

The Word Became Flesh!

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John 1:14

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A Most Profound Verse

- Well known verse today, but radical ideas for John's day
- For the Greek mind idea of God becoming flesh was impossible
- In Greek philosophy - body (material) was evil, a prison house for the soul
- for them a Demiurge created so God didn't have to get 'near' material
- against heresy of Docetism - Jesus only 'appeared or seemed to be'
- John's theology is clear and radical for the day!
- WCF 8.2: *The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance, and equal with the Father, did, when the fulness of time was come, take upon him man's nature, with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin: being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only mediator between God and man.*

The Tabernacling of God

- John uses a verb form of Greek word for tabernacle - *pitch a tent*
- God tabernacled among Israel after rescuing them from Egypt^{Ex25:31}
- Tabernacle : outer courtyard; the Holy Place; Most Holy Place
- Everything about tabernacle was symbolic reality of Jesus Christ
- Tabernacle for Israel's wilderness journey - temporary^{Mt8:20}; world not home
- Tabernacle was humble in appearance - animal skins & boards - Jesus^{Ls53:2}
- Tabernacle place where God met with men^{Ex25:21-22}; in middle of camp^{Num1:50;2:17} Just as Jesus to be in the center of the life of the believer
- Place where law preserved & sacrifice made. 2nd tablets in ark^{Dt10:2-5}.
Sacrifices made to atone for sins of lawbreaking. Sinless Jesus=>Cross

Jesus Reveals God's Glory

- Jesus reveals glory - God's glory
- At tabernacle - God's glory was present^{Ex40:34-38;Num9:15-23}
- God came in the flesh so we can know God & see His glory^{Heb1:3}
- John's gospel reveals Jesus' glory^{2:11;5:44;7:18;8:50,54;11:40;12:23,28,41;17:1-5,22-24}

Full of Grace and Truth

- Tabernacle: place where law preserved & sacrifices atoned temporarily
- Jesus came in the flesh to fulfill and replace
- God revealed to Adam the wages of sin was death^{Gen2:17;Rm6:23}
- Adam choose poorly & curse of sin came upon all creation^{Rm8:19} & men
- Law breaking is a serious offense before a Holy God^{Hab1:13!}
- God's Holiness demands justice^{Rm6:23}
- God sent the Word become Flesh full of grace and truth!
- Jesus showed and lived^{Heb4:15} God's truth (law) as 2nd Adam^{Rm5:12-21;1Co15:45-49}
- God so loved the world that He gave His only Son^{Jn3:16} = God's grace
- Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world^{Jn1:29}
- Moses wanted to see God's glory^{Ex33:18-20}
- God's glory & grace revealed through Jesus^{Gal4:4-5}
- Believe & rest in Jesus' for your salvation^{Jn20:31;2Cor4:6;Jn1:12-13}