



## Gospel of John 1-12

### The Word: The Logos of God

The opening section of John's gospel expresses the most profound truth in the universe.

Though easily understood by a child, John's Spirit-inspired words convey a truth beyond the ability of the greatest minds in human history to fathom: the eternal, infinite God became a man in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### A. The Word and God *John 1:1-2*

##### 1. In the beginning was the Word: [:1a]

The Word existed from all eternity! — Unlike *Gen 1:1* which focuses on a specific event—*John 1:1a* views the state of affairs already existing at creation. The Word already was!

##### 2. And the Word was with God: [:1b]

The Word has face-to-face fellowship with God the Father!

Jesus spoke of a glory given Him by His Father “before the creation of the world” (*17:24*). John's entire gospel, presents the Word as One who, from eternity, has enjoyed profound intimacy with God.

##### 3. And the Word was God: [:1c]

The Word is God! — That simple statement, is perhaps the clearest and most direct declaration of the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ to be found anywhere in Scripture.

##### 4. He was in the beginning with God: [:2]

The deity of the Word is a nonnegotiable element of true faith!

John restates the profound truths of verse 1 in verse 2. The Word (Jesus) already was in existence in the beginning when everything else was created.

#### B. The Word and the World *John 1:3-5*

##### 1. The Word creates the world: [:3]

The Word, created everything! John underscored that truth by repeating it negatively; apart from Him nothing (*lit.*, “not even one thing”) came into being that has come into being. That Jesus Christ created everything (*see Col 1:16; Heb. 1:2*) is a further proof of His deity. The Creator of all things must Himself be uncreated, and only the eternal God is uncreated. Sadly—the Word's creation was marred by sin.

##### 2. The Word gives life to the world: [:4]

The Word is the Light of the world! Creation is still the backdrop to this verse—the Word gave life to Adam (mankind). However, that life was both physical and spiritual by the breath (*Ruach*) of God. The Word provides ‘light’ (direction-understanding-revelation) to every man that has ever been born. (See *Romans 1*)

##### 3. The Word overcomes the world. [:5]

The Word dispels the darkness of the world: The Word ‘comprehended’ in the Greek means to conquer or overcome. Darkness (spiritual) entered into the world through the sin of Adam and Eve—original sin. It is the Light—the Word—that overcomes the darkness through the shed blood of the Lamb of God.

**Is the Word your life?** Is Jesus your Light—have you received His life in your heart? You were made in His image and He desires to free you from sin and transform you into the person He intended you to be from the beginning. In Him you have overcome the world!

#### John 1:1-5 (NKJV)

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

**2** He was in the beginning with God.

**3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

**4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**5** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

## λόγος

The concept of the **Word** (**logos**) has meaning for both Jews and Greeks. To the Greek philosophers, the *logos* was the impersonal, abstract principle of reason and order in the universe. John presented Jesus as the personification and embodiment of the *logos*. Unlike the Greek concept, however, Jesus was not an impersonal source, force, principle, or emanation. In Him, the true *logos* who was God became a man—a concept foreign to Greek thought.

**To the Jews** the **Word** of the Lord was the expression of divine power and wisdom. By His word God introduced the Abrahamic covenant, gave Israel the Ten Commandments, attended the building of Solomon's temple, revealed God to Samuel. John presented Jesus to his Jewish readers as the incarnation of divine power and revelation. He initiated the new covenant, instructs believers, unites them into a spiritual temple, revealed God to man, and directs His church through those whom He has raised up to lead it.