

The Word Became Flesh 2018-10-14

John 1:14a

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us

For us this verse is commonplace/ho-hum but new and startling when 1st written.

- “gods” disguised as humans but never God become truly human.
 - Every major cult/heresy deviated/erred with regard to Jesus Christ’s deity or humanity or relationship between His two natures. Acts 14:11, John 1:1, 1:14a, 1 John 4:2

Flesh = *sarx* carries no negative or evil attributes = human nature.

- eternal Word took upon Himself our full human nature without sinfulness—.
 - Forever both God and man in one person....but not always in weakened human condition....now has new resurrected body.
 - “incarnation” Latin = “God incorporated in flesh.”

God became man without ceasing to be God. Isaiah 9:6, Matthew 1:23, Colossians 2:9.

It is by far the most amazing miracle of the entire Bible—far more amazing than the resurrection and more amazing even than the creation of the universe. The fact that the infinite, omnipotent, eternal Son of God could become man and join Himself to a human nature forever, so that infinite God became one person with finite man, will remain for eternity the most profound miracle and the most profound mystery in all the universe.
Wayne Grudem

- Not God minus some elements of deity, but unfallen humanity added to deity.
 - some divine attributes voluntarily restrained and His full glory was veiled
- Not divine man, human God, God in a man, not part man and part God but fully, completely God and fully/completely human united in one person forever.
- Two natures united without mixture and each nature retained all own attributes.
 - Two sets of capacities for experience, expression and action.
 - We feel cold with our body yet pray with our mind and still one person.

One nature do things other nature did not do. Matthew 8:26-27, Hebrews 4:15, James 1:13

- omnipotent and tired, omniscient and learn, held everything together (Colossians 1:17) and dependent infant, eternal and died
 - All true about Jesus just depends which nature speaking of.
 - Incomprehensible how two natures of Jesus interact. Intell arrogance.

Jesus’ humanity not temporary but His stay on earth was. 1:14b, Exodus 25:8-9

- recalled Old Testament tabernacle/tent of meeting....place God dwelt with His people in wilderness.
 - Everything about tabernacle (dimension, furnishings, functions, order) preview functions Jesus fulfills when among us. compare

Jesus pitched his tent among us, so we might see Him and thus come to know God.

- Provided example of how to live a life fully pleasing to Father and gives power to live that way. 1 John 2:6, John 13:15, 1 Peter 2:21, Luke 4"1-2, Hebrews 4:15-16, 2:18
- Able to understand, empathize and help us.
 - Jesus experienced all we experience— trials, struggles, joys, pain, frustrations, sufferings, tired, thirsty, grief, betrayal, death.
 - Not tempt from sin within but from sin without, world and Satan.
 - More volume/intense temptation than us. He strength to deliver

Incarnation beyond our comprehension but it's at heart of Christianity.

- Made possible atonement. Philippeans 2:7-8, Galatians 4:4-5, Hebrews 2:17, Romans 5:17-19
 - To save men need perfect sacrifice; sinless man to die for others' sins.
- That's why incarnation is the second greatest truth.....Greatest is this God who became man loved us enough to die for us personally.
 - Jesus Christ is fully God and perfectly man. He is God with us, for us, in us.