thousand year ago!** It is like squeezing the whole universe into a bottle of Coke!**
- As I have expressed it in the last lessons in John, it is the Mighty Hand of God which keeps the oceans, seas and lakes from emptying themselves out into space as our Earth spins around her axis and revolves around the Sun!
- It is the Awesome Power of God which keeps the oceans and the seas to remain in their places and not empty themselves over the shores of the continents and wipe out populations!

Well, that is the kind of awesome Power, Authority, Intelligence and Wisdom we are talking about when we think of God! Nature abundantly speaks of God's Power to us every day!

- Can you imagine the kind of genius and power it takes to *create* human beings who are similar in features (arms, legs, head, etc.), are *exactly* the same in nature (ability to think, do things, etc.), and yet are so uniquely distinct from each other?
- Can we think for a moment about the amazing beauty and the miraculous way a child is conceived in his or her mother's womb and develops into a unique and beautiful human being in nine months?

*These examples are just my feeble attempts to explain God's Awesome Power and Amazing Ways! Only God's Word captures and adequately explains who the Lord is and what He is capable of doing!* Only God's Glorious and Magnificent Word captures **His Divine Nature** in a way that is not overwhelming to us! *It is absolutely and infinitely insignificant thing for God to manifest Himself in the flesh!* At the same time, it is one of the most miraculous things that the Lord did for our benefit! Our Lord Jesus Christ can do exceedingly more than what we are able to see, comprehend, and imagine right now!

In **John 1:14**, the Word of God says, "***The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.*** We have seen His glory, the glory of **the One and Only**, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." Let us now examine this verse and receive the Glorious Revelations of God still available to us in **His Word**. It is so amazing how the Lord still lives with us in The Word – the Holy Bible! **He still dwells with us!** That is why the Lord said, "... ***And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age***" (Matt. 28:20). He who is seated on His throne in heaven on the right hand of God is now *invisible* to us; yet, He is still ***visible, alive, and powerful in His Word! He still saves, heals, restores, and uses sinners for His Father's Glory! He still provides and keeps all of His promises to those who love Him and live their lives according to His Word! He still dwells among us! He is an Awesome God! We serve a living God who dwells among us!***

1. **The Word dwells among us:** "***The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.***"

From Matthew and Luke, we understand *how* God manifested the **Word** in the **Flesh**. We understand how Jesus Christ "**became flesh**" through His birth in the womb of a virgin girl called Mary according to God's Plan revealed in the prophecies preserved for us in the Old Testament.

2. **God's Glory revealed in His Son, the One and Only:** "...We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, ..."

a) ***Jesus Christ is God's Glory fully disclosed.***

- **Read** Colossians 1:15-20
- **Read** Hebrews 1:1-3

b) ***Jesus Christ is God's Son, the One and Only.***

- **Read** Matthew 3:13-17 (v. 17); Matthew 17:1-5
- **Read** Ephesians 1:1-23 (vv. 18-23).

c) ***Jesus Christ, the One and Only who came from the Father.*** Jesus Christ is the One and Only who came from the Father. **There is no comparison to Jesus Christ!** This knowledge is so crucial in our present day because there are religions that claim someone other than Jesus came from God! The Muslims claim Muhammad is from God! **The Bible does not say that.** There

are many religions which claim there are other ways to God! **There is no way to God except through His Son, the One and Only Son! Only Jesus Christ came from the Father in heaven! ONLY those who believe in Jesus Christ go to the Father! The Bible says, Jesus Christ in the ONLY WAY to the Father in Heaven! Jesus Christ Himself said “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” in John 14:6. Every Christian must have a full understanding, knowledge and conviction that:**

- Only Jesus Christ was *with* God in the beginning!
- Only Jesus Christ came down *from* His Father and dwelled among us!
- Only Jesus Christ dwelled among men without sin!
- Only Jesus Christ has the authority and power to forgive sin and sinners!
- Only Jesus Christ died for the salvation of sinners!
- Only Jesus Christ was raised up from the dead!
- Only Jesus Christ ascended back to heaven to be seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven!
- Only Jesus Christ will come back to Judge the world!

3. **“The Word Became Flesh and made His dwelling among us.”** *This biblical expression is eternal.* These words expressed in **John 1:14** were true when Jesus Christ was *revealed* in the **Flesh** over and continued to be true in every generation since then! *It is true today!* It is extremely important for Christians to understand, know and be amazed by this Truth today! **The Word** continues to **dwelt with us** in God’s Word we refer to as **the Bible!** *Jesus Christ continues to dwell among us!* **God continues to speak to us every day in His Word! Jesus Christ continues to transform lives through The Word! Isn’t that amazing? Indeed The Word dwells among us!**

- *Aren’t you glad that the Word Became Flesh and walked among people?!*
- *Are you glad that the Word Became Flesh so that He can be nailed to the Cross for the sake of sinners like us?!*
- *Are you glad that the Word had the power to defeat death so that those who believe in Christ can be raised up in Him?!*
- *Are you glad that we worship and serve a God who is able to keep our Earth from spinning out of control?*
- *Are you glad that The Word keeps the sun shining every day?*
- *God still speaks to us through His Word!*
- *God continues to make Himself available to us through the Bible!*
- *The Word who was with God in the Beginning is speaking to us today!*
- *The Word is still dwelling with us today!*

### III. DISCUSSION and Q & A

1. Explain how “The Word became Flesh” in your own life. **Be specific.**
2. Explain what a **Miracle** is based on this Lesson.
3. Explain how a specific Scripture became “Flesh” in your life.
4. Based on this lesson, do you think Christians should pay more attention to studying the Bible?