

# The Divine Word<sup>1</sup>

*John 1:1-3*

The three opening verses of the gospel according to John present us with a startling concept. The concept of the deified Word. John personifies the Word already in existence at the beginning of time, therefore having existed in eternity before the dawn of history. This Word, he says, coexisted with God, and was God. The Word was, or more correctly is equal with God in all the divine attributes of God, but a separate person of Divinity. "God with God," he says in verse one.

And of this Word John says, "All things were made by Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." Here is the Word of creative power by which all things were spoken into existence. John's statement fits with the creation account in Genesis 1. There we are repeatedly confronted with the phrase, "Then God said,..," followed in each case by the fresh, new existence of that which His Word created.

Who is this Divine Word of whom John speaks? It is not John the Baptist. Verse six and following tell us clearly it is not him. John was sent by God to be only a witness of the Word, a messenger. Of course, John, was merely a man. The Word was divine. But, who? The author does not leave us long in doubt. Verse fourteen says, "...the Word became flesh and dwelt among us," that is, among men. His glory was seen by human eyes, the glory of an only Son begotten from the Heavenly Father.

Jesus was a man born of woman in the city of Nazareth. He was God who became flesh and walked among men, and by His resurrection from the dead He proved for all time His Divine nature. The Son of God. Himself God. The Word in the beginning. John begins his gospel with this powerful concept, then finds occasion to revisit the divinity of Jesus several times throughout the book.

The writer of the Hebrew letter also prefaces his great message with this very thought. Listen. "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;..." Hebrews 1:1, 2

In this startling fact that the Word was God there is a great lesson that touches the life of every person today. That lesson is simply that we need to listen to Jesus. He is the Divine Word, the Word of power able to create and destroy. He is the Word able to save. By listening to the divine Word we will find freedom from all sin and strife, and share in heavenly blessings beyond comprehension.

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpted from Charlie Brackett's *We Have Seen the Lord*, p. 3, (2007) Clarion Word Publishing, Chattanooga, TN.