



International Bible Lesson
International Bible Study Commentary
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The Power of the Word
John 1:1-14

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. (John 1:14—KJV)

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14—NASB)

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14—NRSV)

The Book of Genesis reveals that God created the world by speaking words that people can understand. The Gospel of John reveals that all things came into being through the Word, and before God created anything, the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word continued as the life and light of all people. Unhappily, even though the Word was in the world, the world did not know God. Because people did not understand the full truth about God from the light of the Word, God the Word came into the world in human flesh to explain more than the people of that time could understand.

John explained that the Word came and lived among His own people, the Jews. More explicitly, the Word was Jesus the Messiah, the only begotten Son of God. Jesus came to give everyone who would receive Him the power to become children of God. By His glorious actions and words, Jesus, the Son of God, revealed the facts that God is full of grace and truth. By grace, the unmerited favor of God, God loves to pour out His blessings upon those who deserve His punishment.

By grace, God offers eternal life in His family to all who believe in the name of Jesus; which means, “God saves.” After His crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to explain further the Word of God written, the Bible. The New Testament further reveals that Jesus, the Son of God, is God, and the one true God is three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thinking Further

1. What does John say about the Word?
2. Of what value is light? Compare the Son of God to the sun of our Earth.
3. What important truths does John tell about John the Baptist?
4. What does Jesus do for those who receive Him?
5. Why do you think John insisted “the Word became flesh.”