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Study: Christmas 2004 File: D041201

SCRIPTURE BECAME FLESH

During the next four Wednesday bible studies, we will study the following Christmas lessons.

- **Dec. 1** Scripture Became Flesh John 1:14
- Dec. 8 Seed Became Flesh Rom.1;1-4
- Dec. 15 –Son became flesh Rom.8:3-4
- Dec. 22 Savior Became flesh Luke 2:9-11

Today's lesson has an interesting Christmas title taken from John 1:14 - SCRIPTURE BECAME FLESH. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld, His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."

We will study our lesson text by the following five homiletical points.

- Word became (ginomai / a.m.ind) flesh (John 1:1-3; Rev.19: 13).
- World dwelt (skenoo/ a.a.ind. / tent or tabernacle) among us (John 1:10-13; 1 John 5:4-7).
- Witness we beheld (theomai / a.m.ind) His glory (1 John 1:1-4).
- Wonder glory *as* (*hos* / *comparative particle*) the only begotten (monogenes) from the Father (Matt.1: 23; 1 John 4:9).
- Worthy full of grace and truth (John 1:17).

This lesson will study SIX aspects of the SCRIPTURE BECAME FLESH.

1. John explained the pre-existence of Christ as the eternal Word of God (ho logos).

John used four imperfect indicative EIMI verbs (ASQ of existence) to teach this principle (1:1-2).

- In the beginning was (eimi) the Word,
- And the Word was (eimi) with God,
- And the Word was (eimi) God.
- He was (eimi) in the beginning with God.

"Thus the Word existed before the beginning, since He has always existed. With Him there is no beginning. He is eternal and everlasting." (Renaissance of NT, vol.4, pg.2)

"Ho logos is the term applied to the Son of God who became incarnate as Mary's baby as John 1:14 makes clear." (Ren.NT, vol.4, pg.5)

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

2. John teaches that eternal time was split into halves with the historical advent of Christ into the world.

With the historical coming of Christ into the world, eternal time was divided into eternity past and eternity future in the plan of God (John 5:22-30).

With the historical coming of Christ into the world, historical time was divided into first advent and Second Advent of Christ in the plan of God.

Eternity past – <u>First Coming of Christ and Second Coming of Christ</u> - eternity future. Canonization of SCRIPTURE

Until the Word became flesh, there was no clear Scriptural distinction between the First and Second Coming of Christ (Acts 2:16-21; Joel 2:28-32). "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

The mystery doctrine of the church taught that the Church of Jesus Christ would occupy the plan of God in the historical period between the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Col.1: 24-27).

3. This also means that historical coming of Jesus Christ (incarnation) brought eternal time into the life of the world (1 John 1:1-4) (read).

"The Word (lo logos) existed before He became man." (NIV, John 1:14; 8:58)

"All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men." (John 1:3-4)

"No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has explained Him." (John 1:18)

"And the witness is this, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life."

(1 John 5:11-13; 2 Cor.5: 6-8)

4. John declared that the eternal Word of God became flesh with the historical birth of Jesus Christ (incarnation Christmas story).

The rider of the white horse of Revelation is named "the Word of God." (Rev.19:13)

John called Jesus Christ the "Word of Life" in 1 John 1:1-4.

Jesus declared that He was the "way, truth, and life." (John 14:6) "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies." (John 11:25)

5. John declared that Christ who was the eternal Word born in Bethlehem created the world (John 1:3).

"He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him." (John 1:10).

Paul declared the Jesus Christ holds the world together today (1 Cor.8: 6; Col.1: 16-17).

Writer of Hebrews declared the superiority of Jesus Christ over all created things (Heb.1: 2, 10).

6. The Christmas story declares that the eternal Word became both incarnate and canonized because of the person of Christ Jesus (Luke 24:25-27, 32, 44-49; Acts 8:32-35; 2 Tim.3: 15-17).

"You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that bear witness of Me." (John 5:39)

SCRIPTURE BECAME FLESH – Merry Christmas!