

The Word or Logos of God

John 1:1

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

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In this very first scripture of the gospel of John we are told that “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” But have you took the time to ask what is the meaning of the word Word that is being used here? Without all the misconceptions of traditions of men and without all of your preconceived ideas?

What if I ask you to define for me what the word Word means in the English language, can you tell me? Is not the English language that in which the King James Bible as well as many others are using today in our part of the world? So what does the word Word mean? The definition of a word is something spoken or written down on some type of paper, parchment, etc. Is it not?

So let me insert that information into the place where the Word is spoken of in this verse of scripture. In the beginning was the something said or written down, and the something said or written down was with God, and the something said or written down was God.

Do you see how taking the time to study and use the correct meaning of a word changes what it is that you are reading or studying? In this verse of scripture we know that the Word is not meaning something written down. However, it does not rule out something said or rather what encompasses the idea of what is being said by the speaker.

The free online dictionary at www.thefreedictionary.com website defines the word word as:

word (wûrd)

n.

1. A sound or a combination of sounds, or its representation in writing or printing, that symbolizes and communicates a meaning and may consist of a single morpheme or of a combination of morphemes.
2. Something said; an utterance, remark, or comment: May I say a word about that?

So again the definition of word is something spoken or written down. When one takes the time to focus upon what the gospel writer John speaks of in the very first verse of John chapter one, they should not come up with the second person in the godhead known to some as God the Son.

If you also take notice of the first verse of John chapter one you will see that it also says “In the beginning was the Word”. When was the beginning? God does not have a beginning. So is this not speaking of the beginning of the creation of God? It is. How do we know? We are told so in verse three. Let’s look at the first three verses of John chapter 1.

John 1:1-3

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

So verse three tells us explicitly that it is creation that is being referred to as the beginning. All things were made by him. Who is the him in reference to? The Word right? Does not verse one tell us “the Word was God”? So if I asked you who is the Word as read in John chapter 1 verse 1, what is the only answer you can reply as according to this scripture alone? That answer would be God. Not a God the Son nor a separate distinct personality of God, but rather clearly spoken “the Word was God”.

So what does the Word or Logos of God mean in the original Greek language? According to the Strong’s Concordance it means:

logos, log'-os; from G3004; something said (including the thought); by implication a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension a computation; specifically (with the art. in John) the Divine Expression (i.e. Christ)

Hmm. Is this not what are English word meant to us? Not sure? Let’s look again at the definition in our English language. A sound or a combination of sounds, or its representation in writing or printing, that symbolizes and communicates a meaning.

Yes, it sure is. Again, without preconceived ideas or misconceptions of the traditions of men you would never come up with the idea that with God was another person of God known as the Word. The reason why is because we were specifically told in the very first verse of John chapter one verse one “the Word was God”.

So what your mind should have registered when reading this verse of scripture, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”, is that this verse of scripture according to the correct meaning of the definitions applied is saying, in the beginning was the Word, (which was the thoughts, plan, and reasoning in the mind of God) that was put into action when He brought forth the process of creation. Is this not so?

John 1:1

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Remember according to the Apostle Paul they used great plainness of speech.

2 Corinthians 3:12

- 12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:

Do we need to know the Greek culture of the day to understand God’s Word? Do we need to know the different schools of philosophy and what they interpreted the Word or Logos of God to be to understand God’s Word?

If so, then we have a lot of learning before us of the Hebrew language of which we can not even affirm that this was the language of which was spoken before there were any Hebrews, so we would have to assume they correctly understood what those before them had done according to their culture and customs as well as learning the Greek language, the Greek culture of the day, the schools of philosophy of the day, their interpretations of the Logos as referring to their gods, and how the Roman Empire played a role within the Greek culture. Which leads us to needing to learn of the Roman Empire and the emperors of the time period and how they governed their empire and how each head or governor followed after the orders of Caesar, as well as how Christians were persecuted under these emperors and how this played a major role in the Apologists of the early church father's writings as well as which school of philosophy had each Apologist more closely adhered to before writing his Apologetic work in defense of the Christian faith.

Aren't you glad we don't have to do this in order to understand the Word of God?

Let us now look at what the Apostle John also wrote in first John chapter one.

1 John 1:1

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

Stop. Again you see that the time reference of creation is spoken of. Notice very carefully however that after speaking of seeing and touching that which was from the beginning, the Apostle John explicitly says that he was "of the Word of life". This is a very big point. He did not say that he was the Word of life, but rather he was "of the Word of life" Who was the Word according to John chapter one verse one? Do you remember? Answer: "the Word was God".

So the reason why the Apostle John did not say that Jesus was the Word of life is because the Word was not made flesh before creation began. So in regards to the humanity of Christ, he was "of the Word of life". Jesus was fully man and fully God. So the flesh of God is "of the Word of life" whereas the divinity of Christ was the Word of life. Not sure? Look at verse two of first John chapter one, as well as verse four chapter one of the gospel of John of which was also speaking of the Word of God, as well as first John chapter five verse twenty.

1 John 1:2

2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

So just like the Apostle said in the gospel of John chapter one verse one, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God", we also now see that of which was with God was eternal life and that eternal life was manifested unto us. Thus why the Apostle John said that he was "of the Word of life".

John 1:4

4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Remember this verse of scripture was speaking of the Word that “was with God, and the Word was God”. “And the Word was made 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.” (John 1:14)

However when speaking of the divinity of Christ the Apostle John tells us that Jesus Christ “is the true God, and eternal life.”

1 John 5:20

20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

So let us now look at the first three verses of first John chapter one.

1 John 1:1-3

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Notice carefully that verse three does not mention the Holy Ghost. Why would the Apostle John leave out the third person of the Trinity as part of the fellowship of the believers if there was a Trinity? The answer: there isn't a Trinity. This was a development over time of philosophers of men who could not discern the Word of God.

2 Corinthians 5:19

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Who was in Christ? God was.

Matthew 1:23

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Who was with us? God was.

Galattians 4:4

4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

When was the Word made flesh? “When the fulness of the time was come”.

John 1:14

14 And the Word was made 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.

Who was the Word? “The Word was God”. Who was in Christ? God was. Who was with us? God was.

John 3:34

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

Who is the Spirit? “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24)

Colossians 2:8-10

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

The fullness of the Godhead which is the Spirit (for God is a Spirit and God gave his Spirit to Jesus without measure because Jesus was God with us and yet fully man at the same time) and thus you have the fullness of the Godhead dwelling in the body of Christ not a plurality of persons of God dwelling in the body of Christ. “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power”.

This is why the Apostle John said “truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.” (1 John 1:3)

This is also what Jesus meant when he according to his humanity prayed to the eternal Spirit of God that we “all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us”. (John 17:21)

John 17:20-21

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me {God is a Spirit}, and I in thee {Jesus was fully man and fully God}, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

How are Jesus and the Father one? They are one in body and one in Spirit as well as one in name and one in truth!

Jesus is God and Jesus is one with God in truth, in name, in body, and in Spirit. We become one in Jesus by the truth when we receive the Holy Ghost or the Spirit of Truth. This Spirit of Truth,

the Holy Ghost, gives us access to the body of Christ of which we become “members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.” (Ephesians 5:30) “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:13)

Ephesians 4:4-6

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.