



## "The Word Comes to Live Among Us"

Good Morning! How are you today?

Last week we saw Jesus as the incarnation of the Word of God who created everything (John 1:1-13). In other words, the eternal **Word** came to make his home in Jesus of Nazareth.

We continue this week with John 1:14-18.

*John 1: 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

The **Word** became a man – the man Jesus. He lived among us for a season. In Greek the word ‘dwelling’ is ἐσκήνωσεν, which means to “spread a tent”. This connects Jesus to the Tabernacle in the wilderness when the presence of God lived among the Hebrews in the tent of meeting after the Exodus from Egypt (see Exodus 25-27).

Now we learn something more – Jesus is more than the presence of God’s Word – he is God’s Son. And in his Son we see two important things: the GRACE OF GOD and the TRUTH OF GOD.

In Jesus we come face-to-face with the GRACE OF GOD: his love, mercy, and forgiveness. In Jesus we also come face-to-face with the TRUTH OF GOD: God is holy and will judge all sin and all sinners.

To preach the Jesus-Who-Is we must preach both aspects of God in Christ Jesus: his holiness and righteous judgment on sin, and his passionate desire to rescue all of us from our sin in order to live holy lives – now and forever.

*John 1: 16 Out of [Jesus’] fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

No one is saved through keeping the Law because Law (whether, Jewish law, Christian law, or Muslim law) cannot save anyone. As Paul wrote:

<sup>15</sup> “We...<sup>16</sup> know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified [saved]. [Galatians 2:15-16](#)

The climax comes with the announcement that Jesus is fully divine and fully human:

*John 1:18 No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.*

So what does this mean for the people in East Africa? For you? For me?

<sup>34</sup> For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit.

<sup>35</sup> The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. <sup>36</sup> Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them. [John 3:34-36](#)

I ask you:

- Is this the Jesus to whom you have given your life?
- Is this the Jesus you love and serve?
- Is this the Jesus you preach to others?

Then hold tight. Press in. Never look back. Finish what you've begun. By the power of the blood of Christ and your testimony, you will overcome the world, your flesh, and the devil.

This is for now. This is forever.

NEXT WEEK: More about the Jesus-Who-Is in Philippians 2: 5-11.

God bless you -

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas". The script is cursive and fluid, with the 'D' being particularly large and stylized.

Douglas Van Devender  
Team Jesus Ministries International