



SERMON-JANUARY 02, 2022

Title: A New Day! A New Year! A New Word?

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Texts: John 1:1-14

Second Sunday In Christmastide

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

A New Day! A New Year! A New Word! The Christmas day celebration is over and recorded in the pages of history. Now we move onward into a new day - Sunday, January 2nd ...a new year - 2022 and a new Word – “BUZZY”. While researching my message, I looked at various new Words that have been added to our 2022 vocabulary...and I found that funny Word called “buzzy”. The definition of this Word “buzzy” means: *Something that*

generates excitement and gets people thinking and talking. So, I thought, why not make my message today “buzzy” as I try to generate excitement and get you thinking and talking about, what else...Jesus Christ.

You are well aware that we just celebrated the human birth of Jesus Christ and like I said last Sunday, we need to continue to celebrate his birth every day. The birth of Jesus Christ is “buzzy” because his birth generates excitement and continues to get us thinking more about Christ’s birthday and the meaning of his life throughout the year. Also, as I said in last week’s message, we have the Christian liturgical seasons of the year to continually remind us of Christ’s birth, life, death and resurrection. Every new day of every new year should be “buzzy” about and with Jesus Christ.

Yes, Christmas celebrations 2021 are over. Somehow it becomes less exciting and people begin to talk less about Christmas...for them it

isn't "buzzy". But for the spirit-filled Christian, the true meaning of Christmas must never end. Yes, we move past the physical day of Christmas...but we must never forget why we celebrated it...why we must put the birth and life of Jesus Christ in the forefront of our total being every day of every day. But unfortunately, too many people have the attitude that Christmas was here and now it is gone for another year. Just as the gifts which we may have received are only temporary...so some people believe that is the way God's gift...his son Jesus Christ...is only temporary to them...a one-day celebration. This is not "buzzy" thinking!

God wants each of us to continually remember...to recall...to believe that he sent his son Jesus Christ to the world so that we can have a pathway for the forgiveness of our sins and receive eternal life. And if we believe this truth...then we must do things so that we will continue to recall and remember celebrating Christmas throughout the entire new year. This message today is just one significant way

to remember and recall the importance of Jesus Christ every day throughout the year. And another way we do this is through public and private worship. As we publicly and privately worship Jesus Christ we receive his Word...and his Word becomes our guide to daily living...spiritually, mentally and physically throughout the new year. God's Word gives us a new understanding for a better life.

Listen to what scripture says to us through the gospel of John: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* (v1) This Word of God which John was speaking about was not in the form of any known written Word-language but a personal internal understanding of Almighty God's being. Back then there were very few written forms of scriptures so people would come to understanding spirituality through hearing inspirational Words. Listen closely as I hope to give you clearer vision about God's unwritten Word. God's Word (as described by John

in this passage) is our personal internal understanding of his inner expressions through his Holy Spirit for mental guidance. Now, please don't get confused with this explanation but simply know that God mentally speaks to us personally through his own way...through inner feelings and guidance. Today we also have the written Word (recorded scripture) which has been given to us in the written form...the bible. Both ways to receive God's Word are important to help us more fully understand how and why God wants us to live our individual lives. Friends, this is "buzzy" truth *(something that generates excitement and get's people thinking and talking.)*

Please understand and believe that God was and is everything! He was before any known human-comprehended beginning and when God created the world and everything in it...he first gave the world his Holy Word mentally. In other Words, God manifested in the world his Holy Word (personal internal understanding) and this Word

was and is of God. The personal internal Word of God was and is the foundation of and for the world. His Word had a beginning before the world had a beginning and is now a part of our own personal being. We need to pause and listen to God speaking to us mentally. Unfortunately, much of the world today doesn't personally know who Almighty God truly is and therefore does not hear God speaking to them.

Now John takes God's Word one step further saying: "*the Word became flesh and lived for a while among us.*" (v14) Take my previous simplified explanation of God's Word being your personal internal understanding of Almighty God's unseen presence expressing himself to you through his Holy Spirit. And then with this truth, we now come to this further understanding that God's personal expression of his Word becomes more real to us by revealing himself in the flesh through the birth of his son (and our savior) Jesus Christ. Further to help us more fully understand how God's Word is

real...He, through Christ lived among us for a while. God's verbal Word was now heard through Christ. If we desire to have God as our Lord and Savior and receive his non-verbal internal understanding and his verbal written Word...then we need to accept his son Jesus Christ as the mediator of both Words. Remember the scripture says; *the Word became flesh*. What a revelation that God has given to each of us. And we all should say: thank you, God, thank you so much for giving us a glimpse of who you really are through the birth of your son Jesus Christ. You became real for us in both body and spirit.

John tells us one more thing to understand: "*In him was life, and that life was the light of men*" (v4) Now listen closely please: Almighty God came into this world not only as the living God...but he came as our Creator God revealing himself to us through Christ (because they are one and the same). Also, let us remember that light is the living source for everything. Without light there would

be no existence of anything. So, God gave us the natural but most important light...the Holy Spirit's illuminated Light of the world through himself in the human form of Jesus Christ. It is this spiritual light (Jesus Christ's Holy Spirit) that brings the light to the darkened hearts of all the world.

Billy Graham once asked Queen Elizabeth this question: *"How do you summarize the world situation yesterday in comparison to today?"* And the queen replied; "terrifying!" To which Rev. Graham said: *"If God is sincerely in your heart, your soul and your life...then the Word terrify should not exist in your vocabulary. It is God's peace that comes with this light of the world today and tomorrow."*

Twenty-four hours ago, this world which we live in has moved into another year. And with this new year before us, there are always signs of the unknown, unrest and maybe even some fear. But it is through the faith we have in the Word of

almighty God and Jesus Christ that we must build our trust for our daily life throughout this new year.

My dear friends...there should never be any fear of the new day, the new year or the Word of God...if you have the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ deeply centered in your life. Go to that place where God is in your heart and take his strength...and walk forward into the unknown...knowing that Christ Jesus is with you each step of the way.