

Wired Word
December 2009

John 1

The Word Became Flesh

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

I can only imagine that in the year 1900, folks considered anything “twentieth century” to mean new age, contemporary, or the end all be all of what was going on at the moment. Yet today, the twentieth century is considered incredibly passé, old news, and basically lacking value for a flat world that moves beyond the speed of light and is lived in an available in an immediate way experience. Time has an effect on words. The words are spelled the same, maintain their definition, yet the moment seems to transmit a completely different reaction.

Words seem to have and carry a great deal of emotional strength in our lives. Based on your life history, experiences, childhood, or present situation, words have the power to hurt or heal, offend or connect, start an argument or build a bridge.

It seems that we each have a movie screen inside our heads and when the word is read or comes in our ears a terrific experience takes place between our ears. The lights go down, the screen lights up, and an entire reel runs with the utterance or script of that word.

The author of John certainly knew the power of words. God, who created the world with a word, reaches its greatest significance for man in The Gospel according to St. John where it recorded that “Word became flesh and lived among us.” No longer limited to speech, God’s word actually takes the form of flesh, becomes incarnate and expresses for us through Jesus, God’s grace and truth. Jesus demonstrates for us clearly through deed and action that which God desires from us.

Receiving grace means accepting God’s love. Along with receiving God’s grace comes believing God’s truth. God can change our lives and make us love in a way that he loves.

One of the greatest examples of words becoming more than something you hear and read was demonstrated by Martin Luther King Jr. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose birthday we will celebrate next month, certainly shocked our society with a profoundly simple and truthful Christian message. In a Sunday morning sermon at Montgomery’s Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, King was preaching about Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. He concluded with the words, “As I look into your eyes and into the eyes of all my brothers in Alabama and all over America and over the world, I say to you, ‘I love you. I would rather die than hate you.’”

In closing out another year and another decade, I hope that these words will remain strong and important your lives. And that Jesus, the word made flesh gives us each the example of grace and truth that shares the love of God in your world.

Sources:

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