

So the Message became flesh, took on human form, and came to dwell among us (Matthew 1:23; Romans 8:3; Philippians 2:5–11).

The Greeks used the word *logos* to refer to one's "mind," "reason," or "wisdom." John used this Greek concept to communicate the fact that Jesus, the Second Person of the Trinity, is the self-expression of God to the world. In the Old Testament, the word of God brought the universe into existence (Psalm 33:6) and saved the needy (Psalm 107:20). In chapter 1 of his Gospel, John is appealing to both Jew and Gentile to receive the eternal Christ.

Jesus told a parable in Luke 20:9–16 to explain why the Word had to become flesh. "A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. He sent still a third, and they wounded

him and threw him out.

"Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.' But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. 'This is the heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others."

In this parable, Jesus was reminding the Jewish leaders that they had rejected the prophets and were now rejecting the Son. The *Logos*, the Word of God, was now going to be offered to everyone, not just the Jews (John 10:16; Galatians 2:28; Colossians 3:11). Because the Word became flesh, we have a high priest who is able to empathize with our weaknesses, one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin (Hebrews 4:15).

Recommended Resource:
The Moody Handbook of Theology
by Paul Enns



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What does it mean that the Word became flesh (John 1:14)?

The term word is used in different ways in the Bible. In the New Testament, there are two Greek words translated "word": *rhema* and *logos*. They have slightly different meanings. *Rhema* usually means "a spoken word." For example, in Luke 1:38, when the angel told Mary that she would be the mother of God's Son, Mary replied, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word [*rhema*]."

Logos, however, has a broader, more philosophical meaning. This is the term used in John 1. It usually implies a total message, and is used mostly in reference to God's message to mankind. For example, Luke 4:32 says that, when Jesus taught the people, "they were amazed at his teaching, because his words [*logos*] had authority." The people were amazed not merely by the particular words Jesus chose but by His total message.

"The Word" (*Logos*) in John 1 is referring to Jesus. Jesus is the total Message—everything that God wants to communicate to man. The first chapter of John gives us a glimpse inside the Father/Son relationship before Jesus came to earth in human form. He preexisted with the Father (verse 1), He was involved in the creation of everything (verse 3), and He is the "light of all mankind" (verse 4). The Word (Jesus) is the full embodiment of all that is God (Colossians 1:19; 2:9; John 14:9). But God the Father is Spirit. He is invisible to the human eye. The message of love and redemption that God spoke through the prophets had gone unheeded for centuries (Ezekiel 22:26; Matthew 23:37). People found it easy to disregard the message of an invisible God and continued in their sin and rebellion.

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Future Dates to Remember

December 6th	Local leaders prayer meeting at Feltham EC
December 8th	Stall at Cranford infant and junior school fair
December 9th	ANSWER in GENESIS conference
December 15th	Children Christmas party 6pm
December 16th	Christmas Carols at RAJ CARE HOME, Southall
December 19th	Christmas Carol Service at Heathrow IRC 7pm
December 24th	Church Carol Service
December 25th	Christmas Day service and lunch

This Month's Speakers

December 3rd	Family worship and God willing Ian Day will be preaching. After the service, we will have fellowship lunch on bring and share basis. A crèche is also available for toddlers during the second part of the service.
December 10th	God willing Pastor Robin Asgher will be preaching and leading the service. The service will be followed by the Lord's Supper.
December 17th	God willing Pastor Robin Asgher will be preaching and leading the service. Baptism class 5pm.
December 24th	God willing Pastor Robin Asgher will be preaching and leading the service. Sunday evening service 5pm
December 25th	God willing Pastor Robin Asgher will be preaching and leading the service.
December 31st	God willing Pastor Robin Asgher will be preaching and leading the service.

Weekly Meetings

Sundays	Morning Service <i>We thank God that He is a faithful God. We do not take up an offering during the service. Our offering box is located at the back of the church.</i>	11:00am
Monday	Open-Air Preaching	Once a month
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting at Church Prayer Meeting at Local Detention Centre	10:00 - 11:00am and 8:00 - 9:00pm 12:00 - 3:00pm
Thursday	Pastor's Rest Day	
Friday	Klub 4 Kidz (Ages 4-10) Javan Group (Ages 11-up)	6:00 - 7:15pm 7:15 - 8:15pm
Saturday	Home Groups (Once a month)	Ask Robin for further information

If you are interested in any of these meetings or would like further information, please contact **Robin Asgher 020 8754 1184**

Points for Prayer

We believe that the Scriptures call on churches as well as individual believers to pray fervently, reverently, humbly, sincerely, regularly and with faith (Luke 21:36 Watch therefore and pray always; James:16 The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much).

Please pray for Christmas leaflet distribution and pray for good response from the local community.

Please pray as for the first time we will be holding ANSWER in GENESIS conference. We are hoping to distribute invitations and poster in the local schools. Please pray for good response.

Please pray for Linda, Muno and Ency leading Sunday school. Every first Sunday of the month school teacher has decided to keep children in the service. Please pray for our children as they hear God's word and that they may respond to the Lord.

Please pray for Muno, Ency, Shyler, Carol and Anthony helping with the Friday kids club. We are encouraged with the attendance about 30 children attending. For talk time we have to divide children into two groups.

Please pray as we have been invited to join in a school Christmas Fayre. Pray for gospel opportunities with parents and children.

Missionary Interest

Please pray for the work of the Carol service at Heathrow IRC on Dec 19th.

Please pray for Rev Patrick Wright who is in charge of chaplain team will be leading and organising the service. At the service there will be carol singing and Bible reading various different languages and a Christmas message.

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, being small among the clans of Judah, out of you one will come forth to me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting." **Micah 5:2**

"Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. You will be faithful to Jacob, and show love to Abraham, as you pledged on oath to our ancestors in days long ago." **Micah 7:18-20**

Are you giving to Cranford BC via the Gift Aid scheme?

The Gift Scheme is for gifts of money by individuals who pay UK tax. If you do and give, say, £10 using Gift Aid, Cranford BC can claim an extra £2.50 from HMRC. (It works with smaller-and larger-amounts as

well). Then have a word with Tony Sansom who will get you to complete a simple form.

We are grateful for your support and thank you for your support for the work of the Lord Jesus Christ at Cranford BC.

Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.