



(Scriptures in bold text from John 1:1-14)

## **In the beginning was the Word**

Logos, Absolute truth, perfect goodness, the creative intelligence of the universe

Yahweh, Elohim, Adoni, El-Shaddia

## **And the Word was with God and the Word was God**

The all knowing, ever present, completely able, never tiring, perfectly caring, absolutely pure, never faltering or failing or forgetting, always, always, always faithful God!

**He was with God in the beginning** because he was God with no beginning and no ending

Eternally existing, the Father of time, the Ruler of the ages, author of millennia and milliseconds.

**Through him all things were made Without him nothing was made that has  
been made**

When his mouth opened galaxies rushed into place.

Uncounted billions upon trillions of stars exploded into brilliant existence.

He didn't break a sweat!

When his tongue moved trees burst through the soil

Cedars, redwoods, sequoia entire forests waving their branches together in a  
symphony orchestrated by the Master composer.

When his vocal chords vibrated the seas rippled with dolphins and orcas, swordfish  
and sharks

From the grand scale of the Blue Whale to the innate intricacies of the Seahorse

When his lips came together the condor's magnificent pinions unfolded and swept  
him away on currents of warm air

And the delicate wings of the hummingbird began to whirl.

**In him was life and that life was the light of all mankind**

When the Word breathed out

Life came in!

Life surged into Adam's soul and coursed through his veins!

All life physical and spiritual, comes from him, is found in him and is sustained by him.

Over the course of 75 years the human heart will beat 2.5 billion times

And not one beat happens without his power or permission.

**The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not over come it.**

The creative life force of the Word emanates with brilliance

No man, no technology, no army, no theology

No legislation, no group of people, no nation

Can snuff it out, trample it down or choke it off.

But they will try!

Not realizing that the light they seek to destroy

Fills their lungs with life and sustains them every day.

And so God's plan to save and rescue man

Began at the darkest hour before the dawn.

**There was a man sent from God whose name was John**

Not king John or politician John or movie star John

Not famous John or rich John or powerful John

Just John,

Ordinary John with an extraordinary task

To prepare hearts to hear the Word, to receive the Word,

To give people back their spiritual sight.

**He came as a witness to the light So that through him all might believe**

In the light of that Word

The life giving, light shining, heart transforming Word!

**He himself was not the light He came only as a witness to the light.**

A truth bearer

A light carrier

His message was clear

The King is coming

The Messiah is near

Prepare you heart

Repent and believe.

He pointed the people to him

The cure for their pain and sin.

**The true light that gives life to everyone was coming into the world**

The unimaginable grandeur of the unlimited, unrestrained, undying, uncreated Word

Stooping, bowing, descending into man's created world.

**He was in the World and though the world was made through him The world did not recognize him**

Too many were too busy

Carried away with the concerns of tomorrow

What to eat and what to wear and how to pay the bills.

No, they wouldn't mind a Savior

One who could feed them and cloth them and pay the bills.

**He came to that which was his own But his own did not receive him**

Too many too concerned with religious functions

Too many too comfortable with their powerful positions

Too few who could see through the man-made superstitions

Too busy justifying their behavior

They saw no need for a savior!

**Yet to all who did receive him To those who believed in his name He gave the right to become children of God!**

No hoops to jump through, no red tape to navigate no behavioral code to live up to

No prescribed prayers or perfunctory performances to impress man.

Just believe!

Not belief for belief's sake but belief in the truth of the Word.

Belief that sin is your greatest problem

Belief that man is hopelessly fallen

Belief in the unique message and person of Jesus

Belief in the life infused power of forgiveness

Found exclusively and extraordinarily in the Word.

True belief in the True Word

Real faith in the real God

Complete trust in the completed work of Jesus

Will always produce

**Children born not of natural descent nor of human decision or a husband's will  
but born of God.**

We have all been born into a world of pain

A world of passing pleasures

A world of momentary gain

A world of temporary treasures

A world soiled by sin's deadly stain

A world that applies band-aids to our cancer

A world that can hardly cope

A world that does not have the answer

A world without hope!

Born of God changes everything!

A new birth

A new life

A new family

A new hope

God was born of man so that we could be born of God

**The Word became flesh and made its dwelling among us**

How can it be?

The Creator God becoming part of his creation?

Willingly limiting his power through the incarnation?

He even came as a child fully dependent upon his mother

And his life wouldn't be easy, he was born to suffer!

Our finite minds struggle to span the gap

How could God be born in a stable out back?

We might not comprehend the depths of this plan

We might fail to completely understand

But, believe it we will!

Because there's truth in this story

And for those who believe

**We have seen his glory The glory of the one and only Son Who came from the Father full of grace and truth!**

When Jesus came it was in a special way

Not at all like we celebrate Christmas today

There was no "Jingle bells" or "deck the halls"

No mistletoe or wreaths hanging the walls

No gingerbread houses with candy roofs

No flying sleighs or reindeer hooves

No trees decked out with tinsel and light

No stockings hung over the fire at night

No festive sweaters made by Aunt Pam

No eating of turkey and especially no ham

No fat man with a white beard and black boots

No little people with pointy ears and green suits



No gizmos or gadgets to bring Christmas cheer  
No shopping malls filled with new Christmas gear.  
You see the first Christmas came without the hype  
It was altogether a different type.  
It came simply in a quiet way  
To a poor couple on winter day.  
Surrounded by donkey's and camels and sheep  
Two young parents watched their baby sleep.  
They knew he was special but just couldn't see  
How this small child a king could be.  
The greatest miracle the world had known  
Took place in a stable and not on a throne.  
Jesus didn't need stalking stuffers  
Or soft new flannel covers,  
He came bearing the greatest gifts there could ever be  
He brought the grace to forgive sins and the truth to set us free.  
He came to bring real life and light  
To give hope to the dying and make broken hearts right.

He came to suffer and die on a tree

The ultimate sacrifice for you and me.

And now one question rings through the night

What will you do with Jesus who is the Word and the Light?

There are ever only two options to weigh

You can ignore him and continue to live for today

And hope that you've made it and been good enough

But never knowing for sure if you did the right stuff

Or

Believe the words that Jesus said when he came to earth our sins to forgive.

**"I am the resurrection and the life. The person who believes in me, even though he dies, will live."**

Dear friends The Word became flesh when God became a man

It was all a part of his divine plan

God's gift to us on Christmas

The hope of eternal life and the offer of forgiveness.