

THE WORD

December 1, 2025 | Genesis 1:1-3; John 1:1-3, 14

The Word Was God

The gospel of *John* opens with a beautiful and profound prologue or introduction .

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being... The Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." *John 1:1-3, 14a*

John immediately makes a connection for us — Jesus and the God of creation are the same individual. The phrase "in the beginning" is a link to the opening verse of the Bible, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (*Gen. 1:1*). Jesus, whom John calls "the Word," was in the beginning with God.

How is that possible if Jesus was born in Bethlehem? It's possible because Jesus — the Word — was (is) God Himself. In other words, Jesus already existed before He was "born" in Bethlehem. In fact, He once said, "Before Abraham was born (which was 2500 years earlier), I am" (*Jn.* 8:58).

What? Now we begin to see why John's prologue is so profound.

There's more. Since God is the Creator of heaven and earth, and God is three persons in one — the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit — then all three persons comprise the Creator God, a concept we call the Trinity.

Is there evidence of the Trinity in the creation account? Yes. The first mention of God is found in the first verse of the Bible, "In the beginning *God...*" (*Gen. 1:1*). The Hebrew word for God is *Elohim*, which is plural. Of course, the word *Elohim* does not imply that we worship several gods, but rather that God is trinitarian in nature, three in one.

There is more evidence of God's trinitarian nature a few verses later in the creation account. The Lord says, "Let Us make man in Our image..." (*Gen. 1:26*). If God was unitarian in nature (only one person), instead of three in one, then it would be unnecessary to use the words *Us* and *Our*.

We know that God the Father participated in creation, but what about the Spirit and the Son? *Genesis 1:2* says, "The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the *Spirit of God* was moving over the surface of the waters." Here is evidence that the Spirit was present at and participating in creation. But what about Jesus?

Genesis 1:3 says, "Then God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Here is evidence that Jesus was present at and participating in creation. What? Where?

God *said*, "Let there be light." He spoke, and things existed. God created all things through His Word(s). Jesus was (and is) the Word. Remember, John wrote, "The Word was God, and the Word was with God" (*Jn. 1:1, 2*). The Word is Jesus.

John also wrote, "All things came into being through Him — through Him — and apart from Him nothing came into being..." (*Jn. 1:3*). So then, Jesus was (and is) God, who eternally pre-existed and who actively participated in creation. Jesus is the Word of God. "All things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together" (*Col. 1:16, 17; Heb. 1:2*).

Okay, but what does this have to do with Christmas? "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (*Jn.* 1:14a).

The Word Became Flesh

Since Jesus was the member of the Godhead through which creation came to be (the Word), then Jesus was (and is) the intermediary, or mediator, between God and the world. A mediator is a go-between two separated parties.

In our case, sin separates us from God, and there is nothing we can do to bridge the gap between us. No amount of good works will work. In fact, in our sinful state, we deserve God's judgment and punishment, which is eternal separation from Him. In other words, without a mediator, our situation is hopeless.

But there is hope! Paul wrote, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men—the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 2:5). The writer of Hebrews added, "Jesus [is] the mediator of a new covenant..." (Heb. 9:15; 12:24).

But wait! For Jesus to be a mediator between God and mankind, He must represent both sides, and He does. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit (who is God), but He was born of a woman (who is human). Therefore, Jesus was the Godman, the perfect mediator.

Not only was Jesus the intermediary at creation, but after the Fall (when sin ruined everything), Jesus became the intermediary between God and sinful people. He is the go-between who offers

a path of reconciliation, for us to be in right standing (without sin) with our holy God.

How did Jesus mediate a reconciliation between God and sinful humanity? He did it by taking on flesh, just like us, living a sinless life, paying our penalty for sin by His death on the cross, and thereby facilitating a new creation in salvation. The Bible says that He exchanged His righteousness for our sinfulness. "God made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21).

John described it this way, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (*Jn. 3:16*).

So then, back to the manger. What Child is this? The baby is the Creator God — the Word — who became like us (human) so that we might become like Him (without sin).

The Word is the Mediator of the new creation of our salvation! Apart from His mediation, there is no other way to be saved.

Ponder and Pray

Wow, we waded through some deep truths today. For which aspect of the Word are you most grateful? Why?

Take time to thank God for the Word, for His role in creation and for His role in the new creation of salvation.

Have you missed some days? Click <u>here</u> to access previously emailed devotions.

The reading plan and devotions were developed by Aaron Ferguson, one of our Elders and author of the Study Guide and Daily Reflections for the One Year Chronological Reading of the Bible and the New Testament. For more details, visit his website at **BiAY.org**.









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