

“The Word”

by Wayne Goff

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.” ~ John 1:1-3

Logos

“**Word**” is the translation of the diverse Greek word “logos” which can mean “word, speech, message, argument; book, volume.” So I am quite convinced that we will never fully understand the use of this word as it is applied to Jesus Christ.

It is an appropriate term because God “spoke” the world into existence and Jesus was “*the Word*” spoken. Therefore, all things were made by Jesus Christ, the Father’s creating Agent.

Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon gives a definition which hints at the complexity of meaning behind “logos.”

“In several passages in the writings of John ‘the logos’ denotes the essential Word of God, i.e. the personal ... wisdom and power in union with God, his minister in the creation and government of the universe, the cause of all the world’s life both physical and ethical, which for the procurement of man’s salvation put on human nature in the person of Jesus the Messiah and shone forth conspicuously from his words and deeds: **John 1:1, 14.**”

In addition to this, He is “*the Word of Life*” (**1 John 1:1**) because all things were made by Him (**John 1:3**). He is also “*The Word of God*” (**Rev. 19:13**) because as God He has the first and final say in everything.

“*The Word,*” in the flesh, revealed “*the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth*” (**Jn. 1:14**). So perfect a revelation of the Father is Jesus Christ that He proclaimed to Philip that “*He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’*” (**Jn. 14:9**). The Hebrew writer agrees with John when he wrote: “*who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person,...*” (**Heb. 1:3**). “*Express image*” means “absolute identical.” We might express it between a father and son today when we say that the son is the “spitting image of his father.” Again **Joseph H. Thayer** says of the Greek word translated “*express image*” that it is “the exact expression (the image) of any person or thing,... precise reproduction in every respect.” Indeed, if you have seen Jesus Christ in the flesh, then you have seen the Father!

“*No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him*” ~ **John 1:18**.

Finally, “*grace and truth came through Jesus Christ*” (**Jn. 1:17**). God’s undeserved favor bestowed on mankind through the blood of Jesus Christ and the absolute truth of things eternal belongs with Jesus Christ. Let God be true and every man a liar (**Romans 3:4**)! Those who would contend with Jesus’ message of truth are absolutely wrong. That is why Jesus is “*The Word*” — the final word.

Other Nuances

This article cannot begin to express the varied meanings of the Greek word “logos.” But every expression of it is an expression of Jesus Christ as well. So let me finish by briefly pointing out some of these other uses and you can reflect on what more they tell us about Jesus:

- * “a word, ... language; uttered by the living voice.”
- * “a saying, a declaration.”
- * “discourse, speech, dialogue.”
- * “Objectively, what is communicated by instruction: *doctrine*.”
- * “*anything reported in speech: a narrative, narration.*”
- * “discussion.”
- * “*thing spoken of or talked about; event, deed.*”
- * “*reason, the mental faculty of thinking, meditating, ...once of the Divine mind, Heb. 4:12.*”

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