**The Word Endures Forever**

Based on [John 1:1-18](https://biblia.com/books/esv/Jn1.1-18)

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The Nativity of Our Lord ~ Christmas Day

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As we gather this morning with the spirit of Christ and Christmas all around us. It is necessary for God fearing christians to take a moment, pause and reflect...what is Christmas?

What do you think? I’ll tell you, christmas is about how God came down from heaven and was born in the flesh. The Word of God is God. He is a Person. That person was born a man. We know that God is creator of all things. We know that God is judge of all things. But we don’t know that God loves all things, except by his word. This word became a man, in order to save mankind from the judgment of God. He sent his son to us in loving kindness, in order to show us mercy.

When the time was right God gave his son to be born into the world. That was his first coming. At that time he came not to conquer the world, but to plant a seed of righteousness in it...a righteousness that would sprout into the ministry of His one holy Christian and apostolic church. And even amidst the rising and falling of many nations, that church, ministry of Jesus Christ has persisted to this day.

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever. People have such confidence in governments of the world. All empires fall. Rome fell. The economies of today will fail and fall. We are not promised a tomorrow in this world. People talk about taking their money out of banks and putting it in gold. The gold standard used to back up the economies of the world. But gold is as perishable and worthless as this world. It is all passing away, but the word of the lord endures forever. And that word became flesh and dwelt among us. And you were ransomed from your futile ways and traditions inherited from the world, your life was purchased, not with gold or silver or other perishable things, but with the precious blood and innocent suffering and death of Jesus Christ, who is the word of the lord made flesh, who lives forever.

Jesus came and said, “My kingdom is not of this world.” He means that his kingdom did not come from the world, nor will it arise from within the world. Jesus did not come to make peace with the powers and principalities here. Kingdoms of the earth rise and fall, but the kingdom of God is eternal. Jesus came into the world saying I am the way, no one comes to the Father except through me, and kings who have power in the world have no power except what the Father gives them.

And Jesus came to the world to preach about the end of this world, and preach of a new creation to that he will establish on earth in glory when he comes again. This will not happen from within the world. From within, the world will continue to build its own towers to heaven and strongholds against God and his kingdom. It will continue to trust in gold and silver, in economies and markets, in five year plans and promises of a new tomorrow that will come only if you trust in the promises of the world today. But Jesus will come from heaven to end the world at an appointed time that has nothing to do with any progress we make in the world. Jesus was born into the world at a time set by God; and at a time set by God he will come again to end the world.

This world doesn’t want to end, but Jesus will end it in a time chosen by the Father. Jesus came into the vanity of this world and said “I am the living God, and I have come to tell you that I will not conform to this world, but will keep the commands of my Father in heaven. And anyone who fears God and strives do what is right; anyone who treasures the glory of God more than the glory of the world, everyone who is disillusioned by the hypocrisy and the vanity of the world, everyone who is exhausted by their constant struggle with sin and anxious for salvation have a place to go and to find peace and comfort and wait for the redemption of the world. That “*place”* is Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God. And the word was God. And the word became flesh and dwelt among us. Jesus says in John 6:53-54, “Truly, truly I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the Last Day.”

Jesus says, “I am the bread of life”. He was born in Bethlehem, which means “house of bread”. He was laid in a manger, which is a food trough. He did not come to be a spectacle of the hope of this world. He came to redeem us for the world to come. Those who think Christmas is simply a memory of Jesus birth ought to remember too that one day we will be a memory. This Christmas day, a memory. This hour of worship a memory. But the word of the lord endures forever.