

WORD made FLESH



September 3, 2024

John 1:1–18 | *“Dawn of New Creation”*

These are familiar opening words “In the beginning . . .,” but there is a sudden twist “. . . was the Word.” John whipsaws our attention between the pages of Genesis and this present moment in the world’s history. God had created the world through the Word, and now through that same Word he is enacting a new creation. The Word is God, the Word is the Son, the Word, is the Light, and the Word is the Christ. The Word is Jesus, who became flesh and dwelt among us. If we will know him, receive him, and believe in him, we will become children of God.

September 10, 2024

John 2:13–22 | *“New Temple for All People”*

We often ask for renewal and pray for revival, but we seldom think of the cost. Renewal and revival are painful processes, especially to those who are committed to the status quo. The Word did not take on flesh and dwell among us simply to re-inscribe Mosaic worship for Israel. Jesus has come to bring grace and truth to all people, and the old structures that get in the way will be torn down.

September 17, 2024

John 3:1–21 | *“Be Born Again”*

The process of the old world passing away is a painful one. As humans we attempt to understand and, perhaps, even try to contain the event. Jesus cuts across all such attempts by issuing the terms of surrender: death and rebirth. We must be reborn in order to dwell in this new world that God is bringing forth through Jesus. *How* is puzzling but it cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the new birth.

September 24, 2024

John 5:1–15 | *“Choosing Wellness”*

The in-breaking of the Word is sudden and surprising, yet the event does not remake us without our consent or our participation. It is an extraordinary question, “do you want to get well?,” when posed to a person who has been seeking healing for 38 years. But Jesus takes nothing for granted with us . . . do we truly want change? Only then can it begin.

October 1, 2024

John 6:60–71 | *“Hard Road”*

As Wesleyans, we believe that a believer can choose to leave Jesus. This is essential for belief itself to be real. However, it is heartbreaking when this occurs because no one else has the words of life; or, *is* the Word of Life. Saving faith is ongoing commitment to Jesus, even when it’s hard.

October 8, 2024

John 7:25–44 | *“Sifting the Crowd”*

Jesus is a figure that continues to divide people today. Who is he? Our answer to that question determines the level of authority we allow him, which determines our willingness to obey him. Will we treat him simply as a prophet? Or, as a sacrifice? Or, is he the one and only Godly sources of the Spirit for all people?