

## Christmas Reflection

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

These have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

(John 20:31)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

<sup>6</sup> There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but *he came* to testify about the light.

<sup>9</sup> There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

<sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> John \*testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'" <sup>16</sup> For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.

(John 1:1-18)

## The Word Became Flesh

Q: Why use "the Word"?

- In the OT God's word is His self-expression in creation, salvation and revelation
- God's ultimate self-disclosure is in the person of His own Son

## The Word Became Flesh

1. He had no beginning

- at the beginning of all things the Word was already existing

## The Word Became Flesh

2. He was with God
- implies a distinction and a unique relationship of the Word with God (Father/Son)

## The Word Became Flesh

3. He was God
- the Word was the very same essence as God – equal in every respect, yet distinct

## The Word Became Flesh

4. He was the agent of creation
- every created thing that exists came into being through the Word

## The Word Became Flesh

5. He was (and is) the source of life and light
- Jesus is the true source of revelation of God and relationship to Him
  - the coming of this true light (Jesus) into the world divides all humanity – those who reject Him and those who receive Him

<sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,

<sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.