

"THE WORD MADE FLESH"**Introduction**

1. We refer to this as the Prologue: v.1-18
2. It is special to John (Compare 1 John 1)
3. The subject is the Birth of Christ
OBSERVE: How different from man's view!

1. WE ARE FIRST TOLD WHAT CHRIST WAS

- 1) We note the first part of the 4 gospels
- 2) Here: "In the beginning": eternity past
- 3) John tells us that Jesus is God:
 - (i) "with God" = "face to face with God"
 - (ii) "was God": NOT "a god" (Explain)
 - (iii) "all things made by him": conclusive
 - (iv) "the light of men": revelation
 - (v) "darkness": the Fall and sin
 - (vi) the preparatory ministry of John
- 4) So, all who ever have known God have done so only by Christ, who reveals Him.
APPLICATION: Do you see it: Christ is God!

PSALM**40: 5 – 8****56: 1 – 7****118: 6 – 10****2. WE ARE THEN TOLD WHAT CHRIST BECAME**

- 1) What did this Son of God become?
ANS. "flesh", i.e. he took our nature
- 2) "flesh": means manhood: body + soul, i.e. our nature: mind, will, affections, etc.
DEF. He is God and man in two natures and yet one Person: the God-Man.

- 3) Christ is unique – none like Him.
- 4) This is the most stupendous miracle:
He became what he was but without ceasing to be what he was".
- 5) All this was in fulfillment of prophecy:
 - (i) Gen. 3:15
 - (ii) Isa. 7:14
 - (iii) Isa. 9:6
 - (iv) Mic. 5:2

OBSERVE: We here see the wondrous love of God.**APPLICATION**: O what a kindness – to give us Christ!**3. WE ARE TO SEE IN THIS THE DIVINE PURPOSE**

- 1) Christ "dwelt among us" – displayed his glory – revealed the character of God..."
OBSERVE: People say, "We don't know about God". Let people study the Person + work of Christ.
- 2) The Divine Purpose is here fulfilled:
 - (i) Christ is the Last Adam
 - (ii) "full of grace and truth"
 - (iii) both are needed by us sinners
- 3) We must appreciate how great a change this world was for Christ:
 - (i) the way of sinners v. love of angels;
 - (ii) the temptations of Satan v. glory + honour
 - (iii) the frailty of manhood v. absolute Godhead
 - (iv) the shadow of the cross v. endless joy
- 4) Why did He then come into the world?
 - (i) to save us in his great love
 - (ii) to take us with himself to glory
 - (iii) to glorify God's grace to poor, dying sinners.

CONCLUSION

O what a kindness! No wonder the angels so sang!